Directions for 1-22-07

Today you are going to post and respond to “Serving in Florida” from *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich. Below are the directions, the prompts, and my hopes for our work today.

**The Directions:** Take about fifteen minutes to respond to the prompt below, and then find at least one response to respond to at length. Your first response should be 250 words or so (about a full type-written page), and your response to your peer should be about two paragraphs long. Remember you need to post your response to the prompt by 1 p.m., and then you want to have your response to a peer ready by 5 p.m.

**The Prompt:** In “Serving in Florida” from *Nickel and Dimed*, Barbara Ehrenreich writes about the struggles she has trying to live on minimum wage while working as a waitress in Florida. What, for you, is the main idea that you take from her attempt to, as she puts it, simply try to “match income to expenses”? Also, what sort of larger issues, in terms of the economy or the culture, does Ehrenreich get at with her piece?

**Chris’ Hopes:** That everyone will engage with each other, and that they will think deeply about the piece—maybe leading to writing they can use in their research.