

FIFTH WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Preparation: Review readings for explorations of relationship. Mull over the essays and parts of essays that you like best; you may use these as models. I will also distribute a list of possible relationships for consideration; choose as a topic one with distinctive features and one from which you have some distance. Consider the different vantage points for viewing the relationship you consider: those of a cynic, a parent, an optimist, a joker. With a classmate or friend, describe patterns in the relationship you want to explore. Try to formulate a pattern(s) or basic dynamics within the relationship.

Due Date: Class #22 for the draft; Revision in Class #25, if you revise.

Audience: Readers of a magazine like *The Culture Crosser* or our class anthology.

Length: 4-6 pages in draft; 4-5 in revision. N.B.: Some still need to write more.
Each person bring 3 copies to class: one for me, two for classmates.

Purpose: To expand your point of view to include your own participation in relationships, or at least to examine the way both participants contribute to the relationship, if you choose a relationship between two others. By identifying and revealing something new about *your (or their)* patterns of motivation and action in relationships, offer insights of general value that may illuminate others' behavior. Try to include cross-cultural perspectives. You may, again, discuss a "relationship" with a text or texts, acknowledging that the emphasis must fall on your reactions because the text "changes" or acts mainly in your perceptions of and reactions to it.

Tips: You may use narration to present key events, analytical skills to explore patterns and dynamics, and figurative language to convey your reactions. Review the handout on romantic relationships carefully if you want to describe one of those, especially the sections on hopes, ideal other, fears, expectations, and criteria and on the pitfalls.