English Through Culture

A Comprehensive Coursebook for English Majors Teacher's Manual

Book Four

Unit 1

The Ambivalence of Abortion

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Oh, how we tried to talk ourselves into believing it that night as we became unaware of when the movie actually began.
- 2. My husband talked about his plans for <u>a change of direction in his career (a job change)</u> in the next year, <u>to stop the boredom</u> that fourteen years with the same investment-banking firm had brought him.
- 3. My friend <u>happened to be</u> my husband, standing <u>uncomfortably</u> as men always do in places that are meant only for women.
- 4. When I would be cycled out of there four hours later, the same men would be crouched in their same seats, imprisoned in their dejected state of embarrassment.
- 5. There were six black women and <u>a mixture of white people</u>, among them <u>a teenager</u> wearing a T-shirt who kept leaving the room to throw up and a <u>perplexed</u> middle-aged woman from Queens with three grown children.
- 6. The most basic thing we had in common, the one which usually transcends language and economic barriers and becomes familiar, today was one of shame.
- 7. Suddenly the high-sounding words, the abortion marches I'd walked in, the telegram sent to Albany to counter the Friends of the Fetus, the Zero Population Growth buttons I'd worn, became not important, and I was all alone with my tiny baby.
- 8. I <u>focused my eyes on</u> three black spots in the acoustic ceiling until they <u>became as big as</u> the size of saucers, while the doctor swabbed my insides with antiseptic.
- 9. What docile creatures we women are.
- 10. Ten minutes from beginning to end.
- 11. Other women came and went, some walking out as <u>confused</u> as they had entered, others with a bounce that <u>indicated</u> that they were immediately returning to their shopping routine.
- 12. At home there were more yellow roses and a tray in bed for me and the task to turn away

the children's curiosity.

13. Within a week my breasts had subsided and the tenderness vanished, and my body felt normal again instead of the eggshell it becomes when it is sheltering the life of the fetus.

II.

- 1. He tries to stay away from all sorts of socializations and is always ill at ease when he is invited to a party.
- Tom has been dating quite a few girls at college. He knows from experience that there is nothing worse on a date than taking a girl to an expensive restaurant only to find out that he does not have enough to pay the bill.
- 3. He never thought that he would be greeted with open hostility the first time he called on his girlfriend's parents.
- 4. The elderly man who gave her directions when she was lost on the vast campus the first day of school turned out to be none other than her adviser.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (d) 6. (a) 7. (c) 8. (b) 9. (b) 10. (d)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

Some left anti-abortionists disagree on whether to criminalize abortion now, but they all regard abortion as a desperate solution to desperate problems, and the women who resort to it as more sinned against than sinning.

This analysis grasps an essential feminist truth: that in a male-supremacist society no choice a woman makes is genuinely free or entirely in her interest. Certainly many women have had abortions they didn't want or wouldn't have wanted if they had any plausible means of caring for a child; and countless others wouldn't have gotten pregnant in the first place were it not for inadequate contraception, sexual confusion and guile, male pressure, and other stigmata of female powerlessness. Yet forcing a woman to bear a child she doesn't want can only add injury to insult, while refusing to go through with such a pregnancy can be a woman's first step toward taking hold of her life. And many women who have abortions are "victims" only of ordinary human miscalculation, technological failure, or the vagaries of passion, all bound to exist in any society (however utopian it is).

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (a) 5. (a) 6. (d) 7. (d) 8. (c) 9. (c) 10. (d)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (b)

II.

1. (F) 2. (T) 3. (F) 4. (T) 5. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

One Woman's Abortion Mrs. X

Reliable statistics about abortion are, naturally enough, hard to get in the United States, though they are readily available in such countries as Sweden, Denmark, Russia, and Japan, where abortion is, in varying cases, legal. Few women, gossips or not, discuss their abortions at the bridge table. Lack of discussion probably has nothing to do with shame or reticence but is simply a loyal conspiracy of silence on the part of women to protect abortionists. Any woman of childbearing age who knows a reliable man in this field has a stake in keeping him in business. She may need him herself, or have a close friend who will.

I set out recently to find an abortionist in the large Eastern city where I live. My husband and I are in our mid-forties and have three children. When I discovered that I was pregnant for the fourth time, my husband and I considered the situation as honestly as we could. We both admitted that we lacked the physical resources to face 2 a.m. feedings, diapers, and the seemingly endless cycle of measles, mumps, and concussions of another child. Years of keeping a wary eye on expenditures had allowed us to set up a fund which we

felt would enable the children to attend reasonably good colleges away from home if some financial assistance in the form of grants or scholarships could be obtained. Since my husband's income has reached its zenith, it was plain that one of the four would have to forgo all or part of a chance at higher education. The part-time secretarial work which I had been doing for some years to augment our income would have to stop since the revenue it produces would not cover baby-sitting fees.

I then pushed my glasses up on my nose to read a book called *Pregnancy*, *Birth and Abortion*, written by four members of the Institute for Sex Research, founded by the late renowned Dr. Kinsey. I discovered that abortion is an operation that all medical students learn, even if they don't get much chance to perfect techniques, and that only a minute percentage of women had suffered either physical or psychic aftereffects.

Calmed by authoritative words and two tranquilizers, I settled down to see what could be done. First step was a visit to my obstetrician. At 6 p.m. when I saw him, he was too worried about getting his snowbound car out of the parking lot to pay much attention to me. He refused to interfere with nature. When I asked him whether he would perform an abortion on me, he said, "No, thanks," in an absent way, as if I had offered him a cigarette he didn't want, and I left.

With the only legal avenue I knew closed, I began my search for illegal ones. I started out by going through my personal address and telephone book and selecting from it five close friends who had the following in common: All were intelligent, well educated, sympathetic, and discreet. Otherwise, they were a mixed lot. Some were married, some divorced or widowed; some were young, some middle-aged; two were Protestant, one was Jewish, one Catholic, and the fifth a scoffer.

I called each and stated bluntly that I needed an abortion and asked whether she knew anybody reasonably reliable who might do the job. Two said that they themselves had obtained abortions within the last two years. Each gave me without hesitation the name, address, and telephone number of her physician. The fourth friend did a little detective work and in twenty-four hours came up with another physician, chiefly remarkable for the fact that his office was directly across the street from one of the city's police precinct stations.

My first call was made to the doctor whose credentials seemed to me best. When I asked for an appointment at his early convenience, he replied—somewhat nervously, I thought—that he was considering taking a trip and asked that I call back next week. Number two on my list proved able to see me the following day. My visit did a good deal to quell the panic which had been building steadily in spite of my efforts at self-control. The office seemed orderly; the tools of the trade were neatly arrayed in the glass cases dear to the hearts of the medical fraternity; the doctor's examination was brief and businesslike, and as far as I could tell identical with those performed on me over the years by obstetricians and gynecologists under different circumstances. He explained in simple and understandable terms exactly how he

would perform the operation, how long it would take, that it would be painful, but not intolerably so, for a few minutes. I gather that except for abortions done in hospitals, anesthetics are almost never used. For obvious reasons, these physicians work without assistance of any kind. They are thus not equipped to deal with the possible ill effects of anesthesia; nor can they keep patients in their offices for any great length of time without arousing suspicion about their practices. The doctor I was consulting described precisely the minimal aftereffects I might expect. We fixed a date at mutual convenience a couple of days off for the operation.

The operation was successfully concluded as scheduled. Forty-five minutes after I entered the doctor's office for the second time, I walked out, flagged down a passing cab, and went home. Admirably relaxed for the first time in two weeks, I dozed over dinner, left the children to wash the dishes, and dove into bed to sleep for twelve hours. The operation and its aftereffects were exactly as described by the physician. For some five minutes I suffered "discomfort" closely approximating the contractions of advanced labor. Within ten minutes this pain subsided, and returned in the next four or five days only as the sort of mild twinge which sometimes accompanies a normal menstrual period. Bleeding was minimal.

I am sure that my experience is not unique. There must be hundreds like me from coast to coast who for sober and considered reasons daily undergo the same fears, search for the same kinds of operative sources, and find the money necessary to terminate unwanted pregnancy.

Writing

Guided Writing

Even though abortion is never an easy decision, women have been making that choice for thousands of years, for many good reasons. Whenever a society has made an attempt to outlaw abortions, it has only driven pregnant women into back alleys where the way abortion is performed is dangerous, expensive, and humiliating. This was the case in the United States until 1973 when abortion was legalized nationwide. But there are people in American society who still won't accept this. Some of them argue that even survivors of rape or incest should be forced to continue their pregnancies. And some of them, having failed to convince the public or the lawmakers, have turned themselves into violent extremists who engaging in activities of intimidation and terror aimed at women seeking abortions and at health professionals at reproductive health clinics. When all factors are considered, the abortion issue, in essence, is not really about abortion. It is about the value of women in society. It is about whether women should make their own decisions about family, career and how to live their lives or whether those decisions should be controlled by the government. The anti-abortion leaders really have their own agenda: They oppose most ideas and programs that can help women achieve equality and freedom as well as programs that protect the well-being of

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women and their children. What they want is a return to the days when a woman had only few choices in making decisions about family, career and their life. To these leaders, we must say no.

Additional Writing Project

(No key can be provided because any answer has to be individualized.)

Unit 2

Contested History

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. This, <u>in short</u>, is the question most persistently asked of those who write about Thomas Jefferson, and <u>all evidence indicates that</u> it is the thing that contemporary Americans <u>find</u> rather troubling about him.
- 2. But they are truly perplexed by what appears to be a contradiction.
- 3. My belief is that this way of asking the question... is <u>basically the wrong way</u>, and reflects the common belief of our age that present perceptions override historical circumstances.
- 4. Consider, for example, how different the question appears when it is reversed and placed in a more historical framework.
- 5. It is harder because we are <u>placed at such a distance from</u> the conditions of eighteenth-century Virginia that no satisfactory explanation can be given in a brief summary.
- 6. ... the risk was <u>evidently big</u> that emancipated slaves would enjoy little, if any, real freedom and would, unless they could <u>be mistaken for whites</u>, be more likely to <u>be grief-stricken</u> in a hostile environment.
- 7. The inevitable question about slavery and equality partly reflects the fact that most Americans are only vaguely familiar with the historical Jefferson, but <u>investigating further</u> his writings and attempting to <u>understand</u> the character of his thought, though <u>informative</u>, can create <u>further</u> worry and shock.
- 8. Though he foresaw that slavery could not <u>triumph</u>, Jefferson <u>cannot</u> be considered as a <u>bigot</u> or <u>conservative</u> for seriously doubting that a racially integrated society of white Europeans and black Africans was really likely to work.
- 9. It took an inordinate amount of imagination in the eighteenth century to consider the possibility of including into political life the existing slave population, whose very "nature" was the subject of confusing investigation and who had had no political existence up till then.

- 10. But if Jefferson's being a separatist <u>can be explained</u>, what <u>can we say to explain his</u> <u>offensive comparison</u> of <u>the physical attributes</u> of blacks with those of whites, or with those of American Indians, whom he found to be comparable with whites?
- 11. It will be right to take into consideration the difference of condition, of education, of conversation, of the space in which they live their lives.
- 12. The ills most promoted by slavery and oppression are precisely those which slaveholders and oppressors would translate from their system to the inbuilt personality of their victims.
- 13. <u>This justification of slavery was indeed the common coin of slaveholders and other whites</u> who accepted that "peculiar" system, but it formed no part of Jefferson's thinking.
- 14. When a black separatist changed his attitude toward white people and publicly rejected the "efforts to extensively condemn one race," he told an audience in Chicago, "I am not a racist and do not agree with any of the doctrines of racism."
- 15. Considering the above at least one more meaning for Emily Dickinson's suggestive phrase comes to light: that the constantly shifting conditions of the present serve to give new life to the past, presenting it as a topic for renewed studies.

II.

- A decade ago, many in the service industry would refuse to accept the tenet that customers
 are always right, but now more and more of them have come to the appreciation of the
 tenet in terms of consumer satisfaction.
- 2. As the deadline set by the United Nations is approaching, most people do not hold much hope that it will be possible to find a peaceful solution to this situation.
- 3. His bad table manners result from the absence of proper parental guidance during his childhood.
- 4. The story of Romeo and Juliet is set in the 16th-century Verona. It is difficult for modern directors to present on contemporary stage the original love story in its historical context and indeed, we are at a great remove from its historical setting.
- 5. In these special economic zones, a person, no matter where she originally comes from, can draw a salary on a par with the local employee for the same job position.
- 6. His friends and colleagues quietly made allowances for his bad temper because they knew he was grieving over two family members who had passed away in the same week.
- 7. She usually blamed those coming from other parts of the country for the growing crime rate in the city, but now she has changed her attitude in the light of her recent personal experience.
- 8. We do not subscribe at all to the notion that people are at different levels of civilization because of their races.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (c) 6. (d) 7. (a) 8. (b) 9. (b) 10. (d)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

One way of looking at American history from Jefferson's day down to our own is as the series of changes and adjustments in our laws and institutions necessitated by the ideals implicit in Jefferson's *Declaration*. Sometimes the effect of these ideals has been simply to prevent other, incompatible deals from gaining ascendancy, as in the case of Social Darwinism, whose notions of the natural inferiority of certain racial and social groups were impeded by the prevalence and familiarity of the *Declaration*'s precepts. But without doubt the most important event in the development of the American ideal of equality, after Jefferson's *Declaration*, was Abraham Lincoln's address at Gettysburg. Lincoln declared that not only the essential meaning of the Civil War but also the national purpose itself was epitomized in Jefferson's phrase "all men are created equal."

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (d) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (a) 9. (b) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (d)

II.

1. (T) 2. (T) 3. (F) 4. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Japan's Revisionist History Philip J. Cunningham

The United States has of late been remarkably silent about Japan's ethical lapses, current and historical.

Japanese politicians and publishers have made a cottage industry of denying the 1937 Nanjing Massacre in which the Japanese killed hundreds of thousands of civilians in the old Chinese capital. This is an offense to Chinese sensibilities comparable with Holocaust denial in Europe. In recent months, major publishers and broadcasters in Japan have been bullied to conform and self-censor in accord with the rising tide of resurgent militarism. That tacit government approval is given to such racist, right-wing thinking can be seen in the latest Ministry of Education-approved school texts that erase or evade critical lessons drawn from Japan's bad behavior in its war of aggression.

In the "New History Textbook," the Nanjing Massacre is dismissed as a controversial "incident." And the war of invasion is no longer termed an invasion. New textbooks drop references to "comfort women," sex slaves of mostly Chinese and Korean origin who were forced to serve Japanese fighting men in the field. To borrow a phrase from the late writer Iris Chang, the abused women are being raped a second time, this time by defenders of the Japanese army who attempt to erase them from memory.

China and the U.S. were allies in World War II, each contributing in its own way to the defeat of Japanese militarism. But the Cold War saw the U.S. turn away from China and embrace Japan, with the result that China's vast suffering, estimated at 20 million dead, was never properly memorialized or recognized by its erstwhile ally. To add insult to injury, the U.S. found it to their interest to work with Emperor Hirohito and other war criminals of that era in order to strengthen its anti-communism crusade. Now that the Cold War is over, it is high time the U.S. lent support to China's valid historical complaints.

But Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, who has linked his political fate with the unrepentant rightists at home and President Bush's policy abroad, keeps the unholy alliance functioning, offering vocal support for U.S. aggression in Iraq while hailing Japan's fallen military heroes of a bygone era. As if to get tacit agreement from the U.S. on controversial textbook changes, U.S. actions in Iraq have been cleaned up by Japanese textbook committees.

