

The 20% Solution

English 150-019 W2005

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As you will recall from your course outline, 20% of your grade in this class is scheduled to come from “various quizzes, peer review, participation.” This sheet is intended to provide you with transparent information about how this 20% will be calculated.

1. No grade will be assigned based solely on attendance or class participation.
2. There will be three quizzes of equal weight worth a combined total of 5%. The intent of the quizzes is to address concerns specific to individual students in this particular section of English 150.

As such, the following will be the quiz schedule:

- a. March 1 – revision and peer-review skills;
- b. March 29 – integrating and citing quotations, and MLA documentation (Works Cited); and
- c. March 31 – revision and peer-review skills.

[Note: due to class needs, the third quiz was scrubbed. The first two quizzes were worth 2.5% each instead.]

3. A student's various peer-review efforts toward each essay will be worth 5%, for a cumulative total of 15%. Keep in mind that the letter grade space on the checklist should be completed based on the descriptions of each grade in the course outline.

Each peer-review effort will be given a grade out of 3: 1 for done, 2 for helpful, 3 for excellent. In rare circumstances, a grade of zero will be given out when a reviewer appears to mislead a writer, such as by suggesting that an essay is worth a B+ or higher when it clearly fits the description of a D or F provided in the course outline.

In order to receive feedback, students may exchange draft copies and checklists and view grades at any time after the instructor returns the essays, but the writer has to retain the reviewed copies and checklists.

4. For the final assignment, because of the required length of the essay, there will be two peer reviews on each draft, rather than three, each lasting forty minutes. I will be present in class for these reviews, so I will tell you (a) that you must stop reviewing the first paper and begin reviewing the second and (b) that you must stop reviewing the second paper.

[Note: the course outline's requirements for the research paper were followed, except that students were required only to write and submit a seven-page rather than a ten-page paper.]