**Academic English 4**: Compare and Contrast Process Essay:

**Final Draft Due Date**: January 29

**Point Value**: 100 points

**Style/Format**: MLA Format. All body paragraphs should be double-spaced (this includes the heading). Each essay should have a title. See: North Allegheny Style Manual on wikispace for additional help.

**Method**: Point-by-Point.

**Format Approaches**: point-by-point structure can be written in several ways. The writer can keep each similarity and difference isolated in shorter, more focused paragraphs. Or, the writer can take several shorter, more focused paragraphs and compile them in a larger (read: longer) paragraph. In either case, the approach maintains focus between stated similarities and differences. So it is that the final submission could have a multi-paragraph format, or could be a more standard body paragraph format. Finally, each essay will have an introduction and a conclusion.

**Considerations**: As a writer, try to vary the sentence structure and language. It is common in point-by-point style to fall into a routine. For instance, sentences might all begin with: ‘another similarity’, ‘another similarity’, ‘another difference’, etc. Attempt to use other terms and phrases to keep the tone and style engaging and interesting.

As a writer you might discover that you have major similarities and only minor differences. If this is the case, consider involving or ‘dropping’ the differences into the point-by-point comparison paragraphs defining similarities. See below:

…both Beowulf and Jim Tomko were heroes, though clearly Tomko was not expected to engage in potentially fatal combat. Both are heroes in that Beowulf defended the honor and structure of Herot when he battled the ancestor of Cain, Grendel, while Tomko defended the honor of his family name when he brought a fugitive to justice…

Doing this approach will still maintain standard paragraph form, but might allow you, the writer, to develop similarities while also introducing subtle, minor differences.

Finally, take the time to develop content. Use specific examples, quotes, etc. that show *why* the comparison is interesting or relevant. Don’t just ‘tell’ about similarities/differences, ‘show’ them. Ask yourself, ‘so what?’ after a stated comparison.

**Have a developed GoogleDocs draft for the following days**:

Thursday: Brainstorming Concept (in-class lecture)

Friday: Working Introduction. Passive vs. Active Voice (in-class lecture)

Tuesday: 1st Body Paragraph. Colon & Semi-colon (in-class lecture)

Wednesday: 2nd Body Paragraph.

Thursday: 3rd Body Paragraph. Conclusion.

Tuesday: Printed Draft for Revision.

Wednesday: Submit Final Draft, Physical Copy.