The cozy Tokyo-Washington relationship makes it difficult for the U.S. to take a judicious stand on anti-China antics such as history textbook revision. Last October, while Koizumi was lending vocal support to Bush in the presidential race and the war in Iraq, Shueisha, one of Japan's leading publishers, suspended publication of an acclaimed historical

manga (comic book), My Country Is Burning, for its unflinching portrayal of the Nanjing Massacre.

In Beijing last week, Japanese Ambassador Koreshige Anami defended the publishing of right-wing textbooks as a testament to Japan's "freedom of speech and publication." Why then was veteran manga artist Motomiya Hiroshi forced to retract and apologize for *My Country Is Burning*? Why then did the NHK TV network, after getting a high-level warning, preemptively cut short a program on comfort women that laid blame on the Emperor?

The U.S. should not look the other way in the face of resurgent Japanese militarism, even though a Japan freed of the constraints of its own guilty past behavior might serve to keep China on edge or might add muscle to the U.S. policing of the world. The ultimate consequence of whitewashing the past could be the demise of Japan's admirable Peace Constitution, allowing Japan to retool its formidable industrial base into a weapons industry threatening its neighbors and possibly triggering an unprecedented arms race and another world war.

Writing

Guided Writing

It is completely surreal to hear mainstream historians vigorously deny even the possibility of a sexual relationship between Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings, one of his slaves. But that kind of relationship was common in the days of slavery, or else how do we account for the millions of black Americans with light skin, straight hair, some with blue or green eyes? These light-skinned black Americans existed well before the Civil War, as a result and proof of slavery. Still, the denials of a Jefferson-Hemings affair from many present-day historians, including some highly-regarded sources, are furious, almost as savage as the slandering against the 19th-century Richmond journalist James Thomson Callender, who first reported the affair in 1802. Newly revealed DNA evidence strongly suggests that Jefferson fathered at least one of Hemings' children. Those who try to defend Jefferson's image as a paragon of principle and virtue claim that his noble personality would not have prevented him from having such a liaison. Jeffersonites insist, however, that it is unfair to judge a founder of American democracy by the modern standards that see slavery as reprehensible. Well, then, if we judge Jefferson by the standards of his time, when women (of all colors) of lesser social status were often sexually exploited by more powerful men, the likelihood of an affair should have been obvious. Evidently it is common prejudices that have kept some historians from seeing the truth. This question then should be asked: How many other history texts have been written inaccurately and how many other historic episodes wrongly interpreted because of those same prejudices?

Additional Writing Project

(No key can be provided because any answer has to be individualized.)

Unit 3

Capital Punishment

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. It is a strange phenomenon of today's world that we find ourselves being reprimanded about ethics by heartless murderers.
- 2. Did their <u>newly-discovered sense of respect for life spring from</u> the realization that they were about to lose their own?
- 3. If the death penalty had surfaced as a real threat in the minds of these murderers, they might well have given up the killing.
- 4. During my twenty-two years in public service, I have heard the two opposed positions on capital punishment vigorously argued.
- 5. Because I support the death penalty for <u>atrocious</u> crimes of murder, I have sometimes been the target of angry criticisms by voters who find my position <u>blame-worthy</u> or even worse than that.
- 6. ... the *New York Times* published an editorial that... stated that "the use of science and technology cannot make execution more humane."
- 7. If we create a society in which injustice is not accepted, incidents of murder—the most blatant manifestation of injustice—will decrease.
- 8. Fewer and fewer Americans can remember the days when unlocked doors were <u>normal</u> <u>occurrences</u> and murder was <u>a crime which rarely happened and, if it did, was shocking to people.</u>
- 9. And I dare say that any other <u>major democratic country</u> where 75 percent of the people supported the death penalty would soon make it into law.
- 10. According to Mr. Bedau, it is "dishonest and insincere to argue that the death penalty should be abandoned because of the abstract scenario that an innocent person might be executed."
- 11. If government <u>acted</u> only when <u>there were no possibility to make an error</u>, government wouldn't function at all.

- 12. Because New York has no law permitting death penalty, Smith has, in effect, been given a permit to kill.
- 13. In 1981, ninety-one police officers were killed while on duty in this country.
- 14. It would <u>slight</u> their horrible experience, and <u>make the terrible possibility of such crimes</u> happening to them again more likely.
- 15. The greatest thinkers of the nineteenth century... agreed that <u>natural law properly</u> deputizes the ruler to take life in order to maintain what is just.
- 16. The execution of a lawfully condemned killer is <u>not a criminal act just as putting a</u> kidnapper in prison is not criminal.
- 17. Rights and responsibilities <u>yielded</u> by the individual are what <u>empower</u> the state to govern.
- 18. When people do not show any moral courage, he lectures us on where we are supposed to have failed and tries to make his crimes sound as if they were on a par with our quest for justice.
- 19. It is <u>a false idea</u> to let ourselves believe that <u>abolishing</u> capital punishment <u>eases the</u> burden of the murderer's deed that weighs on our conscience.

II.

- 1. It is widely believed that easy access to pornographic materials will expose our teenage children to certain dangers.
- 2. When the elderly lady thanked the policeman for helping her across the street, the policeman expressed his happiness in doing something in the line of his duty.
- 3. In the early spring of 2003, Guangdong was plagued by a rumor that the province was plagued by a deadly contagious disease.
- 4. It surprises almost everyone in the company that board meetings could rarely arrive at any definite conclusion even after hours of heated discussion.
- 5. When Jim died in a traffic accident while on his way to a board meeting, I was faced with the difficult task of breaking the news to his family.
- 6. The Senate refused to approve the President's candidate as the Ambassador to the UN in opposition to the President's view of the UN's role.
- 7. No one is willing to travel to the Gulf area right now because we all know that we could run the risk of having ourselves killed.
- 8. Due to his radical ideas, John Milton was highly unpopular while he was at the Cambridge University and he was often the subject of ridicule from fellow students and professors.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (d) 6. (a) 7. (b) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (d)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

Until recently, only a handful of executions occurred every year. There was a period in which the Supreme Court had overturned the capital sentence in fourteen out of fifteen cases. But after that period, during the mid-1980s, in the wake of four adverse Supreme Court decisions, the engine of death acquired new steam. In 1984 alone, there were twenty-one executions (almost twice as many as in all of the years following Gregg); 1985 and 1986 saw eighteen apiece, and the body count continues to grow. That being so, if our next governor permits the enactment of capital statutes, the Court will surely not "veto" them.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (d) 5. (a) 6. (b) 7. (b) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c)

II.

1. (F) 2. (T) 3. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Considering the Penalty for a Murderer

Marcus Wesson, a resident of Fresno, California, murdered nine of his children in 2004.

In June 2005, he was convicted. Should he be sentenced to death? Toward the end of June that decision was again put in the hands of the jurors who had convicted him.

When the deliberations in the penalty phase began, Wesson's defense attorney, Peter Jones, gave a final plea to save his client's life. While the prosecution team told the jurors that their job "would be simple," which was to sentence Wesson to die by injection, Mr. Jones argued that nothing could relieve the suffering this family and the community had endured. He asked the jurors to consider all the good they had learned about Wesson during the fourmonth trial, as well as all the bad.

Wesson's crimes are horrifying. In the guilt phase, the jurors found him guilty of killing nine of his own children—seven boys and girls from 1 to 9 in age and two adult female children, one 17 and the other 25. In addition to the murders, the jurors also found him guilty of 14 counts of sexually abusing his daughters and nieces. Several of the victims were children he has fathered with his young daughters. In making their case against Wesson, the prosecution lawyer called him a "master manipulator" who sexually abused his children and financially and emotionally exploited them.

To make an appeal for Wesson, his attorney Jones tried to remind the jury of what Wesson's sister Cheryl Pepton had said about Wesson's childhood. According to the sister, Marcus Wesson lived a harsh childhood with an unstable, alcoholic father who held odd jobs and was never a part of the children's lives. She described Wesson as a child who stuttered, and who brought home and nursed to health stray animals he found in the streets. Jones also asked jurors to carefully consider whether they did not have some lingering doubt about Wesson's direct involvement in the March 2004 murders, returning to a key point made during the defense.

A forensic pathologist testified he believed the seven youngest victims could have died one to two hours before the two oldest ones. Jones suggested that this could mean they died before Wesson entered the back bedroom where their bodies were found.

Even though Wesson was already convicted, Mr. Jones insisted that there were still doubts about this case. "The trial process is a process of discovering and eliminating doubt," Jones said. "If you look at the evidence presented in this trial over and over, I submit, you will always return to doubt."

A key issue in the penalty phase is how many of his children were killed by him. To qualify Wesson for the death penalty, the jurors had to find him guilty of at least two first-degree murders. During the guilt phase, they found Wesson guilty of all nine murder counts.

Writing

Guided Writing

Some years ago there were a series of unsolved murders in Washington State; eventually

it was found out that the perpetrator was Ted Bundy. Bundy had committed more murders in Utah, Colorado and finally in Florida before he was caught, convicted and sentenced to death. I followed his cases since I could identify myself as one the victims, young women who were polite, friendly, quick to help and eager to please. Bundy and the death penalty seemed made for each other. But the death penalty and I have nothing in common. Ted Bundy, however, has made me think about death penalty all over again. After all, I am no longer just a liberal from the 1960s; I have been a reporter covering some of the worst back alleys in the New York City and for three years have been a mother who is willing to lay down her life for her kids. I stand in opposition to the death penalty. I believe that the killing of one human being as punishment for the killing of another makes no sense. But whenever my response to an important subject is completely rational, I know there is something wrong with it—and so it is the case here. My gut says I am hypocritical about the death penalty. That is to say, even though I do not think that someone like Ted Bundy should be put to death, I would kill him with the greatest pleasure if my daughter had been the one clubbed to death.

Additional Writing Project

(No key can be provided because any answer has to be individualized.)

Unit 4

Gender and the English Language

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- The reason that's so difficult is that our culture is immersed in gender-related beliefs and attitudes that are already our collective unconscious, a condition reflected in our use of words.
- 2. Every human society has recognized the relationship between power and naming: That naming something is to claim domination over the thing being named.
- 3. Those who have the power to name and define other things—animals, wives, whatever—inevitably see themselves as the standard-bearer, the embodiment of norms.
- 4. They shaped the course of history and were the major players (main actors) in history.
- 5. The English language still <u>reveals a world</u> in which the power to define gender characteristics is a privilege reserved exclusively for males.
- 6. A number of English words actually suggest the vast division of the sexes.
- 7. Never mind that if we look beyond the reproductive features of men and women, every individual is distinct in personality, combining in a unique way those <u>supposedly strongly</u> opposed qualities called "masculine" and "feminine."
- 8. It remains a valued principle of our culture, semantically emphasized in our lexicon and upheld by vendors of all kinds of commodities, that the sexes must be thought of as opposite.
- 9. They're saying that in addition to defining characteristics <u>befitting</u> a man, like vocal pitch, *manly* is identical with admirable qualities that all of us might wish we had.
- 10. Instead, womanly is defined only in a round-about way—through characteristics seen to be appropriate or inappropriate to women, not to human beings in general.
- 11. Linguistic changes occur when there are new perceptions of the world and of ourselves.
- 12. What he was criticizing was the introduction of newly invented words that are rooted in Latin to replace older English ones.
- 13. These days more and more writers acknowledge that he used generically is, like man used

- generically, both confusing and sinister, and they take greater care to write more precisely.
- 14. There is also an element here which we don't think should be ignored: the profound, though not always recognized, psychological influence of the grammatical "rule" that authorizes masculine-gender pronouns for all kinds of things.
- 15. English is a vigorously alive tongue, and it reflects a highly energetic and active society that is capable of finding its problems and attempting to deal with them.
- 16. With George Orwell giving us courage, may we be so bold, in conclusion, as to apply his insight to the occasion by adding this final thought?

II.

- 1. Lijiang is a very special tourist attraction. Unlike other small towns in Yunnan, Lijiang shows such a rich range of cultural features steeped in the native tradition of ethnic minorities.
- 2. An honorary doctoral degree was conferred on him by the Cambridge University for his contribution to the academic exchanges between the two schools during his last visit to the UK.
- 3. I'm sure the three-page brochure in your hand gives you a fairly good picture of what we have been doing so far.
- 4. These two schools are identical in the programs they offer and in the number of undergraduate students enrolled.
- 5. Visitors and temporary residents are subsumed in this survey under the category of city residents of the City of Monterey Park.
- 6. With the decline of birthrate in the last ten years, the plan to expand elementary schools has lost favor with the residents in the city.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (d) 6. (c) 7. (c) 8. (a) 9. (a) 10. (a)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

It is clear that the decline of a language must ultimately have political and economic causes; it is not due simply to the bad influence of this or that individual writer. But an effect

can become a cause, reinforcing the original cause and producing the same effect in an intensified form, and so on indefinitely. A man may take to drink because he feels himself to be a failure, and then fail all the more completely because he drinks. It is rather the same thing that is happening to the English language. It becomes ugly and inaccurate because our thoughts are foolish, but the slovenliness of our language makes it easier for us to have foolish thoughts. The point is that the process is reversible. Modern English, especially written English, is full of bad habits which spread by imitation and which can be avoided if one is willing to take the necessary trouble. If one gets rid of these habits one can think more clearly, and to think clearly is a necessary first step toward political regeneration; so that the fight against bad English is not frivolous and is not the exclusive concern of professional writers.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

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1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (b) 6. (d) 7. (b) 8. (a) 9. (a) 10. (a)
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Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

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1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (b)
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II.

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Against the Theory of "Sexist Language"

It is common today in public discussion, whether the context is academic, political, or even legal, to take it for granted that using the word "man," in isolation or as a suffix, to refer to all of humanity, or using the pronoun "he" where any person, male or female, may be referred to, is to engage in "sexist language," i.e. language that affirms or reinforces

discrimination against women.

The theory of "sexist language" seems to say that words cannot have more than one meaning: If "man" and "he" in some usage mean males, then they cannot mean both males and females in other usage (i.e. nouns and pronouns can have both masculine and common gender). This view is absurd enough that there is usually a more subtle take on it: that the use of "man" or "he" to refer to males and to both males and females means that maleness is more fundamental than femaleness, "subordinating" femaleness to maleness, just as in the Book of Genesis the first woman, Eve, is created from Adam's rib for the purpose of being his companion. Now, the implication of the Biblical story may well be precisely that Adam is more fundamental than Eve, but the Bible did not create the language, Hebrew, in which it is written. If we are going to talk about the *linguistic structure* of Hebrew as distinct from the social ideology of the Bible, it is one thing to argue that the system of grammatical gender allowed the *interpretation* of gender embodied in the story of Adam and Eve and something very much different to argue that such an interpretive meaning *necessarily underlies* the original grammar of Hebrew—or Akkadian, Arabic, Greek, French, Spanish, English, Swahili, etc. —or that such a system of grammatical gender *requires* such an interpretation.

What a language with its gender system *means* is what people *use it to mean*. It is an evil principle to think that we can *tell* other people what *they mean* by what they say, because of some theory we have that makes it mean something in particular to us, even when they obviously mean something else. Nevertheless, there is now a common principle, in feminism and elsewhere (especially flourishing in literary criticism), that meaning is only in the *response* of the interpreter, not in the mind of the speaker, even if the speaker is to be sued or charged with a crime for the interpreter having the response that they do.

