

Homework Assignment #3: Essay I

Inspired by the readings we've done so far, write a **3-4-page** essay. **Either:**

1) Write an essay that draws on your own experience and reflects on the pleasures, passions and purposes of owning or shopping. Topics might be: a favorite possession; collecting (cards, toys, books . . .); garage sales; the urge to splurge; family shopping traditions; gift-giving; holiday shopping; travel and shopping; shopping as a pastime; the shopping mall as a cultural space; the frustrations of shopping; shopping in America vs. shopping in (Cyprus, Bangladesh, Bulgaria--wherever you have lived); food shopping; shopping for school or work clothes; or . . . ??? You will want to include anecdotes from your own experience, what you've observed, what pleases you, perplexes you, amuses you, troubles you, makes you wonder. . . You may include ideas, comments, phrases, etc., from other writers, friends, classmates, movies or songs, citing them informally (In Adam Gopnik's words . . . ; When William Wordsworth said . . .). Or,

2) *Write an essay that responds to* "Shopping as a Spiritual Adventure"; "Rolex"; or, "The Winter Circus." Don't try to respond to every idea in your chosen essay (nearly impossible !) but respond to some part of the essay, or the spirit, the main idea of the essay. You may use an epigraph to signal to the reader what you're responding to; you may or may not choose to quote or paraphrase from the chosen essay.

Note: Remember that while this essay grows out of your own experience, it is not a journal entry or simply an expression of your feelings. However you choose to narrate it, you want your essay to be of interest to readers such as your classmates, friends, and instructors. Just like the essays we've been reading, something has to hold it all together, and it has to go somewhere.

This essay will be revised once after Workshopping and comments from me, and may be re-revised or polished.

Format for Essays: Follow this format for all essays.

Serena Student
Consumer Culture
Essay I/Draft1*
Feb. 19, 2002*

*Remember to **change the Essay no. and draft no. for each new draft**

The Title of Your Essay Goes Here

Titles are not underlined, in quotes, etc.; you may use boldface if you like.

Your essays should be double spaced. **Number your pages**, by hand if necessary.

Margins: 1" top and bottom; 1¼" left and right.

Use a type font that is easy to read—no script, italics, all caps, etc.—and a size similar to this. A 5-p. essay means 5-p. double-spaced in type this size.

We will use informal citation for Essays I, II and IV and MLA style for Essay III.
All drafts must be word-processed or typed.