

Folks,

Below are the directions and order of our work for this week. If you want or need to see a copy of this, you can check the webpage (<http://www.writing.ucsb.edu/faculty/dean>). On Monday we will be doing a forum, and then on Wednesday we will be starting with a chat, going to forum, then chatting again, and then finally emailing things to Chris.

Remember, you can email me ([cdean@writing.ucsb.edu](mailto:cdean@writing.ucsb.edu)) or call me (203-313-1343) with questions.

Take care,

Chris Dean

### 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.

### Directions for 1-24-07

Today, for our realtime meeting, we will be starting with **a chat about research questions**, then we will be doing a forum **about survey or interview design based on our Purdue OWL reading**, then we will do a **short chat and forum post** on “The Summer of the Death of Hilario Guzman”, and, finally, you will have a chance to edit your piece.

Below are the directions for each activity, and if you have questions at any point, let me know. I will be in our “Opening Chat”, and I will have my cell phone on (203-313-1343) if you have questions or get lost.

I Opening Chat (7 min)

- A. Chat focus: What, at the moment, are any questions or comments that you have about research? Also, who are some people that you think you might be able and willing to interview for your research?

## II Forum (20 min)

- A. **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.
- B. **The Prompt:** Go into the forum labeled “Purdue OWL.” Once you are there, respond to this prompt: For your research project, what would make the most sense to do: survey or interview people? Who are some people you might survey or interview, and what are some **good, unbiased questions** that you might be able to pose. (For a look at how to write **good, unbiased questions**, take a look at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/559/06/>.)

## III Death of Hilario Guzman Work (15 min)

- A. Go into the chat labeled “The Summer of the Death of Hilario Guzman”, choosing the one for your group. Discuss, for about ten minutes this question: what does “The Summer of the Death of Hilario Guzman” have to say about the nature of agricultural work and immigration? **As a group, choose what you think is the most important point that Arax makes in “The Summer of the Death of Hilario Guzman.** Post this main point to “The Summer of the Death of Hilario Guzman’ Main Point” Forum.
- B. Look over the posts.

## IV Editing Work (20 min)

- A. Editing Work
- a. Step One: List a few of the mechanical errors that you have typically made in your writing. Then look at the websites below to see about how to correct those errors.
    - i. Catching Verb Tense Problems: Click on “Subject-Verb Agreement (288 K)” at <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/powerpoint.htm>
    - ii. Commas: Click on “The English House of Commas (156 K)” at <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/powerpoint.htm>
    - iii. Semicolons: Click on “Our Friend, the Semicolon (224 K)” at <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/powerpoint.htm>
    - iv. Conjunctions:  
<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/conjunctions.htm>
  - b. Step Two: Use “Noodle bib Express”, located at [www.noodletools.com](http://www.noodletools.com), to check your citations for your bibliography.
  - c. Step Three: Read your piece aloud, from beginning to end, making any changes that you need to.
  - d. Step Four: Email your piece to me at [cdean@writing.ucsb.edu](mailto:cdean@writing.ucsb.edu).