The implications of these principles are dehumanizing and totalitarian: What individual people think and want is irrelevant and to be disregarded, even by laws and political authorities forcing them to behave, and speak, in certain ways. But they are principles that make it possible to dismiss the common sense view that few people speaking English who said "man" in statements like "man is a rational animal" were referring exclusively to males, even though this usage was clear to all, from the context, for centuries before feminism decided that people didn't "really" mean that. But even if *some* speakers *really did mean that*, it is actually irrelevant to the *freedom* of individuals to mean whatever they intend to mean through language in the conventionally available forms that they choose. What was meant by the gender system in the languages that ultimately gave rise to Hebrew is lost in whatever it was that the speakers of those languages were saying to each other; but what we can say about the functioning of gender systems and about language in general is very different from the claims that the theory of "sexist language" makes.

Historically, if a language possesses a gender system and distinguishes between "he" and "she," then one or the other will also tend to be the common gender for when both genders

are involved. In English, and most other languages with gender, that falls to "he," and the feminist argument is that this reflects patriarchal dominance and so sexism—a hierarchy in which the masculine is more fundamental. That may even be true in many cultural contexts; but interpretation is separate from the grammatical structure, and the structure allows for interpretation that cuts both ways. Logically, English "he" stands to "she" as "number" stands to "prime." Number, in a sense, is more "fundamental" than primeness, just because it is more general; but prime numbers are certainly no less numbers than any other numbers. Prime numbers are simply *marked* with a certain property that other numbers do not have. Calling prime numbers "prime" represents the traditional sense that the distinguishing property of prime numbers—that they cannot be evenly divided by any numbers besides one and themselves—is particularly striking and salient.

In the end, gender, in any language, is just an expression of the affinity of our understanding for logical divisions and hierarchies; and since logical divisions and hierarchies are essential to thought, the principle of eradicating gender is absurd. Even if the feminine gender is usually more "marked" than the masculine, this can really mean anything, depending, indeed, on what we intend to mean. Instead of gender systems compelling patriarchy or, obviously, matriarchy, the whole idea of sexual equality was conceived in languages (English, French, German) with strong or remnant gender structures, while other languages with gender structures (Sanskrit, Arabic, Swahili) or without (Persian, Chinese, Malay) produced nothing of the sort. Serious intellectual dispute on any issue always must focus on what the speaker means by what is said, not on theories about how it is said compels certain unintended meanings, especially when such theories are clearly mere features of certain political and ideological systems of interpretation.

Writing

Guided Writing

"Man" was once a generic word referring to all humans, but it has narrowed in meaning to become a reference to adult male human beings. In the past, Anglo-Saxons used the word to refer to all people. An Anglo-Saxon writer even refers to a seventh-century English princess as "a wonderful man." The Old English word for adult male was waepman and the Old English word for adult woman was wifman. In the course of time, wifman evolved into the word "woman." By the 18th century, the modern, narrow sense of "man" was firmly established as the predominant one. Modern dictionaries indicate that "man" is now more a reference to the adult male. Studies of college students and school children indicate that even when the broad definitions of "man" and "men" are taught, they tend to conjure up images of male people only. We would never use the sentence "A girl grows up to be a man," because we assume the narrower definition of the word "man." There is, of course, the pronoun

problem where "he" is used as a generic term referring to both male and female. Earlier grammars of modern English, say those written in the 16th and 17th centuries, were meant primarily for male readers, reflecting the reality of male cultural dominance and the androcentric view. Just as "man" is not truly generic in the 1990s, "he" is not a true generic pronoun. Studies have confirmed that it is problematic for most people to understand "he" as a generic reference.

Additional Writing Project

(No key can be provided because any answer has to be individualized.)

Unit 5

Images on the Screen

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. When I was growing up in Piedmont, West Virginia, the TV was the ritualistic theater in which race was dramatized.
- 2. In our family, it was located in the living room, where it functioned like a fireplace in the often-invoked winter of New England.
- 3. We watched people being hosed and beaten over their heads, people being spat upon and arrested, the rednecks setting their vicious dogs on women and children, our people responding by singing and marching and refusing to be weak.
- 4. President Kennedy interrupted our scheduled program with a special address, saying that James Meredith will *definitely* enter the University of Mississippi; and saying it like he believed it, saying it matter-of-factly like what the big kids would say to the smaller kids so that they could take over the basketball court and would not give the smaller kids any say.
- 5. Being able to become a team in the major leagues was like a dream to go to heaven, and everybody had hoped that they could, or a relative could.
- 6. Everybody knew all the details of the baseball games.
- 7. Sports were our obsession and sports were all we thought about.
- 8. You got to respect the white man when it comes to technology. One on one, though, and it's an even game.
- 9. I think they made professional sports games of interracial players, after all those years of segregation, just to make profit out of people's secret excitement to see the physical contacts between races that had been forbidden.
- 10. Interracial sex was fashionable in the seventies just as interracial sports were fashionable in the fifties.
- 11. It was my first encounter with the sublime.
- 12. For the colored people, the day they stopped airing Amos and Andy was one of the

saddest days in Piedmont.

- 13. As would we, the kids, addicted to the ritual.
- 14. By this time, we had stopped trying to fight back the tears and were hollering to our hearts' content all over the place.
- 15. Or have a drink at the white VFW, or join the white American Legion, or get loans at the bank, or just do anything that was considered out of line.

II.

- 1. As the starting point of the ancient Silk Road, Xi'an, for a time, functioned as the most important center of China's trade with the West.
- 2. I have heard a lot of complaints about the former Manager, but, to give him his due, we have to admit that, as one of the founders of this big company, he has contributed greatly to its fast growth.
- 3. She never tells anybody directly what she is thinking, so nobody actually knows what she is up to.
- 4. All his friends were dismayed that he had refused to receive any medical treatment and had made up his mind to wait till the final moment of his life.
- 5. We all want to know who thought up such an absurd idea which has cost the company millions of dollars in the loss of revenue.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (d) 6. (e) 7. (a) 8. (e) 9. (b) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

The children would get off their school bus surrounded by soldiers from the National Guard and by a field of state police. They would stop at the steps of the bus and seem to take a very deep breath. Then the phalanx would start to move slowly along this gulley of sidewalk that connected the steps of the school bus with the white wooden double doors of the school. All kinds of crackers would be lining that gulley, separated from the phalanx of children by rows of state police, who formed a barrier in arms. Cheerleaders from the all-white high school that was desperately trying to stay that way were dressed in those funny little pleated skirts, and they'd wave their pom-poms and start to cheer: "Two, four, six, eight—We don't

want to integrate!" And all those crackers and all those rednecks would join in that chant as if their lives depended on it. It was deafening, even on our twelve-inch TV.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (b) 6. (a) 7. (b) 8. (c) 9. (a) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (a)

II.

1. (T) 2. (T) 3. (F)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

The Power of the Media: Asian American Images on Television Christine Toy Johnson

I recently read a study done by an advocacy group called "Children Now" which reaffirmed to me a very powerful truth, that children believe in the media's power to "tell kids that people of their race are important." Adults believe that, too, I think.

When I was growing up as a second generation Asian American child in the suburbs of Manhattan, there were virtually no Asian American role models on television. At the time I didn't understand how that would affect me as an adult, but when I became part of the 0.4% of Asian Americans on daytime television as a member of the cast of *One Life to Live* in 1998 (thankfully playing a non-stereotypical detective), I was extremely aware of how significant this was. I became hopeful that television could finally be including us in its reflection of the fabric of America. But I'm not so sure. In any case, we have a long way to go. A Screen Actors Guild report tells us that Asian Pacific characters on television still represent less than one half of their proportion of the U.S. population. This coupled with the issues of the

"quality" of our representation and the perpetuation of stereotypes as well has many ramifications that we, as adults, are now coming to grips with.

The perpetuation of Asians being portrayed as foreigners; the women as long-haired, exotic geishas and Asian men as sexless, camera-yielding tourists who also do kung fu; these and many other broad stroked archetypes effect how Asian Americans are perceived and accepted in everyday life by the general public, and by ourselves. I am a New York born Sarah Lawrence College graduate. So it still shocks me to hear people compliment me for "speaking English beautifully." But that is not too surprising. Given the rampant portrayal of Asians as foreigners, somewhere down the line people are going to believe that definition of us. Though there are millions of second, third and fourth generation Asian Americans in this country who work in every imaginable profession, if one is bombarded with one image (no matter what that image is), that is the image that will remain prevalent in one's perception of the other. How else can we explain the phenomenon of stereotypes leading to the fear and intolerance that so many of us face?

There are other questions which beg to be asked. If television is not inclusively reflecting the diverse society in which we live, what message are we, as a society, sending, and what message are we, the excluded, being sent? If commercial factors are a guiding force, how can we explain the lack of Asians on television given their disproportionately large contribution to consumer spending in the U.S.? Then there is the question of accountability. Whose responsibility is it to increase ethnic diversity on television? What responsibility does the actor have in changing the face of television today?

The good news is that there are some strides being made, but there's room for much, much more. Asian newscasters, though, are a strong and growing presence. The television talk show, *The View*, is now boasting the vibrant participation of Lisa Ling. The television series, *One Life to Live*, now has Detective Lisa West, an Asian American character. And children growing up on *Sesame Street* can get to know Big Bird's many diverse buddies (and I don't just mean those who have blue fur) including Alan (the Asian American storekeeper), Linda (a deaf friend), Maria (his Latina neighbor), and Gordon (his African American pal) among many others. Though it is necessary for me to label them accordingly in order to make my point here, you can be sure that the children who know these characters notice only that they are nice, or friendly, or cross, welcoming their differences and their similarities.

We, as storytellers, rely on labels to shade our characterizations. How much richer they are, though, when we look beyond the labels and into the souls of these characters. More importantly, how much richer our society could be, if stereotypes failed to shape our perceptions of each other, and how proud the media could be of its power to influence us if it could truthfully and inclusively reflect our society.

Writing

Guided Writing

Beloved is based on the true story of a black woman who tried to kill her children rather than see them returned to slavery. Toni Morrison's novel of the same title has inspired the film which tries to move toward what Thomas Carlyle called "the inner fact of things." But the film's magical-realist style undercuts its moral impact. But the bigger problem for Beloved is its emphasis on victimization. In telling stories of tragedy, one has to be aware that its audience is limited. Sometimes bleak sadness is crowded out by even bleaker sadness, leaving some genocides little noted, as in Armenia and, today, Rwanda. Besides, new tragedies are always in the making: the recent murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student in Laramie, Wyoming, is an example. If brutality is the norm in human history, then what's most dramatically compelling are chronicles of men and women who rise above the iniquity around them. As a group, women deserve their place in the cinematic art, but the unmistakable message of Beloved—and for that matter, Morrison's novel—is not the promise of harmony, but rather the persistence, even the permanence, of male-female inequality. And so Beloved may not be a work of historical memory at all, but rather yet another salvo in the continuing culture war that rages today.

Additional Writing Project

(No key can be provided because any answer has to be individualized.)

Unit 6

Environmental Protection

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. It does not require a great deal of imagination to see that the human species is now the reason why there are such geologic changes.
- 2. It may be the height of irony that in our efforts to make the earth produce more for ourselves, we are making it less able to support life of all kinds, humans included.
- 3. Everywhere there are signs that the environment has its limits.
- 4. Grasslands have been <u>overused for grazing</u> and fisheries <u>have been excessively harvested</u>, thus diminishing the supply of additional food from these sources.
- 5. And natural forests—which help <u>keep climate patterns stable</u>, conserve water supplies, and protect most varieties of the diverse forms of bio-life on the surface of the earth—continue to recede.
- 6. Biologists often speak of the earth's "carrying capacity" in connections with questions of population pressures on an environment.
- 7. A simple but striking case in point that shows a breach of carrying capacity involved the introduction of twenty-nine reindeer to St. Matthew Island in the Bering Sea in 1944.
- 8. In recent years, the global problems of ozone depletion and greenhouse warming have made more prominent the danger of abusing the earth's capacity in soaking up our industrial wastes.
- 9. The days of the frontier economy—in which there were plentiful of resources to support economic growth and living standards—are over.
- 10. The human population will not meet so total a disaster as the St. Matthew Island reindeer did, but there will likely be a worsening of problems such as starvation, illegal immigration, and conflict—trends already painfully evident in parts of the world.
- 11. In these ways, technology and trade <u>can bring us a bit more time to</u> tackle the larger challenges of <u>easing population growth</u>, <u>controlling wasteful consumption</u>, and establishing a fairer system of distributing wealth.

II.

- 1. He speaks Cantonese to such a degree that no one could guess that he has never lived in Guangdong.
- 2. Quite a few people that I know have invested in real estates in Beijing because they believe that such investments can yield profitable returns in a few years.
- 3. When black children integrated into Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957, there was a sense of resentment that ran deep in the white community.
- 4. Apparently, at the time when she submitted her resume, she was deluded by the name of the company into thinking that she could get a respectable job abroad soon.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6. (a) 7. (c) 8. (a) 9. (b) 10. (c)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

Environmental issues such as depletion of the ozone layer, global warming, deforestation, and air and water pollution are just a few of the many causes for concern when considering the health of animal and vegetable life on Earth. Closely connected to environmental problems is the rapid rate of increase in the world population. As the number of people grows, more and more pressure is put on all of our natural resources. Will there be enough food for everyone? How can our water supplies be kept safe for drinking? How does pollution produced by so many humans affect the quality of the air we breathe? How do we stop the ever-widening hole in the ozone layer that protects us from the harmful rays of the sun? How are future generations going to stabilize the rapidly increasing numbers of people worldwide? These are just some of the questions confronting scientists, civic leaders, and ordinary humans everywhere.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (d) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (c) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (a)

II.

1. (F) 2. (F) 3. (F) 4. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

A Fable for Tomorrow Rachel Carson

There was once a town in the heart of America where all life seemed to live in harmony with its surroundings. The town lay in the midst of a checkerboard of prosperous farms, with fields of grain and hillsides of orchards where, in spring, white clouds of bloom drifted above the green fields. In autumn, oak and maple and birch set up a blaze of color that flamed and flickered across a backdrop of pines. Then foxes barked in the hills and deer silently crossed the fields, half hidden in the mists of the fall mornings.

Along the roads, laurel, viburnum and alder, great ferns and wildflowers delighted the traveler's eye through much of the year. Even in winter the roadsides were places of beauty, where countless birds came to feed on the berries and on the seed heads of the dried weeds rising above the snow. The countryside was, in fact, famous for the abundance and variety of its bird life, and when the flood of migrants was pouring through in spring and fall people traveled from great distances to observe them. Others came to fish the streams, which flowed clear and cold out of the hills and contained shady pools where trout lay. So it had been from the days many years ago when the first settlers raised their houses, sank their wells, and built their barns.

Then a strange blight crept over the area and everything began to change. Some evil spell had settled on the community: Mysterious maladies swept the flocks of chickens; the cattle and sheep sickened and died. Everywhere was a shadow of death. The farmers spoke of much illness among their families. In the town the doctors had become more and more puzzled by

new kinds of sickness appearing among their patients. There had been several sudden and unexplained deaths not only among adults but even among children, who would be stricken suddenly while at play and die within a few hours.

There was a strange stillness. The birds, for example—where had they gone? Many people spoke of them, puzzled and disturbed. The feeding stations in the backyards were deserted. The few birds seen anywhere were moribund; they trembled violently and could not fly. It was a spring without voices. On the mornings that had once throbbed with the dawn chorus of robins, catbirds, doves, jays, wrens, and scores of other bird voices there was now no sound; only silence lay over the fields and woods and marsh.

