Week 2 and 3 Workshop -- Identity Brainstorm

Workshop General Description

Writers do something we call "workshop." We get together and talk about our projects, listen, offer suggestions, ask questions, point out potential problems, offer honest feedback, support and encouragement, and keep each other honest and on track.

That's what these workshops are for: to complete small group discussion activities in a small group of the same people throughout the term who get to know each other and one another's projects on a more intimate level than we can in large group discussions.

You'll have four "workshops" this term, each taking place over a two week period.

Weeks 2 and 3 Workshop Instructions

Initial Response due by Thursday, week 2 (Jan. 15):

On your own, make a list of all the identities and roles that represent you.

For instance, here are Daneen's:

Oregonian, Female, Portlander, Mom, Wife, Writer, Caucasian, Middle-aged, Health nut, Midwesterner, College professor,...

Post a list of at least ten "identities" that describe you. In your initial post, write at least a paragraph discussing which ones you've seen represented in popular culture media. Tell your group what your initial expectations are about how you are represented in popular culture.

Responses to Comments due Thursday, week 3 (Jan. 22):

Read each of your group member's posts. Ask them questions. Which of the identities (or combinations) seem most interesting to analyze and why? Where have you seen this identity represented and how? Offer any specific suggestions about popular culture artifacts your group members might analyze. Post your comments.

Follow Up Comments due Sunday, week 3 (Jan. 25):

Read your group members' comments and questions. Respond as appropriate with answers, questions, clarifications, more ideas, etc.

Workshop Objective: At the end of this workshop, you should have gotten to know your group members and have a pretty good idea of the identity you'd like to explore in your Mirror Essay.