

**Critical Reading Assignment: AVID Seniors: NY Times “War on Poverty” discussion: January, 2014**

Read each of the articles in the discussion forum. Highlight ALL words and phrases that are unfamiliar. In the margins or elsewhere on the paper, write a definition or synonym that makes sense to you from either the context, an outside resource, or both. After you finish reading each piece, write a short, one or two sentence summary of the piece that explains the author’s main point and at least two of the supports, or evidence, that the author includes to back up his/her argument. After you summarize, write at least one inquiry based (level two or three) question that deals with the ideas and arguments raised by each participant in the discussion forum. Please use language and grammar properly and maintain an academic tone in your written work.

**Example:**

**“Why We Need One” Martha J. Bailey**

**Summary:** Ms. Baily argues that renewed efforts to assist poor children will more than pay for themselves as opportunities and healthy conditions allow these children to become successful and productive members of society rather than becoming stuck in the cycle of generational poverty that traps many of their parents. She cites the success of programs from the Johnson administration like *Head Start* and *Medicaid* as justification for her stance on the issue. Her insistence on the need for government to step in at his time is based on the increasing “income gap” that continues to widen and leave the lowest one-fifth of the population stuck in poverty.

**Question:** How much more “should” the wealthiest one-fifth of Americans have? 10x, 50x, 1000x, more than the poorest one-fifth?

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