On the farms the hens brooded, but no chicks hatched. The farmers complained that they were unable to raise any pigs—the litters were small and the young survived only a few days. The apple trees were coming into bloom but no bees droned among the blossoms, so there was no pollination and there would be no fruit.

The roadsides, once so attractive, were now lined with browned and withered vegetation as though swept by fire. These, too, were silent, deserted by all living things. Even the streams were now lifeless. Anglers no longer visited them, for all the fish had died.

In the gutters under the eaves and between the shingles of the roofs, a white granular powder still showed a few patches; some weeks before it had fallen like snow upon the roofs and the lawns, the fields and streams.

No witchcraft, no enemy action had silenced the rebirth of new life in this stricken world. The people had done it themselves.

This town does not actually exist, but it might easily have a thousand counterparts in America or elsewhere in the world. I know of no community that has experienced all the misfortunes I describe. Yet every one of these disasters has actually happened somewhere, and many real communities have already suffered a substantial number of them. A grim specter has crept upon us almost unnoticed, and this imagined tragedy may easily become a stark reality we all shall know.

Writing

Guided Writing

Finally, the spotted owl has been declared an endangered species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If the law is properly enforced, the decision will significantly cut back logging in the owl's habitat—old-growth forest in the Pacific Northwest. The logging companies are not happy and they say that we should not choose to sacrifice 28,000 jobs to save an owl. The choice, however, is not between an owl and jobs, but between a forest and the greed of logging companies. In the old days, miners used to send a canary into a mine to find out if the air was not poisonous. The spotted owl is like a canary in the old miners'

sense—it is a sign that all is well. Since the spotted owl is high up in the food chain that depends upon a large area of healthy land for its livelihood, every thriving family of spotted owls means that 4,000 acres of forest are well. When an old-growth forest is clear-cut, the trees and the owls disappear and so does everything else. Burned slash leads to the loss of nutrients in the soil. Waters cloud and silt, and with flooding, or eventually dry up. The temperature goes up, and the humidity goes down. It will take hundreds of years to regather the nutrients, rebuild the soil, and restore the complex system of the intact forest, if there is still old-growth forest around to recolonize. But the forest companies won't stay away; they are interested not in jobs or forests, but in multiplying money. Old-growth forests yield higher profit than second-growth plantations. But, under the lobbying pressure from the logging companies, our elected representatives are selling off old-growth logging rights in national forests at a rate of about 100,000 acres per year. At the present cutting rate, all but the last protected bits will be gone in about twenty years. The owls will be on their way out—the 800,000 acres of forests remaining will be too fragmented to sustain them. The jobs will be gone, not because of owls, but because of greed.

Additional Writing Project

(No key can be provided because any answer has to be individualized.)

Unit 7

Regulating the Internet

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Hardly anyone uses computers to do math anymore.
- 2. ... it should not be surprising that they also face the same <u>long-existing</u> legal issues and have the same <u>well-established</u> legal responsibilities and liabilities <u>related to</u> those communications that traditional media do.
- 3. <u>In the more optimistic estimation</u>, only a handful of them are aware of the libel, copyright, obscenity, and other laws <u>that can be applied to</u> their activities on the Internet—<u>it is even less likely that they would grasp the subtleties</u> of the "actual malice" doctrine.
- 4. Instead, to the extent that they consider legal issues at all, computer users typically view them from the perspective of Internet gossips, which mistakenly conceives of cyberspace as an independent realm not governed by laws in which anything is allowed as long as your have the technical capabilities.
- 5. Unfortunately, that view recently <u>has been given more credence</u> by the widespread misconception that the Supreme Court's decision <u>that struck down</u> the Communication Decency Act made illegal all regulation of the Net.
- 6. The Supreme Court <u>was not of the opinion</u> that the Internet could not be regulated at all—indeed, it expressly recognized that <u>a more narrowly defined approach</u> to that problem <u>(on</u> the part of the federal government) would not have been ruled as unconstitutional.
- 7. Most commonly, our response to such expectations has been to adopt new codes of conducts specifically related to the uses of computer, often expressed in long lists of "do's and don'ts."
- 8. And, at least for now, the law also appears to require us to investigate in good faith whatever complaints about the legal or illegal nature of our computer users' exchanges are brought to our attention and—if the complaints are reasonably grounded—to remove those communications from our system.

- 9. Our main message is: Communications that would be illegal or that would be in violation of university policy in the "off line" realm are equally illegal or in breach of university policy while they take place online.
- 10. No point could be more clearly made to those accused of misusing the Internet than a communication to them that individuals could be liable—for example, the possibility of being fined as much as \$100,000 in statutory damages for a single case of copyright violation, as well as a demonstration of how easy it is for a university administrator... to find a possibly indecent exchange by means of Web-based search engines such as Alta Vista or Deja News.
- 11. It seems that with the Internet, as with most things, a small measure of prevention is as valuable as a large measure of cure.

II.

- 1. There has been a heated debate in the office lately regarding the two proposed versions of Internet regulations which, in effect, are quite identical.
- 2. Can you find in the educational program of Ohio State University anything applicable to universities in China?
- 3. I have been doing business with Frank for over five years and it did not come as a surprise that he once again failed to keep his promise.
- 4. Each of us donated a month's salary to a tuition waiver program supposedly established for kids from poor families in that mountainous area, but we later found out that the whole thing from the beginning was not done in good faith.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (c) 6. (c) 7. (d) 8. (a) 9. (b) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

The ACLU has also argued the New York statute is unconstitutional on First Amendment grounds. Like the Communications Decency Act, the New York law fails to define "indecency," the ACLU contends. Such a vague definition, the ACLU says, leaves enforcement of the law up to the subjectivity of authorities. Under the law, a librarian who allows a minor to look at "harmful" material has committed a Class D felony, punishable by

up to four years in prison.

"It is sad that the state of New York has passed a law that could send a person to prison for up to four years for talking about safer sex, or displaying online classic nudes or other artistic images," said Siegel, executive director of the New York ACLU, in a January news conference.

Supporters of the New York bill say they are simply trying to slow down a new technology that has barreled into the cyber stratosphere without any rules or regulations, where sexual predators have lured children into face-to-face meetings.

"There have been several cases where minors have been lured on the Internet by adults," state legislator Destito told the *New York Times*. "Basically, these perverts are moving from the playground to the Internet."

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

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1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (a) 5. (a) 6. (b) 7. (b) 8. (a) 9. (a) 10. (d)
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Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (a)

II.

1. (T) 2. (T) 3. (F) 4. (F)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

In Love Online

Leslie Simon

Times sure are changing. Just as the sexual and political revolution of the seventies redefined the standards of a generation, computerization is having a profound impact on the standards of living, as we know it. The Internet has merged everyone onto the information

superhighway. Branching away from its roots as a resource tool, Internet users can chat with people all over the state, all over the nation, and even all over the world, forming friendships and romantic relationships that were never thought to be possible until now. Love is indeed a splendid thing, and with the Internet taking such an active role in connecting users to each other, the Net is definitely redefining the saying "love at first sight."

Basic rules of attraction and attachment still apply online, but the order of precedence has drastically changed. Users judge each other on the quality of conversation, instead of the merit of physical attractiveness. In actuality, it is the text that becomes the physicality. This role reversal is something not often seen in reality, for it is a person's appearance that makes the first impression, not a person's personality. Appearance has no impact on the success of a chat online. In fact, the lack of physical importance neutralizes some of the power aspects of the heterosexist system in which beautiful girls are given more attention and more social opportunities.

Along with reshaping common societal standards, cyberspace is also attempting to reform social structures and practices by modernizing them to fit the ever-changing technological times. As much as teenagers seem to be steering away from the practice of actual dating, cyberdating is an activity that is steadily rising in popularity. Because physical appearance is ignored and virtually impossible to actualize online, any physical inadequacies that the user may possess in reality are overlooked, leading to peer acceptance based on verbal skill, intelligence, and personality. Because written communication is imperative online, it enables some users, teenagers especially, to properly express aspects of their personality that they would feel socially inhibited to express under other circumstances.

Some users make wonderful and worthwhile connections online, but sometimes the initial meetings are difficult to attain. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of matchmaking centers located online that promise to set you up with your perfect cybermate. Again, these agencies promise to assess people based on personality and positive characteristics, not appearance. While images of attractive people reclining on palm trees fill the backdrops of these sites, the text is of a more intellectual pretense, with the mission of these sites being to unite people that "share higher ideals, morals, and expectations than the average person." Another website called Meet-A-Mate Personal Introduction Service prides on the ideal that "We match people based on personality, not just looks." Nothing is foolproof in the quest for your cybermate, but these services are indeed ranking personality first as a factor when judging compatibility.

It has always been said that love knows no bound, and with all of the possibilities that the Internet has to offer, this saying loses no meaning in the HTML online translation. However, with all of the connections to the actual, cyberspace seems to simply be an extension of reality. Personality and intellect may take the place of physicality and appearance in relation to first impressions, but society's standards of living are still apparent no matter the medium. Does the Internet have the power to influence, and perhaps change the rigid traditions and

expectations of society? Or, will the Internet fall victim to reality's flaws when it comes to interpersonal interaction? The Internet has the potential for utter greatness in the area of personal communication, but it is truly up to the user whether progress will be made in an accepting and united direction.

Writing

Guided Writing

This Resource Guide is an attempt to provide an introduction to the various exciting ways in which the Internet can be used by young people in their schools and public libraries. The links are meant to give you a small taste of what is "out there" and to encourage you to explore. Some of the Web pages are designed for children and young adults for a two-fold purpose. In addition to serving as ready-reference tools and pointing out useful places to conduct research, these Web pages steer patrons and students to sites that teachers or librarians find appropriate for young users. Since part of the value of the Internet is to enable children to learn how to effectively search for information and become discriminating information consumers, and since it is almost impossible to restrict access within the vast space of the Internet, most schools and public libraries which allow young people Internet access have adopted Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) or Disclaimers. These policies typically state that the Internet provider cannot review everything on the Internet and, thus, must require students or patrons to use the Internet smartly and responsibly. As far as schools and libraries are concerned, the key is to find ways to make sure that students don't violate such policies. And, there is not much a problem if they have the respect from their students.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 8

Iconic Figures

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. It used to be that if one didn't hurry up and say something about an event, the heated debate about it was over, leaving the slow-to-react commentator wondering what had happened.
- 2. But now, with the tremendous wave after wave of hucksters' campaigns designed to repeatedly stimulate sales, one can bet a little on an event being marketed and sit and watch it unfold for months.
- 3. It is an astonishing pattern of change from Americans of the nineteenth century mourning Abraham Lincoln for months after his assassination because national communication was then as slow in movement as maple syrup in cold weather.
- 4. Now the question is just how much time a product can stay at the top of the advertiser's campaign, how much media space it can dominate, whether or not it can rise and fall like a marlin does, dragging the ship of public boredom on and on, stimulating the crew until—Lord have mercy on us!—the marlin is brought on the deck, showing itself not as a real fish but a fake fish that runs on a motor so many have been trained to admire and drool over even so.
- 5. Michael Jackson almost seems meant to help us understand the intricacies of our primordial fantasies and our recurrent imperfections.
- 6. But because we Americans often <u>forget those sensitive spots</u> that connect us, <u>trusting those false categories that divide us</u>, we find it hard <u>to transcend the false divisions based on race</u>, class, creed, and genitalia differences.
- 7. It is dangerous to overlook those elements of sensibility that connect us, be they good or bad.
- 8. Those essences are the most important part of our constantly conflicted democratic splendor and our equally consistent infantile mentality.
- 9. No one, no matter what his social background is, is automatically distanced from either

- the spiritual peaks or the spiritual valleys of these United States—least of all our media figures.
- 10. As a show business product, he embodies the American dream of <u>rising from poverty to</u> wealth and mass worship, but Jackson's recent work also reveals how the egocentric anger which is the cause of totalitarian paranoia can penetrate into the substance of popular entertainment.
- 11. He is an entertainer whom we have watched <u>transform from a sweet little boy to a man</u> who is self-made—or remade—quite remarkably by modern surgical techniques, all the while maintaining his <u>well-known half-submerged position</u> in <u>the pop music quagmire</u> of adolescent emotion.
- 12. Always a mediocre singer who yields to increasingly boring phrase and hyperboles, Jackson will present some kind of superficial gospel and some over-sentimental rhythm and blues, use the harsh bravado of rock inflection, pose himself as a love child saying those disingenuous prayers for world peace, even adopt the bad gestures that are the forged sign of the poor man's anger, and execute a few interesting dance steps that serve as interludes within a choreographed synthesis of cheerleading moves, navy signaling without flags, and aerobic exercise.
- 13. Like Hughes, Jackson also suffers from that specific kind of fear that those who must confront jealousy from all fronts sometimes organize into all kinds of interconnected conspiratorial stories, ranging from the press to the government.
- 14. This paranoia has not been missed, even in the world of rock criticism, where the art of ass-licking and of exaggerating aesthetic value is dutifully taught in the training camps of preparation for media employment.
- 15. Those pop rhythms now arrive in a style that has surrendered to the machine-like, often electronic, artificially designed sounds of static pulsations that never interact with the rest of the music, a perfect example of how this style can so well promote alienation from our humanity.
- 16. When they are noticed, especially when expressing the infantile and emotional complaints about the difficulties of living in an adult world in which problems are protean, the words either become a celebration of estrangement or an attack against some vision of corrupt and hypocritical authority.
- 17. When we make those who are still bitter little boys into idols by surrendering to a personality charm that is of little value to any adult, we shouldn't be surprised at the point of their deciding that they should lead the world into a recovery of the kind of paradise through which they will walk in the cool of the day.

II.

- 1. Your perception of Tom is not completely just. He may be a lousy husband, but, to give him due respect (to give him credit), he has been a good father for our two kids.
- 2. I've heard that David, the eldest boy of our next door neighbor, was arrested the other day when he posed as a policeman.
- 3. Before she left her homeland she had read a lot of stories of the so-called American dream, the myth of rising from nowhere to wealth and success. But once she had lived in the United States for some years, she realized that that dream was quite remote, if not impossible.
- 4. Essential to the success of our project is the right choice of the team leader.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (d) 5. (d) 6. (b) 7. (a) 8. (d) 9. (d) 10. (a)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

Why, finally, is he so important to the age? Not because he personified brainpower—not because he was "an Einstein"—but rather because he demonstrated that the imagination is capable of coming to terms with experience. Simply by gazing into existence, he concluded that time and space could be warped, that mass and energy were interchangeable. He understood that the world was a puzzle created for deciphering and, more, that a person's place in the order of things was to solve as much of the puzzle as possible. This is what makes a human human; this, and the governing elements of morals and humor.

Einstein's friend and fellow physicist Abraham Pais called him "the freest man I have known." by which he meant that by the pure act of thinking, Einstein controlled his destiny. His mind was utterly fearless, and by its uses he diminished fear in others. "It stands to the everlasting credit of science," Einstein wrote, "that by acting on the human mind, it has overcome man's insecurity before himself and before nature." And so he became a model of what humans might do if they put their mind to it.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (a) 8. (b) 9. (b) 10. (d)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (a)

II.

1. (F) 2. (T) 3. (F) 4. (T) 5. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

The Cosby Show: U.S. Situation Comedy Darnell M. Hunt

Bill Cosby has become an African American icon because of his leading role in the television series, *The Cosby Show*, which is one of the biggest surprise hits in American television history and which dominated Thursday evenings from 1984 to 1992. Focusing on the everyday adventures of an upper-middle-class black family, the series revived situation comedy as a television genre and sparked controversy about race and class in America.

