

Engl 1413.A1 – Fall 2020
Prof: R. Cunningham
Due: Thursday, Oct. 1 by 2:30 PM
To be submitted through Acorn

This first paper can be *no more* than 2 pages long. You are being graded on how well you can follow instructions, and on your understanding of and ability to apply in your writing the rhetorical appeals of *ethos* and *pathos*. You will not be graded on your ability to compose sentences, although obviously such an ability helps build a credible *ethos* and--especially when writing for an English professor--is in itself a good *pathos* appeal.

Write about whatever you want to write about. I am not concerned with, and will not be grading on, content. My concern with this assignment is strictly with your ability to format a submission in accordance with a clearly articulated set of instructions, and to do so in a rhetorically informed manner.

Here are the specific instructions for this assignment:

- 1) What you submit can be no longer than two pages, but should be close to that.
- 2) Use 12-point Times New Roman font, and set the margins on all four sides of the page at 2.5cm. Let me know by no later than class on Tuesday, Sept. 29 if this instruction is presenting you with any special difficulty. If you aren't comfortable speaking up in class, email me, but do so well before class so I have a chance to see it.
- 3) Make sure your paper has a title that communicates to your reader what s/he can expect. For example, "Why rice is better than potatoes as the starch in a meal," or "Why the study of psychology appeals to me." Now that I've offered those titles as examples, do no

use either. The title “First Assignment” or any variation on that theme will probably result in a grade of F.

- 4) Centre the title, and a single space below put your name. I.e. (“i.e.” is short for the Latin term *id est*, which translates as *that is*.) the top of your first page should look like this:

Rice is a Better Starch than Potato
Richard Cunningham

Not like this:

Rice is a Better Starch than Potato
Richard Cunningham

Your title should NOT be *italicized*, underlined, or in **boldface**.

- 5) The rest of your paper is to be double spaced, as is this assignment sheet. Do not put extra space between paragraphs. Ask me, and I’ll demonstrate in class how to get the spacing right. You can ask by email if you’re not yet comfortable speaking up in class.
- 6) Do not indent the first paragraph, but do indent all subsequent paragraphs.
- 7) Avoiding using any word that ends in -ing at the beginning of a sentence.
- 8) As important as any of the above, **PROOFREAD** your paper to catch the “oops” level mistakes you can catch. A university English professor is NOT your copy-editor; copy-editing is *your* job. The message a failure to submit a carefully proofed and edited copy tells me you don’t care about me, about the instruction I offer, or about your own work. And if you don’t care, I promise you I won’t.