

English 120 – Composition II
Dr. Paul Batesel, Professor of Liberal Arts,

Sally Brown graduated from Mayville State with a degree in Business Administration last spring. Because of her grades, her references and her strong interview, she was hired immediately in the design department at School Pride Textiles, a small firm that designs and manufactures special-order wearing apparel in the Twin Cities. School Pride has found a strong market with high schools and colleges in the upper Midwest.

Now in less than six months her dream job has become a nightmare to the extent that she is considering returning to Galesburg to work on her parents' farm.

She is supervisor for a department responsible for creating designs for caps, t-shirts, pullovers, and sweatshirts from information supplied by the customer schools. From the first day she found herself in charge of a dysfunctional department. Morale is terrible; the eleven designers all seem to wish themselves elsewhere. They arrive late; they leave early, they exploit sickness and leave days, and they always seem to have a gripe session going. Each considers him/herself a creative designer, but designs scheduled to be ready for the print department are almost invariably late, and the "fresh" designs promised to customers tend to be stale. On more than one occasion, errors have occurred in translating information from the schools, costing the company money and good will. i.e. the Mayville State University Bookstore received an order of 100 sweatshirts inscribed "Maryville State." Sally is, of course, the newest person in her department, and the others treat her as a "hick" from North Dakota.

Sally has been warned that she must turn this department around, increasing production, accuracy, and customer satisfaction. Each of the six accompanying articles contains a suggestion for motivating or manipulating people. Use these to come up with four suggestions Sally might implement to improve morale and productivity.

Template for each paragraph

1. State the strategy in general terms
2. Develop that strategy from its source, using quotes and context.
3. Apply specifically to School Pride Textiles. Show how it might be implemented.

Readings: "Fish" by Stephen C. Lundin, Harry Paul and John Christensen

"Games People Play" by Eric Berne

"An Easy Way To Become a Good Conversationalist" by Dale Carnegie

"The Total Woman" by Mirabel Morgan

"The Jewish Mother's Guide to Sex and Marriage" by Dan Greenburg

"Body Language" by Julius Fast

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Class Work: Inductive Logic and Inductive Errors

Inductive Problem:

SUMMER JOBS FOR MSU STUDENTS

Exxon, in conjunction with **MAYVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY** will employ six MSU students for the summer months of 2004. These students will operate a day camp for the children of Exxon employees at **Wainwright, AK** (population 504). They will fly up on May 20 and return on August 20 in time for the start of fall semester. The three-month salary is \$9,500, in addition to room, board and transportation.

Job duties include the following: (1) organize and supervise games and other recreational activities for 49 **Inuit** children ages 6-15; (2) supervise and help children during daily study periods. (All children are enrolled in at least one programmed class); (3) in general, be responsible for the welfare and safety of these children between the hours of 8 and 5, Monday through Friday; (4) write and edit a thirty-minute report on the project to be delivered on behalf of MSU to the Department of Public Instruction.

The students chosen will room and board with three local Inuit families and will be expected to share in the life of the community. Wainwright has no television station or hospital. It has a movie theater (weekend only) and weekly mail service by plane. In extreme emergency, students could possibly be flown out on the mail plane.

There is no supervisor for the six students.

Your Task

1. List and rank the five traits you will be looking for in successful candidates. These must be induced from the job description. Your candidates will be typical MSU students. None will have a medical degree or a teaching certificate.
2. Write these five traits or qualifications each in a paragraph. Each must be justified in terms of the job description, so I would quote extensively from it.
3. The whole will probably run around 250-300 words. It is due at the end of the period.
4. Begin with a statement to the effect that you will be looking for five traits in candidates you hire. Indicate that the traits are induced from the job description.
5. Your grade is based on three factors: quality of inductions (This may include a definition of the trait if it seems confusing), amount of supporting evidence, and quality of presentation—i.e. language.

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Class Work: Deductive Logic, Syllogisms and Enthymemes

Deductive Problem

Review the accompanying vita sheets of four candidates who have applied for a position at the Exxon day care center at Wainwright Alaska. In general, candidates will be responsible for the welfare of 49 Inuit children ages 6-15. They will live with Inuit families and will be expected to participate in the life of the local community.