The Cosby Show premiered on September 20, 1984 and shot to the top of the ratings almost immediately. Indeed, the series finished third in the ratings its first season, and first for the next four seasons. The Cosby Show fell from the very top of the ratings only after its sixth season in 1989-1990 when it finished second behind another family-oriented situation comedy, Roseanne.

But *The Cosby Show* was almost not to be. NBC recruited Marcy Carsey and Tom Werner to develop the sitcom after a Bill Cosby monologue about child rearing on NBC's *Tonight* show impressed the network's entertainment chief, Brandon Tartikoff. However, despite Cosby had registered one of the highest audience appeal ratings in history as a commercial pitchman,

programmers initially viewed his star potential with suspicion. His television career history was mixed. After co-starring in the hit series ISpy (1965-1968), Cosby appeared in a string of ratings failures from 1969 till 1976. While NBC fretted over questions concerning Cosby's viability as a television star and situation comedy's status as a dying genre, Carsey and Werner presented the idea to ABC. But that network was not interested. At the last minute, just in time for inclusion in the fall schedule, NBC gave a firm commitment to Carsey and Werner to produce a pilot and five episodes for the sitcom. It was an extraordinary success as it pushed NBC into first-place in the primetime ratings.

Set and taped before a studio audience in Brooklyn, New York, The Cosby Show revolved around the day-to-day situations faced by Cliff and Clair Huxtable and their five children. Cliff was played by Bill Cosby and Clair was first played by Phylicia Ayers-Allen, later by Phylicia Rashad. This family was unlike other black families previously seen on television in that it was solidly upper-middle-class—the Huxtables lived in a fashionable Flatbush brownstone, the father was a respected gynecologist, and the mother a successful attorney. Theo (played by Malcolm Jamal-Warner), the only son, was something of an underachiever who enjoyed a special relationship with his father. The oldest daughter, Sondra (played by Sabrina LeBeauf), was a college student at prestigious Princeton University. The next daughter in age, Denise (played by Lisa Bonet), tested her parents' patience with rather eccentric preoccupations. She left the series after the third season to attend the fictitious, historically black Hillman College. The two younger daughters, Rudy (Keisha Knight Pulliam) and Vanessa (Tempestt Bledsoe), were cute preteens who served admirably as foils to Cosby's hilarious child-rearing routines. Secure in a cocoon of loving parents and affluence, the Huxtable kids steered clear of trouble as they grew up over the series' eight-year run. Indeed, TV Guide compared the Huxtable's lifestyle to that of other black families in America and described the family as the most "atypical black family in television history,"

For many observers, *The Cosby Show* was unique in other ways as well. For example, unlike many situation comedies, the program avoided one-liners, buffoonery and other standard tactics designed to win laughs. Instead, series writers remained true to Cosby's vision of finding humor in realistic family situations, in the minutiae of human behavior. Thus episodes generally shunned typical sitcom formulas by featuring, instead, a rather loose story structure and unpredictable pacing. Moreover, the soundtrack was sweetened with jazz, and the Huxtable home prominently featured contemporary African American art. Several observers described the result as "classy."

In many respects, *The Cosby Show* and its "classy" aura were designed to address a long history of black negative portrayals on television. Indeed, Alvin Poussaint, a prominent black psychiatrist, was hired by producers as a consultant to help "recode blackness" in the minds of audience members. In contrast to the families in other popular black situation comedies, the Huxtables were given a particular mix of qualities that its

creators thought would challenge common black stereotypes. These qualities included: a strong father figure; a strong nuclear family; parents who were professionals; affluence and fiscal responsibility; a strong emphasis on education; a multigenerational family; multiracial friends; and low-key racial pride.

This project, of course, was not without its critics. Some observers described the show as a 1980's version of Father Knows Best, the Huxtables as a white family in blackface. Moreover, as the show's debut coincided with the President Reagan's landslide reelection, and as many of the Huxtables' "qualities" seemed to echo key Republican themes, critics labeled the show's politics as "reformist conservatism." The Huxtables' affluence, they argued, worked to obscure persistent inequalities in America and validate the myth of the American Dream. One audience study suggests that the show "strikes a deal" with white viewers, that it absolves them of responsibility for racial inequality in the United States in exchange for inviting the Huxtables into their living room. Meanwhile, the same study found that black viewers tend to embrace the show for its positive portrayals of blackness, but express misgivings about the Huxtables' failure to regularly interact with less affluent blacks.

Writing

Guided Writing

That Einstein became a modern icon in America meant a complete revision of the definition of a hero because anti-intellectualism has been an integral part of the American culture. Being smart is not enough in America; one must also compensate for one's intelligence by showing canniness and real-world power of the cowboys and pioneers. Einstein met the requirements. He achieved his status as an intellectual superstar in the only way Americans could accept—by dint of intuitive, not scholarly, intelligence and by applying his thoughts to practical things such as rockets and atom bombs. Einstein came to America in 1933 as the most distinguished of a group of European intellectuals who were refugees from Hitler and Mussolini. As soon as these intellectuals arrived, they changed the composition of university faculties and that of government. Until the New Deal of President Roosevelt, the country had never associated the contemplative life with governmental action. Now that there was a Brain Trust, Americans began to see that it was possible to outthink the enemy. In his letter to Roosevelt, Einstein urged the making of a uranium bomb, and soon a coterie of cando intellectuals gathered at Los Alamos to become the new cowboys of war machinery. Ever since Einstein, Presidents have depended on certain brains for advice: Einstein begat Kissinger, Rubin, Reich and Greenspan. It enhanced Einstein's appeal of intuitive imagination that he was initially not associated with a brand-name institution of higher learning and that his stature did not depend on official accreditation. He was eagerly adopted by ordinary folks,

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though he spoke the obscure language of mathematics, because he seemed removed from snooty trappings and indeed, removed from the planet. He was thus perceived to be a lovable dreamer.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 9

Sexual Harassment

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Since <u>sexual harassment became such an explosive issue in the Congress</u>, it hasn't just been senators who try find some protection for themselves.
- 2. The case of the professor and judge has created a gender gap as bad as that of a hole made by a bomb.
- 3. On the "Today" show, Bryant Gumbel asks something about a man's right to have the picture of nude women pinned on the wall and Katie Couric says what she thinks of that.
- 4. Okay boys and girls, stop fighting and go back to your usual roles and routines.
- 5. Date rape, or what should be an oxymoronic expression, is perceived differently on the part of the man and the woman.
- 6. This produces what many men tend to mysteriously describe as a gray area of the law.
- 7. The rules want to find out, not just whether she has been physically assaulted, but whether she works in a hostile environment.
- 8. But the law is not meant to give psychological therapy. It doesn't make itself flexible enough to accommodate everyone's sensitivity.
- 9. This is not an entirely new idea, although perhaps it is new in the sense that the law now believes in women's reasonableness.
- 10. Men see the sex but do not see the coercion. Women see the coercion but do not see the sex.
- 11. Does that mean that we, due to our genetic differences, have to see this question with a double vision?
- 12. The most important element is empathy.

II.

1. Each volume breaks down into 16 units, each of which further breaks down into Reading, Listening and Writing sections.

- 2. Women in any part of the world tend to live longer than men.
- 3. From my point of view, the scheduled trip to the mountain areas in the western part of the province during the rainy season would be a total disaster.
- 4. When you go to the United States, you'll have to learn to adapt yourself to the new environment.
- 5. She was brought up in a rather conservative family and many people believe that her marriage to a bohemian artist is doomed to failure.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (a) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (a) 6. (d) 7. (c) 8. (d) 9. (a) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom,)

VI.

The Internet is the Wild West—as far from the civilized, or at least patrolled, corridors of the commercial online services as the West was from the streets of Boston. And just as it's easy to romanticize the Wild West, forgetting the abuses that took place during that savage time, it's easy to romanticize these pioneer days of the Internet as well. I myself have loved this time of openness on the Net, when relative freedom and a lack of government control made it one of the coolest places to be. It saddens me that some people abuse the freedoms many have taken for granted on the Internet, and that these freedoms are now threatened thanks to such immaturity.

It seems that a truly free space for public discourse is too threatening to the American public and we've only begun to see the start of what's likely to be a long and drawn-out fight to keep alive the delicious anarchy that's been such a fertile ground. Without free speech, the Internet will be as lifeless as corporate broadcasting.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (a) 6. (c) 7. (d) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (d)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (a)

II.

1. (T) 2. (F) 3. (T) 4. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Sexual Harassment: A Legal Explanation

There's been a great deal of debate about sexual harassment over the last few weeks on alternative feminism and other news groups. Alas, much of it has been debate "springing from a firm base of ignorance," to quote one of my old law professors. Much of the debate has centered on what people *think* sexual harassment law is, without regard to what it *really* is. So, to give everyone a firmer base than ignorance, a quick primer is needed on the law of sexual harassment under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

Sexual harassment comes in two forms—"quid pro quo" and "hostile working environment." The former is pretty straightforward: "sleep with me or you're fired." Essentially, "quid pro quo" harassment involves making conditions of employment (hiring, promotion, retention, etc.) dependent on the victim's providing sexual favors. "Hostile working environment" harassment is the one people are really arguing about. So what is it?

When the workplace is permeated with "discriminatory intimidation, ridicule, and insult," that is "sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of the victim's employment and create an abusive working environment," Title VII of the Civil Rights Act is violated.

"[M]ere utterance of an... epithet which engenders offensive feelings in an employee does not sufficiently affect the conditions of employment to implicate Title VII."

"[W]hether an environment is "hostile" or "abusive" can be determined only by looking at all the circumstances. These may include (a) the frequency of the discriminatory conduct; (b) its severity; (c) whether it is physically threatening or a mere offensive utterance; and (d)

whether it unreasonably interferes with an employee's work performance."

This is the law on sexual harassment, as handed down by a *unanimous* Supreme Court in 1993.

- So, how can the law of "hostile working environment" be put into layman's terms? Here's my attempt to explain the law point by point.
- (a) "speech and/or conduct"—sexual harassment can be mere words (such as "dumb ass woman"), words in conjunction with conduct (for example, asking the employee to dig coins out of one's own pants pocket) or conduct alone (fondling a woman's breast).
- (b) "of a sexually discriminatory nature"—remember that Title VII IS NOT A SPEECH CODE. This is a *discrimination* law. The issue is not the content of the speech or the precise nature of the conduct so much as whether that speech/conduct is directed at the employee on the basis of his/her gender.
- (c) "it was neither welcomed nor encouraged"—if the defendant (employer) can show that the plaintiff (employee) welcomed and/or encouraged the speech/conduct, there is no discrimination claim available.
- (d) "committed by or permitted by a superior"—again, Title VII IS NOT A SPEECH CODE. It's a *discrimination* law. Thus, the plaintiff must show that his/her *superior* "knew or should have known" about the speech/conduct and did not intervene. Obviously, if the superior is the one doing the harassment, the requirement is met.
- (e) "would have been so offensive to a reasonable person"—one of the biggest myths about sexual harassment law is that "the woman gets to decide what she likes and what she doesn't." Balderdash. The law has always had a "reasonable person" standard (though Harris did away with the previous terminology of "reasonable woman"). It's not enough that a given employee was offended. That employee might, after all, be unreasonably sensitive or thin-skinned. The plaintiff must show that "an ordinary, reasonable, prudent person in like or similar circumstances" would have been similarly offended. In other words, the plaintiff can't argue "Well, I know a reasonable person would have shrugged this off, but I'm not reasonable and I was offended..."
- (f) "create an abusive working environment and/or"—it means an environment which manifests hostility or abuse toward one or more employees, on the basis of his/her/their gender. It means an environment where the employee is *distinctly* made to feel unwelcome, unwanted, scorned, ridiculed, intimidated... on the basis of his/her gender.

Writing

Guided Writing

In 1993 a gang of people from several newsgroups "invaded" the newsgroup called *rec.* pets.cats. By the end of the invasion, Sandy, a 40-year-old cat lover had received hate mail,

harassing calls and even death threats. This incident began when one of the invaders posted a message asking if he could get help destroying his girlfriend's cat which, he said, was bothering him. But when he started discussing poison and drowning as his options, Sandy sent him emails urging him not to kill the cat but advising him, if he insisted, to have it put to sleep humanely. The emails did not help and Sandy eventually wrote to police a letter which was subsequently distributed on the Internet. The request for help in killing the cat was actually a fake. The one who posted the message and his friends purposely chose a little newsgroup to start a flame war and their goal was to inflame the members of the group with their posts. When Sandy contacted the police, the invaders got ugly and turned their attention to her. Soon Sandy's name appeared on the member list of a Net.Invaderz FQA that was being distributed around Usenet and several computer conventions. Sandy, a victim, was singled out as a victimizer. Even though Sandy tried to ignore the problems, someone, a so-called "U.S. taxpayer," even complained to her employer. Sandy has not prosecuted but the incident has exhausted her and made her fearful. She no longer participates in or reads rec.pets.cats. Sandy became the target of a vicious attack launched by a group of people she had never even met. Often, they are a bunch of young men who, having so much free time in their hands, like to do virtual "panty raids" on unsuspecting newsgroups.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 10

Talk Shows

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. In 1967, The Phil Donahue Show launched in Dayton, Ohio, as a new alternative to the usual daytime talk shows.
- 2. For 18 years Donahue was synonymous with daytime talk shows.
- 3. The show provided useful information and dialogs that women confined to the houses had hitherto not heard much about, affording them the opportunity to voice their opinions about everything from politics to sex—and even the politics of sex.
- 4. Her appeal for more intimacy brought higher ratings.
- 5. That daily act of listening, whatever its shortcomings, led to a revolution in which women were willing participants; the shows daily trained otherwise anonymous women into believing that they were entitled to a voice.
- 6. Both Donahue and Winfrey should be praised for giving a forum for the voices of so many who needed to be heard, and for making the nation more aware of so many important topics, including domestic violence, child abuse, and other crucial problems.
- 7. Producers planned dishonest tricks and surreptitious disclosures.
- 8. The very same stereotypes that <u>have entrapped</u> both women and men for centuries are fully utilized.
- 9. If every offense is the work of a man, then every trauma has wounded a woman.
- 10. The bonding between these women always takes place when concerned with complaints about men or the worst stereotypes about women.
- 11. By bringing on offensive male guests who behave so badly that they only convince us of the need to lodge complaints against them, the shows are making some propositions more self-defeating.
- 12. What is most surprising, viewers were informed that the offense under discussion occurred at the husband's birthday party, which his wife arranged, *stripper and all*.
- 13. With their constant attention to individual problems, television talk shows are a main

- reason for the recent tendency to upgrade personal concerns to the level of personal rights and then affording those "rights" more attention that the responsibilities that come with the rights.
- 14. But before that viewers <u>are shown</u> lots of conflict and <u>an excessive amount</u> of pseudo-psychological explanations that are really nothing more than excuses, and often <u>some bad</u> ones, too.
- 15. Anything will do and there is no standard whatsoever.
- 16. Conflict <u>unsurprisingly followed</u> and viewers were told this was a good idea because now the problem was brought to the open.
- 17. Referring to these carefully planned disasters as simply "disclosures" makes them less tough and gives them some kind of justification they do not deserve.
- 18. The scenario was almost too ridiculous to be repeated, but it was just one more show like so many others: embedded in stereotypes and decorated with clichés.
- 19. Rather than encouraging discussion, exploration, or further understanding, psychobabble takes its place.
- 20. Talk TV at first had the possibility of becoming an effective means of circulating accurate information and a platform for public debate, although it would be hard to know it from what currently remains.

