**T. Chocos**

**FIRST ACADEMIC PAPER: DUE FEBRUARY 28th**

**GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTED TOPICS:**

* The absolute minimum is 4 FULL pages typed in 12-font (Times New Roman) and double-spaced.
* Consider your purpose for writing, stance and audience.
* Offer some background material and overview in your introduction before jumping into your topic.
* Incorporate two or more of our readings for support towards your main idea and sustained argument. Do not retell or summarize readings if you cannot justify a reason or purpose for it.
* Summarize, paraphrase or quote but make sure you provide the appropriate set-up, background or context.
* Balance your content material by not relying heavily on your sources. Don’t use quote after quote.
* Document accurately. It’s careless when you make spelling mistakes from copied material.
* Include a bibliography page as well as a title page. Go to easybib.com that will help you with your citation page. Use MLA style of documentation.

**Topic Suggestions:**

We have read several authors and have had discussions on the definition of intelligence, IQ, education, styles of teaching. What does it mean to be smart, intelligent, or to have wisdom? How does one achieve this and what are the consequences or results of this achievement? In other words, you must find a purpose for attempting to define intelligence or any of the questions you want to answer in a four-page paper.

* Gardner wanted to prove that we should not rely on IQ tests that cannot clearly measure anyone’s intelligence. However, in academia, we heavily rely on tests. Therefore, Gardner had a reason and purpose to show that there are “multiple intelligences” that should be considered before any assessments are made.
* Asimov proved through the auto mechanic that he is intelligent because he has learned a specific skill that benefits people. Asimov is great at testing because he has learned how to take exams successfully. Then he questions “what is intelligence, anyway? “As students, you have had experience being tested, categorized, scrutinized and perhaps ridiculed or humiliated over your limitations. You can certainly write about the effects of this as you begin to redefine the meaning of intelligence but try to use an academic voice.
* You may also think of other **causes and effects** or **unfair circumstances** or situations that may damage or influence an individual’s success and/or failure. You can include Ho as an example to illustrate the importance of creativity and Qi who shows the value in “Educating the Whole Child”. In other words, try to combine some of our authors’ views that will help you prove your points. Below are some questions that can be answered in 4 pages.
* Do we need school?
* Are IQ tests valuable?
* What is the importance of creativity and freedom of thought?
* What teaching style is most effective?
* Is competition healthy and necessary for progress and learning?
* Should grades be given?