Hiring Criteria

1. Since six people will operate the daycare center 45 hours per week without supervision, candidates will need to be **RELIABLE** so that some are not left covering for slackards.
2. Since part of the job involves writing and presenting a report to DPI, candidates need to possess strong **WRITING AND SPEAKING** skills
3. Because the job requires both organizing recreation and assisting students with lessons, candidates need to be **CREATIVE** in order to keep students interested and on task.
4. Since workers will be living in an environment much different from their own, candidates must demonstrate some ability to **ADAPT** to new conditions.
5. Since part of the job involves working 45 hours each week with children, candidates should have **EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN**.

Evaluate your four candidates on these criteria. Prove through the use of enthymemes. Begin each paragraph by stating the number of criteria met; prove those with enthymemes; close with any other considerations for or against the candidate.

Put a paragraph at the end of your papers making hiring recommendations.

Oscar

Hometown: Sparks, NV; **Height:** 6' 7"; **Weight:** 314; **Age:** 21

Major: Phy Ed; **Minor:** none listed; **GPA:** 2.0

Work History: 2001-2002 (summers) Adams Construction (laborer)
2002-2003 MaSU work study (Lewy Lee custodial)

Membership: MaSU varsity football team, Intersarsity Homecoming King candidate 2002.

Interests: Feels in his heart that he can play football at the next level

Miscellaneous: All-DAC-10 offensive tackle 2001-2002; NAIA All-America (Honorable Mention) 2002.

Was not recruited by D-I or D-II schools because of a learning disability.

Reference: Kelly Jeffrey: "Oscar is without question both the strongest and quickest lineman in the DAC-10. He is the hardest worker on our team—both on and off the field. He is also our spiritual leader.

His Statement: "My mother really wants me to get ahead. She moved out here from Sparks to see that I behave myself, get to class, and do homework. It's nice because she is a good cook."

Kim

Hometown: Hatton, ND; **Height:** 5' 9"; **Weight:** 140; **Age:** 21

Major: Business Administration; **Minor:** Computer Information Services; **GPA:** 3.8;

Work History: 2000 (summer) Sears Catalogue Sales (billing department)
2001 (summer) Portland Credit Union (bookkeeping department)
2002 (summer) US West (billing department)

Membership: none

Interests: Reads the *Wall Street Journal* daily. He and his brother both have black belts in karate.

Miscellaneous: Kim lives at home with his parents, paying room and board.

Reference: (US West Accounts Manager): "He never missed a day, was never late, and never made mistakes."

His Statement: "I have never been out of Traill County, so I would like to have an experience away from home. I would like to have the money because my brother is starting college next year and needs help."

Helen

Hometown: Wahalla, ND; **Height:** 5' 9"; **Weight:** 145; **Age:** 22

Major: Biology; **Minor:** none listed; **GPA:** 2.9

Work History: 2002 (summer) Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company (reforesting in Arkansas)
2001 (summer) North Dakota Conservation Commission (park ranger in Medora)

Membership: Girl Scouts of America (has a life saving badge); Biology Club (President)

Interests: Anything having to do with conservation. Is an excellent barbecue cook.

Miscellaneous: She was suspended briefly in 2001 for assaulting a Canadian tourist who let his campfire get out, burning 40 acres of newly planted pine.

Reference: Dr. Kruger: "Helen is a good but not great student. She works very hard in areas that interest her but becomes bored and negligent at other times. She never misses Biology Club work details such as cleaning up the highway and helping create fish beds."

Her Statement: "I would really like to work in an unspoiled environment such as the Scottish Highlands."

Janice

Hometown: Halstad, MN; **Height:** 5' 8"; **Weight:** 130; **Age:** 24

Major: Computer Science; **Minor:** English; **GPA:** 3.7

Work History: 2002-2003 Mayville State University (Computer Services)
2001-2002 H&R Block (Programmer)
2000-2001 Goose River Bank (Data entry)

Membership: First Lutheran Church (lay minister)

Interests: Janice is a Renaissance woman who finds time to be a wife, mother, honors student, and employee. She also finds time to read, paint, play the guitar and raise flowers.

Miscellaneous: Janice is married to a lawyer in Halstad. She has a 2-year-old daughter

Reference: Lisa Ziegler: "Janice has raised computer art to state of the art. We always save the impossible jobs for her to do; then she is challenged and happy." She played a big role in getting the local network ready for student notebook computers."

Her Statement: "I would like to have this job for two reasons: My husband is getting ready to run for Minnesota legislature, and we could use the money. Second, I feel that I have the energy required for this job. Besides, it would give my mother-in-law a chance to spoil my daughter."