II.

- 1. Perhaps we should not have unrealistic expectations of Tom; I bet you that his grade for the final exam is at best a C.
- 2. Although the business deal is not successful, she deserves the credit for what she has put into it in the past few months.
- Heated debate lasted till lunchtime and centered around whether we should accept the legitimacy of the business propositions.
- 4. The resignation of the two high-ranking officials came as a relief to citizens of the city since things are now in the open.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (c) 8. (d) 9. (c) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

When issues affecting people of color are dealt with, the stereotypes about gender are layered on top of the stereotypes about race. Since most of the shows revolve around issues related to sex, violence, and relationships, they tend to feature people of color who reflect stereotypical images—in a steady stream of guests who have children out of wedlock, live on welfare, fight viciously, and have complicated unsolvable problems. While there are less than flattering depictions of white people on these shows, white viewers have the luxury of belonging to the dominant group, and are more often presented in the media in positive ways.

On a *Ricki Lake* show about women who sleep with their friends' boyfriends, the majority of the guests were African American and Hispanic women who put on a flamboyant display of screaming and fighting. The profanity was so bad that many of the words had to be deleted. The segment had to be stopped because one guest yanked another's wig off. For many white viewers these are the images that form their beliefs about "minority" populations.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (b) 8. (a) 9. (b) 10. (d)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (a)

II.

1. (T) 2. (F) 3. (T) 4. (T) 5. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

The TV Host: Oprah Winfrey Deborah Tanne

The Sudanese-born supermodel Alek Wek stands poised and insouciant as the talk-show

host, admiring her classic African features, cradles Wek's cheek and says, "What a difference it would have made to my childhood if I had seen someone who looks like you on television." The host is Oprah Winfrey, and she has been making that difference for millions of viewers, young and old, black and white, for nearly a dozen years.

Winfrey stands as a beacon, not only in the worlds of media and entertainment but also in the larger realm of public discourse. At 44, she has a personal fortune estimated at more than half a billion dollars. She owns her own production company, which creates feature films, prime-time TV specials and home videos. An accomplished actress, she won an Academy Award nomination for her role in *The Color Purple*, and this fall will star in her own film production of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

But it is through her talk show that her influence has been the greatest. When Winfrey talks, her viewers—an estimated 14 million daily in the U.S. and millions more in 132 other countries—listen. Any book she chooses for her on-air book club becomes an instant best seller. When she established the "world's largest piggy bank," people all over the country contributed spare change to raise more than \$1 million (matched by Oprah) to send disadvantaged kids to college. When she blurted that hearing about the threat of mad-cow disease "just stopped me cold from eating another burger!", the perceived threat to the beef industry was enough to trigger a multimillion-dollar lawsuit (which she won).

Born in 1954 to unmarried parents, Winfrey was raised by her grandmother on a farm with no indoor plumbing in Kosciusko, Miss. By age 3 she was reading the Bible and reciting in church. At 6 she moved to her mother's home in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; later, to her father's in Nashville, Tenn. A lonely child, she found solace in books. When a seventh-grade teacher noticed the young girl reading during lunch, he got her a scholarship to a better school. Winfrey's talent for public performance and spontaneity in answering questions helped her win beauty contests—and get her first taste of public attention.

Crowned Miss Fire Prevention in Nashville at 17, Winfrey visited a local radio station, where she was invited to read copy for a lark—and was hired to read news on the air. Two years later, while a sophomore at Tennessee State University, she was hired as Nashville's first female and first black TV-news anchor. After graduation, she took an anchor position in Baltimore, Md., but lacked the detachment to be a reporter. She cried when a story was sad, laughed when she misread a word. Instead, she was given an early-morning talk show. She had found her medium.

In 1984 she moved on to be the host of A.M. Chicago, which became The Oprah Winfrey Show. It was syndicated in 1986—when Winfrey was 32—and soon overtook Donahue as the nation's top-rated talk show.

Women, especially, listen to Winfrey because they feel as if she's a friend. Although Phil Donahue pioneered the format she uses (mike-holding host moves among an audience whose members question guests), his show was mostly what I call "report-talk," which often

typifies men's conversation. The overt focus is on information. Winfrey transformed the format into what I call "rapport-talk," the back-and-forth conversation that is the basis of female friendship, with its emphasis on self-revealing intimacies. She turned the focus from experts to ordinary people talking about personal issues. Girls' and women's friendships are often built on trading secrets. Winfrey's power is that she tells her own, divulging that she once ate a package of hot-dog buns drenched in maple syrup, that she had smoked cocaine, even that she had been raped as a child. With Winfrey, the talk show became more immediate, more confessional, more personal. When a guest's story moves her, she cries and spreads her arms for a hug.

When my book You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation was published, I was lucky enough to appear on both Donahue and Oprah—and to glimpse the difference between them. Winfrey related my book to her own life: She began by saying she had read the book and "saw myself over and over" in it. She then told one of my examples, adding, "I've done that a thousand times"—and illustrated it by describing herself and Stedman. (Like close friends, viewers know her "steady beau" by first name.)

Winfrey saw television's power to blend public and private; while it links strangers and conveys information over public airwaves, TV is most often viewed in the privacy of our homes. Like a family member, it sits down to meals with us and talks to us in the lonely afternoons. Grasping this paradox, Oprah exhorts viewers to improve their lives and the world. She makes people care because she cares. That is Winfrey's genius, and will be her legacy, as the changes she has wrought in the talk show continue to permeate our culture and shape our lives.

Writing

Guided Writing

The television talk show is a 20th-century invention. A very old form of communication, conversation, is transformed into a popular form of information and entertainment through the institutions and technologies of television. This kind of "live," unscripted talk is one of the basic things that distinguishes television from film, photography, the record and book industries. Although it is always to a degree spontaneous, television talk is also highly structured. What the viewer sees and hears on the air is the result of the joint efforts of writers, producers, stage managers and technical crews. Therefore, even though it resembles daily speech, television talk is not unfettered conversation. A "talk show" is quite clearly and self-consciously centered around its talk. To remain on the air a talk show must adhere to strict time and money constraints, allowing time, for instance, for the advertising spots that must appear throughout the show. The talk show must begin and end within these rigid time limits and, playing to an audience of millions, be sensitive to topics that will interest that

mass audience. Talk shows are often identified by the host's name (often in the title), an indication of the importance of the host in the history of the television talk show. A good example of the importance of the host to the form a talk show takes would be *The Tonight Show*. The Tonight Show premiered on NBC in 1954 with Steve Allen as its first host. While it maintained a distinctive format and style throughout its first four decades on the air, The Tonight Show changed significantly with each successive host. Steve Allen, Ernie Kovacs, Jack Paar, Johnny Carson, and Jay Leno each took The Tonight Show in a significant new direction. Each of these hosts imprinted the show with distinctive personalities and management styles.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 11

Drug Testing

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Nothing can be more hypocritical than the statement Pete Rozelle... made at a press conference he called July 7 to announce the details of the N. F. L.'s drug testing program.
- 2. The timing of Rozelle's press conference seemed cynical <u>since it came at a time</u> when stories about the death of Len Bias... and of Don Rogers... <u>were covering (spreading across)</u> the front page, the sports page and the nightly national news telecasts.
- 3. Professional football received plenty of attention, and in 1974 the N.F.L. <u>found its most</u> typical case with the San Diego Chargers.
- 4. But the fines had little effect on the players, who understood that the league's drug policy was largely for show and was meant to appease public opinion.
- 5. The use of the latter was limited to enhancing one's performance, and in the world of athletic rivalry where fair or foul means are used no one cares about how athletes stand out, as long as they stand out.
- 6. Some of the athletes were little-known substitutes, temporary replacements or beginners who are good but have no name recognition.
- 7. But others were very valuable in that they could capture headlines.
- 8. By 1985 the question dominating the mind of the press and the commissioners of professional sports was, "Can the basic moral nature and dignity of the various games be preserved?"
- 9. With public opinion favoring testing, a number of major league players allowed their contracts to include clauses about drug testing.
- 10. That left the Major League Baseball Players Association—which opposes <u>any testing</u> which is not the result of the collective bargaining with the management—to explain why it was trying to protect those players who <u>hadn't given away their civil freedoms when under the pressures of the quick-to-judgment</u> by the fans and the sporting press, <u>which</u> were more or less ready to execute them.

- 11. The deaths of Bias and Rogers were not just freaky accidents, though.
- 12. That's when ordinary people really focused their attention on sports, leaving the fans truly stunned by the deaths, within such a short period, of two seemingly indestructible athletes.
- 13. The sports media played a major role in inflaming the crowd mentality.
- 14. If sportswriters and broadcasters and their editors know anything, they know which horse can be a winner so that they can make a quick bet on it.
- 15. Why ruin a good thing and lose your valuable source by picking up a very sensitive subject?
- 16. Sports goes on with its big game of evading the crucial subject round after round, since it also prevents us from knowing the bad news at home and on one's mind.
- 17. Such an attitude distorts values and removes all the beauty from our games.
- 18. For their part, the teams and schools expect the athletes to embody virtue and to be exemplifying models.
- 19. As the system <u>begins to fail</u>—and it is <u>failing</u> faster than Roger Clemens can throw a baseball—the impulse will be to <u>find a cure-all (an easy solution)</u> like drug testing rather than to deal with much deeper, much more complex problems, which <u>are connected to the very center (foundation)</u> of sport in America.

II.

- 1. This is the third time you have been late for work within the month! Don't tell me that you're going to tell your boss again that you were stuck in a traffic jam. I seriously doubt that he would buy that this time.
- 2. Even when the family was reduced to destitute, she didn't want to part with the ring her mother had given her as it had great sentimental value.
- 3. I was born in a small village surrounded by big mountains and I stayed there until I went to high school. By and large, I enjoyed my childhood in my hometown.
- 4. Her birthday is next week and that calls for a party that will include all our friends.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (a) 6. (a) 7. (d) 8. (b) 9. (c) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

If you want to know what's really happening in sports, the place to find out is not usually on the printed page or on the evening telecasts. It's in the press room before and after games, where, over the free food and booze, the writers talk about who's drugged out. Of course, the gossip is off-the-record stuff, passed on by some coach, general manager or agent, or even a player. Quite often it's leaked as part of a whispering campaign by someone who wants to harm the victim for any of a variety of reasons. The best way to get rid of a malcontent or a hypochondriac or a druggie is to plant some gossip with a writer and have the writer pass it on along the grapevine. Pretty soon your problem vanishes.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

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1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (a) 6. (d) 7. (b) 8. (d) 9. (b) 10. (a)
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Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

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1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a)
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II.

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1. (F) 2. (T) 3. (T) 4. (T)
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III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Why Drug Tests Flunk .Ianelle Brow

According to the students at rural Rushville Consolidated High School, there are a dozen ways to pass a drug test. Some of the methods sound more mythic than magic, but whatever the kids are doing, it seems to work. The drug testing vans roll up to the Rushville campus every few weeks, and 25 students are randomly asked to produce a urine sample; yet hardly anybody is ever caught with drugs in their system. And it's not because they aren't doing

drugs. A student in the graduating class told us that about 75 percent of his classmates had tried marijuana.

For six years, Rushville Consolidated has required random drug tests from between 75 to 90 percent of its 900 or so students, including anyone who participates in extracurricular activities or plays sports. Cheerleaders get tested; so does everyone who drives a car to school. Students must "volunteer" to pee in a cup in order to attend the senior prom. If they get caught with drugs, alcohol or tobacco in their systems, they are denied participation in these activities until they can prove they're clean. Many other high schools follow this aggressive routine like Rushville Consolidated.

Drug tests are an easy fix for school administrators who feel that they must take a public stand on drugs, but have had little success with drug education programs. They are banking on the theory that the fear of getting caught with tainted urine will compel students not to smoke pot or sniff coke. But there is little evidence that drug testing programs—which can be extremely costly—have had any measurable impact on substance abuse in the schools that use them. So far, statistics reflect almost no change in student drug use in testing schools. And it is quite possible that, as students see drug testing more as a challenge than a deterrent, drug use actually increases with testing.

Meanwhile, critics of drug-testing say that students are being raised with an eroding idea of personal privacy, an adversarial relationship with authorities and a skewed education on why they shouldn't do drugs.

The United States Supreme Court first cleared the way for drug testing of student athletes in 1995, in a case called Vernonia School District vs. Acton. In the Vernonia case, an Oregon high school football team was known to be rampantly using and dealing drugs, and authorities wanted to test them. The Supreme Court decision ruled that testing was permissible in this case because there was reasonable suspicion of drug use, and because athletes who got naked in locker rooms had lowered expectations of privacy as well as heightened requirements for safety on the field.

The court's decision didn't specify whether routine testing of all student athletes everywhere was constitutional, but many schools interpreted the ruling as permission to go ahead and test. In the years since the Vernonia ruling, an increasing number of schools have snuck in additional testing programs—for teens who drive to school, sign up for extracurricular activities, participate in the school band. Currently, the random drug testing of athletes and students in extracurricular activities mainly takes place in a dozen or so conservative Southern states—including Texas, Wyoming, Idaho, Alabama, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Florida and Indiana,

As testing has grown in popularity, opposition to it has been expanding to include conservative parents, as well as angry students and civil libertarians. Critics say that the testing doesn't just invade privacy and curtail civil rights, it encourages student alcohol use,

encourages rebellion in adolescents ripe for battle and discourages extracurricular participation among the kids who need it most, while targeting the most active students for scrutiny.

Writing

Guided Writing

It is a general concurrence that drug abuse in the workplace is a serious and growing problem for both public and private employers. According to the Research Triangle Institute, drug abuse cost the U.S. economy \$60 billion in 1983, nearly a 30 percent increase from the more than \$47 billion estimated for 1980. It is indeed an American tragedy that the problem increasingly contributes to the high rate of employee absenteeism, rising health care costs, a high rate of accidents, and to low productivity of the American work force. Los Angeles Times, in its editorial page, expresses a forceful and lucid position in fighting to keep the Bill of Rights in workplace; its Director of employee relations also says that there is no particular drug problem at his newspaper. However, it has recently adopted a mandatory urinalysis program in order to stay in tune with what other employers are doing. There is perhaps a bit of good news that deserves mentioning, that is, a new test has been tested by Werner Baumgartner, a Los Angeles chemist. This test bypasses the procedure of urine analysis; it simply uses radiation on hair and discloses not only what drug has been taken but when they were taken.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 12

Rights in Question

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Critics on both left and right have complained that America in the 1990s is flooded by the rhetoric of rights.
- 2. No political debate is carried very far without one party or both parties basing their argument on rights—property rights, welfare rights, women's rights, nonsmokers' rights, the right to life, abortion rights, gay rights, gun rights, and the list goes on.
- 3. In the second paragraph of the *Declaration*, Thomas Jefferson laid out a statement of rights and their meaning in a graceful and succinct style that is not often paralleled...
- 4. Humans, unlike animals, <u>are born into the world instinctively knowing</u> what their needs are and how to fulfill them.
- 5. People have advocated public policies <u>both modest and high-handed in order to produce</u> equality of results.
- 6. People who use "equality" this way usually mean equal rights, but an attempt to create true equality of opportunity could be as tyrannical as equality of outcomes.
- 7. Many governments have <u>tried to prohibit or limit freedom of speech</u>, but <u>speech is</u> intrinsically transitory, so control is difficult.
- 8. If our world did not suffer from shortage, we wouldn't need property rights.
- 9. As religious dissidents learned to make their defense of toleration, the ideas of natural rights and an area of privacy came to light.
- 10. In the 1990s, more than a dozen states have passed laws making it illegal to criticize, in public, the quality of perishable goods—that is, fruits and vegetables—without having "sound scientific inquiry, facts, or data" to support your claim.
- 11. As courts and legislatures <u>acknowledge</u> more and more such "rights," rights claims become ever more daring.

