

08-22 Meeting: Classroom Dynamics, Project Deadlines, and Infographic Assignments

Overview of Class Dynamics and Announcements

- Informal classroom banter creates a casual yet energetic atmosphere.
- Jenea's graduation is acknowledged, with plans for her possible campus visit.

Project and Assignment Deadlines

- A major project, described as "the big fat project," is underway and was initially due by Sunday afternoon.
- Due to missing students and the teacher's "great mood," the deadline has been extended, with the expectation that the project be submitted by the end of class on Monday.
- Students can earn extra credit by presenting a UC pass, though this involves a "gambling" risk depending on the availability of the person who issues the pass.

Social & Civic Discussions

Current Affairs Bell Ringer

- A bell ringer exercise featured an article about a pregnant mother charged with assault for smoking meth.
 - Students are required to read the article and answer questions on its political implications, discussing liberal versus conservative perspectives.
 - Debate on whether punitive measures or treatment provide better outcomes, with emphasis on treatment being potentially more constructive than incarceration.

Research on Deterrence & Addiction

- Deterrence Measures:
 - Discussion on the limited effectiveness of punishment (e.g., speeding tickets, theft) to prevent initial offenses.

- Comparisons between punitive and rehabilitative approaches, including their role in managing addiction and criminal behavior.
- **Addiction Issues:**
 - Cases illustrating that harsh punishment might worsen outcomes, such as in the case of pregnant women with meth addiction.
 - Consideration of addiction as a medical issue versus a criminal issue, with debates between strict punitive responses and early intervention/rehabilitation.
- **Societal & Policy Influences:**
 - Examination of how aggressive pharmaceutical advertising and doctor incentives contribute to the opioid crisis.
 - Discussions on the potential for improved insurance and medical support mechanisms for those addicted through legitimate use.

Academic & Instructional Assignments

Infographic Task on Addiction & Policy

- Create an infographic that includes:
 - A historical overview of the addiction issue.
 - Insights into both liberal (emphasizing rehabilitation and early intervention) and conservative (supporting strict punitive measures) perspectives.
 - Research on current legal measures, proposed policies, or ongoing legislative debates (e.g., discussions at the federal level/White House).
- Designated work intervals are set for this task:
 - 20 minutes before lunch.
 - 40 minutes after lunch.
- Extra recognition: Chloe will be awarded 50 extra credit points upon successful completion of her task.

Informal & Social Context

- Lighthearted conversations including personal anecdotes and everyday analogies (e.g., driving scenarios, Walmart shopping) were shared to illustrate the limitations of retrospective punishment.
- Informal banter regarding unrelated topics (eSports meetings, sports analogies) helped maintain a relaxed work environment.

Classroom Management and Extra Credit Policies

- The teacher offers support while encouraging students to work quietly and efficiently, aiming for a "low-key" work period.

- Incentives for focused work include:
 - A brief opportunity at the start of class to select music from personal playlists using headphones, after which phones should be put away.
 - Students receive 20 extra credit points for presence, but these points can be lost if a student leaves the room for a break more than once a month.

Additional Announcements and Reminders

- A news crew from 7 News in Denver will visit shortly to cover a story about the “dairy tragedy”; students are instructed not to give interviews and to refer any media inquiries to Mr. Naughton.
- Reminders:
 - Voting for class president is open until 3 o’clock, with a humorous mention of Cole possibly seeking votes and "Big Junior" as a candidate.
 - Maintain proper digital etiquette during class, such as using headphones and keeping phones in backpacks.

Upcoming Tasks and Arrangements

- [] Confirm and submit the major project by the end of class Monday.
- [] Prepare and complete the infographic assignment, including a title/background, dual perspectives, and relevant legal references with supportive graphics.
- [] Be aware that 20 extra credit points for presence can be lost if leaving the room for a break more than once a month.
- [] Direct any media interview requests to Mr. Naughton when the news crew arrives.
- [] Vote for class president before 3 o’clock.