II.

- 1. It is so surprising to see these children are endowed with such gifts of intelligence.
- 2. Some people say that their aptitude derives from their intelligent parents.
- 3. The hurricane brought about heaving flooding in several parts of the city and the flooding compelled the municipal government to re-consider the city's drainage system.
- 4. He was expelled from school because he had publicly refused to comply with the school's rules and regulations.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (a) 6. (d) 7. (a) 8. (d) 9. (d) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

And of course every new technology brings with it new demands for censorship from those who don't understand it, or who understand all too well that new forms of communication may shake up established orders. The 1996 telecommunications reform act, which admirably deregulated much of the industry, nevertheless included a Communications Decency Act that would prevent adults from seeing material that might be inappropriate for children. A 1996 law in France requires that at least 40 percent of the music broadcast by radio stations be French. It also requires that every second French song come from an artist who has never had a hit. "We're forcing listeners to listen to music they don't want to hear," says a radio programmer. Most important, people who want to spend money to support the political candidates of their choice are limited to contributions of \$1,000—sort of like telling the *New York Times* that it can write an editorial endorsing Bill Clinton but it can only print 1,000 copies of the paper.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (a) 5. (c) 6. (a) 7. (c) 8. (d) 9. (a) 10. (c)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (d)

II.

1. (F) 2. (F) 3. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Refusing to Work When Conditions Are Dangerous Based on a document by OSHA of U.S. Department of Labor

When you believe working conditions are unsafe or unhealthful, you should call your employer's attention to the problem. If your employer does not correct the hazard or disagrees with you about the extent of the hazard, you also may file a complaint with OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration) of U.S. Department of Labor.

Refusing to do a job because of potentially unsafe workplace conditions is not ordinarily an employee right under the OSHA Act. Even though your union contract or state law may give you this right, OSHA cannot enforce it. Refusing to work may result in disciplinary action by the employer. However, employees do have the right to refuse to do a job if they believe in good faith that they are exposed to an imminent danger. "Good faith" means that even if an imminent danger is not found to exist, the worker had reasonable grounds to believe that it did exist.

But, as a general rule, you do not have the right to walk off the job because of unsafe conditions. If you do and your employer fires or disciplines you, OSHA may not be able to protect you. So, stay on the job until the problem can be resolved.

Your right to refuse to do a task is protected if all of the following conditions are met:

First, where possible, you have asked the employer to eliminate the danger, and the employer has failed to do so.

Second, you have expressed your refusal to work in "good faith." This means that you must genuinely believe that an imminent danger exists. Your refusal cannot be a disguised

attempt to harass your employer or disrupt business.

Third, a reasonable person would agree that there is a real danger of death or serious injury.

Fourth, there isn't enough time, due to the urgency of the hazard, to get it corrected through regular enforcement channels, such as requesting an OSHA inspection.

When all of these conditions are met, you take the following steps:

One, ask your employer to correct the hazard.

Two, ask your employer for other work.

Three, tell your employer that you won't perform the work unless and until the hazard is corrected.

Four, remain at the worksite until you are ordered to leave by your employer.

If your employer discriminates against you for refusing to perform the dangerous work, contact OSHA immediately.

In addition to your rights, you as an employee should also be aware of your responsibilities. Although OSHA does not cite employees for violations of their responsibilities, each employee "shall comply with all occupational safety and health standards and all rules, regulations, and orders issued under the Act" that are applicable. Employee responsibilities and rights in states with their own occupational safety and health programs are generally the same as for workers in states covered by Federal OSHA. An employee should read the OSHA Poster at the jobsite, should comply with all applicable OSHA standards, should follow all lawful employer safety and health rules and regulations, and wear or use prescribed protective equipment while working. An employee should also report hazardous conditions to the supervisor and should report any job-related injury or illness to the employer, and seek treatment promptly. In short, an employee should exercise the rights under the Act in a responsible manner.

Writing

Guided Writing

The discourse of animal rights confuses people. It is unthinkable to achieve a bill of rights for animals. But animal rights can mean animal liberation, which is the liberation of animals from human interference. There should be no killing of animals for food, vivisection or fur, no using animals for entertainment. This can be achieved, not by a bill of rights but by changing people's concept of who/what animals are. Animals are all individuals with differing personalities and needs. All animals are born free and people who believe in animal rights believe that all animals should remain free throughout their whole lives. There are many groups which campaign for better conditions for domestic animals. For instance, some groups campaign against the battery cage system for laying hens and they promote free range eggs as

a more humane alternative. This is an example of an animal welfare campaign. It is not an animal rights campaign because even though free range hens have a much better quality of life than those kept in tiny battery cages, they are still being exploited in order to provide people with an unnecessary product. Now, consider all the products you use in a typical day. Consider what do you eat, wear or use in your shower? If you eat meat, fish, eggs, dairy products, honey and gelatine, these are all animal products. And if you wear leather, wool, fur, suede or silk, there are animal products also. Moreover, have the brands of soap, shampoo, washing powder and paint you use been tested on animals? Once you start to think about it, you will realize that most food and household products involve animal exploitation. If this concerns you, you can find out more about what you can do to help stop it. There is a lot you can do. First of all, you need to be more aware and informed.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 13

The Paradox of Cloning

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Some years ago, long before human cloning became a possibility in the near future, I was among those who urged that human cloning be evaluated not simply in practical terms of costs and payoffs but in terms of what the technology might do to what we mean by human reproduction, child rearing, and individuality.
- 2. I was inclined toward prohibition as the safest course.
- 3. People spoke of the suffering of couples who are infertile; the grief of someone who has lost a child who, if he/she could be biologically reproduced, could provide consolation...
- 4. But others saw a terrifying and gross distortion of human reproduction.
- 5. They are asking whether human cloning isn't just a step further than what we are already doing with artificial insemination...
- 6. I certainly don't concur with the position that whatever technology enables us to do we ought to do.
- 7. Rather, my concern is that the very decision to use the law to denounce, and then prohibit, patterns of human reproduction—especially by summoning some ambiguous concepts of what is "natural"—is at least as dangerous as the technologies such a decision might be used to control.
- 8. Human cloning has been condemned by some of its most eloquent critics as the ultimate manifestation of the sexual revolution, disconnecting sex from the creation of babies and treating gender and sexuality as socially constructed.
- 9. But to ban cloning as the scientific deification of what some see as culturally distressing trends may, in the end, give credibility to identical argument against surrogate motherhood or gay marriage and gay adoption.
- 10. Equally scary, when <u>arguments for the natural or the divinely designed</u> lead to the criminalization of some method for creating human babies, we must <u>be ready to cope with</u> the inevitable: The prohibition will not be a perfect solution.

- 11. And that, in turn, requires us to think in terms of a class of people who could become the ostracized—people whom society will have preferred to call the misfortune, and in a nutshell, to condemn.
- 12. There are some black markets... where risks may be worthwhile when the damages from legalization would be even worse.
- 13. There are few evils as grave as that of <u>establishing a class system</u>, one in which an entire category of persons, while perhaps <u>not stigmatized as the lowest of the low</u>, <u>is perceived</u> to be less than fully human.
- 14. For the arguments supporting <u>a very strict prohibition</u> of cloning are most likely to rest on, and reinforce, the notion that it is unnatural and <u>essentially erroneous to disconnect the traditional linkage</u> between heterosexual unions <u>approved by tradition</u> and creation and upbringing of new life.
- 15. And, from the perspective of the wider community, heterosexual and homosexual, a society that bans acts of human creation for no better reason than that their particular form defies nature and tradition is a society that risks severing.itself.from.vital experimentation, thus losing much of its capacity to grow.

II.

- 1. If you ask me whether we should go to the bachelor party, I lean toward saying no.
- 2. In international affairs, the current British government is inclined to follow the footsteps of the American government.
- 3. What has been discovered in the last three years seems to lend great credence to *The 9/11 Commission Report*.
- 4. The Chinese people have come to terms with unemployment, a phenomenon that was previously only associated with western countries.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (b) 8. (a) 9. (d) 10. (b)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

We do not know how many parents will request cloning, but some will. Suppose the father cannot provide sperm or the mother is unable to produce a fertilizable egg. Such a

family now has only two choices—remain childless or adopt. Cloning would create a third choice: duplicate the father or the mother. Some parents who do not want to remain childless will find this more attractive than adoption, which introduces a wholly new and largely unknown genetic factor into their family tree. Cloning guarantees that the child's genetic makeup will be identical to that of whichever parent is cloned.

There is, of course, a risk that cloning may increase the number of surrogate mothers, with all of the heartbreak and legal complexities that this entails, but I suspect that surrogates would be no more common for clones than they are for babies conceived in vitro.

There is one important practical objection to the widespread use of cloning. As every evolutionary scientist knows, the survival of a species depends on two forces—environmental change that rewards some creatures and penalizes others, and sufficient diversity among the species that no matter what the environment, some members of the species will benefit.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (d) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (c)

II.

1. (F) 2. (T) 3. (T)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Dolly and the Cloning Controversy

Based on an article from The World Book Encyclopedia

Scientists in Scotland shocked the world on February 22, 1997, by announcing that they had produced an exact genetic copy of an adult sheep. The resulting ewe, born in July 1996

and named Dolly, represented a major advance in genetics research. She was the first clone of an adult mammal. Later in 1997, scientists announced that they had used various cloning techniques to produce other sheep as well as monkeys and calves. By the end of 1997, it seemed to many observers that cloning technology was on the verge of revolutionizing livestock breeding, drug production, and medical research.

A clone is an exact genetic copy of a gene, a cell, or a whole organism—such as a plant or animal. The clone contains precisely the same genetic information as the original. The cells of a tumor, for example, originate from a single cancer cell and are, therefore, clones. Identical twins originate from division of a fertilized egg into two identical eggs. They are clones. Copies of genes or cells made through genetic engineering are also clones. When applied to whole plants or animals, cloning means producing an identical individual asexually, that is, without fusion of an egg and sperm.

In the 1950s, scientists developed a technique called nuclear transfer to produce clones of certain kinds of animals. In nuclear transfer, scientists remove the nucleus¹ from an unfertilized egg cell and replace it with the nucleus of a cell—called the donor cell—taken from another organism. The resulting cell develops into a small embryo, which is implanted into the womb of a surrogate mother. Following the pregnancy, the surrogate mother gives birth to an offspring genetically identical to the organism from which the donor cell was taken. This technique, originally used to clone frogs, was first applied to the cloning of mammals in the 1980s—using donor cells taken from mouse embryos.

Dolly was produced with a new variation of nuclear transfer developed by Wilmut, Keith H. S. Campbell, and their colleagues at Roslin Institute near Edinburgh, Scotland. The birth of Dolly shocked scientists because she was produced from a donor cell taken from an adult rather than from an embryo. Many researchers had previously tried to transfer nuclei from cells taken from adults, but the resulting embryos had died. These failures led scientists to conclude that only the genes of an embryo had the ability to direct the development of a complete individual. They also assumed that genes lose this ability as their cells become part of specialized tissue, such as skin, muscle, nerve, bone, and hair. Cloning an adult mammal appeared to be impossible.

The reason scientists first cloned mammals from adult cells was to develop a better way of producing transgenic animals (animals with genes from species other than their own) for commercial and medical use. The biotechnology firm that helped fund research on Dolly, PPL Therapeutics, genetically alters female mammals to produce human proteins in their milk and investigates how such proteins could be used to treat human diseases. The first such transgenic animal produced through cloning, a sheep named Polly, was introduced to the press in July 1997 by the same scientists who created Dolly. Besides being used to produce

¹ nucleus: the part of a cell that contains an organism's genetic information and controls growth and development

pharmaceutically useful proteins, transgenic animals can be used to improve livestock and to produce modified organs capable of being transplanted into humans. The techniques currently employed to produce transgenic animals are expensive, slow, and inefficient. Experts hoped that cloning might streamline the production of such animals—enabling them to be mass produced.

Immediately after the announcement of Dolly's birth, however, church officials, theologians, ethicists, and politicians voiced the widespread concern that human beings might be cloned, and this ignited an international ethical and legal debate.

Politicians generally reacted negatively to the news of Dolly's birth. In March 1997, the British government announced that it planned to stop providing funds for cloning research at the Scottish institute where Dolly was produced. Also in March, U.S. President Bill Clinton warned scientists against the temptation "to play God," and he issued a 90-day moratorium on the use of U.S. government funds for research into the cloning of humans. Clinton also asked the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC)—a panel of 18 experts in science, law, and ethics—to develop recommendations for a national policy on human cloning. (The NBAC had been created by Clinton in 1995 to explore the ethical issues concerning the biotechnology industry.) The U.S. Congress introduced two bills that, if passed, would permanently ban federal funding for research into human cloning. A third bill would mandate a \$5,000 fine on anyone conducting such research. Senator Christopher Bond of Missouri, the sponsor of one of the bills, said, "There are aspects of human life that should be off limits to science."

The Public Health and Safety Subcommittee of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee held a hearing in March 1997 during which several scientists and ethicists presented their opinions on cloning. Among those testifying before the subcommittee was Ian Wilmut, the scientist who led the team that produced Dolly. Wilmut surprised many when he announced that he too supported a ban on human cloning. He said that he had never heard of an ethically acceptable reason for cloning a human. When Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa predicted human cloning in his lifetime, Wilmut replied, "I hope you're wrong."

Writing

Guided Writing

The emergence of Dolly, the cloned sheep last year, was met with wonder, nervous laugh and some vague apprehension. Last week a Chicago physicist made the announcement that he is leading a team to produce the first human clone, and that occasioned yet another wave of Brave New World anxiety. But the most frightening news of all comes from two obscure labs, at the University of Texas and at the University of Bath, where, during the past four years, headless mice and headless tadpoles were cloned respectively. The creation of such animal monsters is sheer Frankenstein nightmare. Why then create them? The Texas researchers

claim that they want to learn how genes determine embryo development. But the true reason for manufacturing headless creatures is to utilize their organs—their fully formed, perfectly useful organs which are ripe for plundering. Why is this scenario scary? Because humans are next. Lee Silver, a biologist at Princeton University, believes that human bodies produced without any semblance of consciousness would not be considered persons, and would become a future source of organs. With a single cell taken from say, your finger, you could produce a headless replica of yourself, a mutant twin, arguably lifeless, that becomes your own personal, precisely tissue-matched organ farm.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 14

Euthanasia

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. It was the "Phil Donahue Show" where the guest is a calf ready for sacrifice and the audience a flock of two hundred vultures ready to pray on the poor calf and devour it alive.
- 2. It was also long enough to watch Maura's <u>metamorphosis</u> from a young woman into <u>a</u> worn-down old lady.
- 3. When Mac <u>had become a bare skeleton of sixty pounds</u> kept alive by liquid food we poured down a tube, ... he begged us: "Have pity... for God's sake, please just let me die."
- 4. The doctors and technicians performed their marvels and walked away.
- 5. At night I went home and tried to <u>wash away the odor of putrefying flesh</u> that seemed permeated into the cloth of my uniform.
- 6. It was in my hair, the upholstery of my car—there was no way you could scrub it away.
- 7. Not to do it is to let yourself be accused of negligence in your duties, at least in the perception of many people, including some nurses.
- 8. And after the fifty-second code, when Mac was <u>still clear-minded enough</u> to beg for death again, and Maura was crumbled in my arms again, and when no amount of pain medication <u>could</u> stop his moaning and ease his agony, I began to ask myself if there was a spiritual judge.
- 9. Was all this misery and suffering supposed to <u>help build one</u>'s character or instill us all with the sense of humbleness from sheer impotence?
- 10. He had been motionless for so long, I thought he at last was blessed to have the relief of coma.
- 11. A sense of terror grabbed my chest, drew my finger to the code button, urged me to do something, anything... but remain there in the company of death.
- 12. Eventually, when I was as sure as I could be that the code team would fail to bring him back, I walked into the legally ambiguous area and pushed the button.

II.

- 1. I know it's not easy to talk you into changing your mind, but could you at least give my proposal some thought?
- 2. The 9/11 incident infused the American life with an anxiety greater than any other event in the last two decades.
- 3. When I visited her in the hospital the second time, she looked haggard and was wasted away to a skeleton, with death written on her forehead.
- 4. When the police asked to see his insurance policy, he knew immediately that he was liable for all the damage to the two cars because he did not buy insurance for his car.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (a) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (d) 7. (b) 8. (c) 9. (c) 10. (d)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

Many years ago, a psychiatrist who was treating someone I loved asked me to remember that she had the right to kill herself if she wanted to. Sometimes, he said softly, the decision to commit suicide is the decision of a rational mind, a reasonable if tragic answer to the question of whether life is worth continuing.

When he said "right," he did not, of course, mean constitutional right; he meant moral right, a part of human dignity. As long as her mind was sound, she had the right as an autonomous individual to decide whether to continue living. Her responsibilities to her loved ones and her community might have carried weight in the moral calculus, but the final decision had to be hers alone.

Although I saw the logic of his position then and see it now, the law has traditionally offered a rather different understanding. Suicide was a felony under England's common-law regime, and was illegal everywhere in the United States into this century. Some cynics have identified the age-old prohibition on suicide as a matter of royal selfishness—at common law, if you committed a felony, your worldly goods went to the crown—but the better answer is that the laws reflected a strong belief that the lives of individuals belonged not to themselves alone but to the communities in which they lived and to the God who gave them breath.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (a) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (c) 9. (c) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (a) 2. (d) 3. (a)

II.

1. (F) 2. (F) 3. (T)

III.

Please refer to the tapescript.

Tapescript

On Assisted Suicide and the Pain Relief Promotion Act

The following is a statement made by Senator Joseph Biden in the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary on April 27, 2000

Mr. Chairman, I want to say a few words about the Pain Relief Promotion Act, a bill which I am proud to support.

This bill does two important things: It makes clear that prescribing pain medication—even when it may increase the risk of death—is a "legitimate medical purpose" under the Controlled Substances Act and it makes clear that prescribing medication for the purpose of assisting suicide is not.

Now, truth in advertising here—I am opposed to legalizing physician-assisted suicide in this country, period.

In assisted suicide there is no question that there is a human life in being. Physicianassisted suicide is the most dangerous slippery slope, in my view, that the nation can embark upon.

But this bill does more than just rule out the use of controlled substances to kill a patient.

Just as important, it also urges doctors to educate themselves about pain management and palliative care and it makes clear that prescribing adequate pain medication is a legitimate use of controlled substances.

Currently, too many doctors are afraid to give a patient a high dose of pain killers for fear that their actions will appear suspicious or for fear that the remedy may have the "double effect" of hastening death. It is critical that doctors feel free to adequately manage pain so that patients do not suffer needlessly.

Now, let me dispel a couple of myths and tell you what this bill will not do. It will not have a "chilling effect" on pain management. Critics have alleged that if this legislation passes, the Drug Enforcement Administration will begin to investigate doctors more vigorously. That is certainly not the intent of this bill.

And furthermore the DEA has stated that they have no intention of investigating doctors unless the doctor has admitted to using controlled substances to kill a patient or if state authorities have concluded that was the case. The DEA has written:

Even if H.R. 2260 were enacted, it is not feasible that DEA would devote its limited resources to investigate an allegation that a practitioner assisted a suicide unless either: (i) The practitioner made a clear admission that she/he dispensed controlled substances with the specific intent to assist suicide or (ii) competent state and local authorities concluded—based on sufficient evidence provided to DEA—that the practitioner dispensed controlled substances with the specific intent to assist suicide.

If you need proof, just look at states which have passed measures similar to the one we are debating today. There has been no "chilling effect." Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Tennessee, Rhode Island and Virginia have enacted laws making clear that providing pain medication even to the point where death is hastened is legitimate medical practice. And in each of those states, per-capita use of morphine has increased as doctors feel more comfortable giving their patients the medication they need. I fully expect that passing the bill before us today will increase proper pain management nationwide.

This bill has the support of the medical community—the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pain Management, National Hospice Organization, American Pain Society, American Academy of Pain Management, and the Catholic Medical Association. These groups would not lend their names to a piece of legislation which is not in the best interest of patients. I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill today.

Writing

Guided Writing

At the center of the latest controversy about life and death, medicine and law, is the 78-year-old Earle Spring from Massachusetts whose existence now depends on a court order.

Once a strapping outdoorsman, Mr. Spring is now strapped to a wheelchair. Once a man with a keen mind, he is now called senile and mentally incompetent. For more than two years, since his physical and then mental health began to deteriorate, Earle Spring has been kept alive by spending five hours on a kidney dialysis machine three times a week. Since January 1979, his family has pleaded to have him removed from the life-support system. At first, the courts agreed. They ruled last month in favor of withdrawing medical care from this patient whose mind had deteriorated. The dialysis was stopped. But then, an outside nurse and doctor visited Earle Spring and testified that he was alert enough to "make a weak expression of his desire to live." And so the treatments were resumed. Since Mr. Spring is neither competent nor comatose and thus lives in a gray area of consciousness, his case hangs over the gray area of our consciences. In countries like England where kidney dialysis machines are scarce, Earle Spring would never have remained on one. In America, one Earle Spring can drain the energy and income of an entire family. The court ruled originally that taking Mr. Spring off the machine is what he would have wanted. We should have no doubt that his family believes it. We should have no doubt of their affection or their pain.

Additional Writing Project

Unit 15

Metaphors of War

Close Reading

Exercises

I.

- 1. Metaphors can have fatal consequences.
- 2. The <u>language that shapes the debate about</u> whether we should go to war in the gulf is <u>an</u> entire landscape (army) of metaphor.
- 3. Metaphorical thought, per se, is neither good nor bad; it is simply common and unavoidable.
- 4. Abstractions and <u>extremely complicated</u> situations are <u>constantly comprehended through</u> metaphors.
- 5. The use of a metaphor with a set of definitions <u>becomes malicious</u> when it hides realities in a harmful way.
- 6. A state is considered as a person, engaging in social relations within a world community. Its vast territory is its home.
- 7. Third-world nations are thus <u>yet-to-be-mature</u> children, to be taught how to <u>grow in</u> proper manners or else to be lessoned if they misbehave.
- 8. The ability to rationalize is the ability to act in a way that gains the greatest self-interest.
- 9. The cop should take actions ethically, in the community's interest, and with the consent of the entire community.
- 10. The hero is rational, but though the villain may be <u>sneaky and crafty</u>, he <u>is not someone</u> you can reason with.
- 11. The administration <u>has decided on the first</u>, and that seems to have been accepted by the public, the media, and Congress as having the moral reason for going to war.

II.

- 1. The letter was well worded, but it nonetheless amounts to a definite "No" to the kidnappers' demand for money.
- 2. His decision to become a real estate developer runs counter to his father's expectations.

- 3. Soon after his lecture began, the audience realized that it was Professor Lee's style to be out of line with established conventions.
- 4. When heavy rain poured down the second day, most of the senior citizens understood that this riverside town was on the brink of being flooded.

III.

(Suggested answers are left to the wisdom of the instructor.)

IV.

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (d) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (c) 9. (a) 10. (d)

V.

(An appropriate key is left to the instructor's own discretion and wisdom.)

VI.

The classic fairy tale defines what constitutes a hero: it is a person who rescues an innocent victim and who defeats and punishes a guilty and inherently evil villain, and who does so for moral rather than venal reasons. If America starts a war, will it be functioning as a hero?

It will certainly not fit the profile very well. First, one of its main goals will be to reinstate "the legitimate government of Kuwait." That means reinstating an absolute monarchy, where women are not accorded anything resembling reasonable rights, and where 80% of the people living in the country are foreign workers who do the dirtiest jobs and are not accorded the opportunity to become citizens. This is not an innocent victim whose rescue makes us heroic.

Second, the actual human beings who will suffer from an all-out attack will, for the most part, be innocent people who did not take part in the atrocities in Kuwait. Killing and maiming a lot of innocent bystanders in the process of nabbing a much smaller number of villains does not make one much of a hero.

Third, in the self-defense scenario, where oil is at issue, America is acting in its self-interest. But, in order to qualify as a legitimate hero in the rescue scenario, it must be acting selflessly. Thus, there is a contradiction between the self-interested hero of the self-defense scenario and the purely selfless hero of the rescue scenario.

Fourth, America may be a hero to the royal families of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, but it will not be a hero to most Arabs. Most Arabs do not think in terms of our metaphors. A great many Arabs will see us as a kind of colonial power using illegitimate force against an Arab brother. To them, we will be villains, not heroes.

America appears as classic hero only if you don't look carefully at how the metaphor is applied to the situation. It is here that the State-as-Person metaphor functions in a way that

hides vital truths. The State-as-Person metaphor hides the internal structure of states and allows us to think of Kuwait as a unitary entity, the defenseless maiden to be rescued in the fairy tale. The metaphor hides the monarchical character of Kuwait, and the way Kuwaitis treat women and the vast majority of the people who live in their country. The State-as-Person metaphor also hides the internal structures of Iraq, and thus hides the actual people who will mostly be killed, maimed, or otherwise harmed in a war. The same metaphor also hides the internal structure of the U.S., and therefore hides the fact that is the poor and minorities who will make the most sacrifices while not getting any significant benefit. And it hides the main ideas that drive Middle Eastern politics.

Further Reading (Passage II)

Multiple Choice Exercises

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (d) 6. (e) 7. (b) 8. (b) 9. (e) 10. (a)

Listening

Exercises for Listening Comprehension

I.

1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (b)

II.

1. (T) 2. (F) 3. (F)

III.

Refer to the Tapescript.

Tapescript

Iraq War Lands in the Midst of Vermont's Town Hall Meetings Based on an article by Elizabeth Mehren

In a high school gymnasium festooned with athletic banners, residents of Bethel, Vermont, a working-class town, decided on Tuesday to allot more money for ambulance services, increase funds for the visually impaired, and ask President Bush to pull U.S. troops out of Iraq.

The vote in Bethel was 80-58 in favor of the resolution. The central Vermont town was

one of 52 communities in this famously liberal state to add a vote on a nonbinding antiwar resolution to the agenda of annual town meetings held on Tuesday. Since Colonial days, the gatherings have been the primary form of local government in much of New England.

This year, a cluster of Vermont peace and civil liberties organizations joined to introduce the measure about the war in Iraq. The group's resolution asked Vermont's state legislators and congressional delegation to investigate the use of the Vermont National Guard in Iraq. It also called on the President and Congress to take steps to withdraw American troops from Iraq.

Rosalind Andreas, who helped place the initiative on the agenda in Westford, a town north of Burlington, said that they saw the resolution as a way to start a very important conversation at the local level about the social consequences of this war.

In towns around Vermont, Andreas said, the question of U.S. involvement in Iraq has become intensely personal. National Guard members from 200 of the state's 251 towns and cities have gone to Iraq, making tiny Vermont second to Hawaii in the per-capita number of Guard and reserve units sent to the war. At least 11 people from Vermont have died serving in Iraq, giving the state the highest per-capita number of deaths.

State Sen. Mark MacDonald, a Democrat, said that the casualty touched the people of Vermont "very deeply." "When I campaigned last fall," he said, "there was not a day that I stopped at a house where a son or a daughter, or a brother or a sister, or a husband or a wife was not in Iraq."

Benson Scotch of Montpelier has set up a website to promote the anti-war measure. Scotch said that towns in Vermont have lost police officers, firefighters, teachers and other vital employees. Country stores—often the only places to buy supplies in some rural villages—have shut down when their owners shipped off with the Guard.

What the resolution is saying is that the war in Iraq has a local impact and affects people. With the resolution, towns in Vermont are also saying that a conversation is needed at the grass-roots level as to what are and what should be the policies in the use of this kind of war. The best place to begin this conversation is in the schools, the town halls and libraries, not only in Vermont, but also elsewhere in the United States.

With votes in more than half of the towns counted late Tuesday, at least 37 towns voted to accept the resolution, three declined to consider it, three voted it down, and in one town, the vote was tied. In addition, two towns took up the resolution and passed it even though it was not officially on the agenda.

In some towns, the Iraq resolution generated little debate and passed resoundingly. At Tracy Hall in Norwich, a comfortable village of 3,500 that straddles the Connecticut River, women at the meeting knitted or did needlepoint as only John Lamperti rose to speak about the Iraq initiative.

"It is right and admirable that town meetings in Vermont should speak out on this war," said Lamperti, 72, a retired professor from nearby Dartmouth College.

In Strafford, the town meeting was also an occasion for elementary school students planning class trips to hold a raffle to raise money. A wood-burning stove warmed the meeting hall in the affluent town of 1,000, where not one person spoke against the Iraq initiative, and the measure passed handily.

Laura Rubenis, 40, a history professor at several local colleges, said the initiative had already served its purpose as it has sparkled a discussion that could move beyond Vermont.

Writing

Guided Writing

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's "Pearl Harbor Address" offers an intriguing lesson to the student of rhetoric. Upon the news of Pearl Harbor bombing, the national tide had shifted against Japan, but FDR's speech wove a subtle tapestry of logic and emotion with threads of American justice and history to stir up public fervor against the Empire of Japan, to name it "enemy." FDR predicts that December 7, 1941, is "a date that will live in infamy." He continues, "The United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by navel and air forces of the Empire of Japan." The Japanese are unsportsman-like, as "suddenly" might suggest, and "deliberate" aggressors, which is to say that they are "premeditative murderers of the first degree." As per the American legal distinction in trials of homicide, such aggressors deserve death. FDR goes on to assert himself through the syntax "It will be recorded," which bolsters the ethos of the president by placing him in a position of command. His words shall be done, history shall be created, in an almost biblical sense. FDR brings his personal ethos to bear by asserting an encapsulated conclusion. "During the intervening time, the Japanese government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continuing peace," he says. This shocking statement is followed by a list of consequences so that FDR turns our anguish into anger and the Japanese into marauders pirates on the high seas. FDR then pursues the point with relentless parallelism. The last, Midway, frightens us with its immediacy. Attacked the very morning of the speech, Midway reminds us that the violence continues and that every moment wasted in deliberation is a moment in which the Japanese advance. Later, the speech evolves into a proclamation of manifest destiny: "American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory." In this case, "right" makes "might," and the Americans are, of course, right. The shift to use of the pronoun "we" emphasizes the collectivity of the action, and the invocation of God is the culmination of this statement of national purpose.

Additional Writing Project