INSTRUCTOR: Chris Sutterfield **CLASS:** Composition I

ASSIGNMENT: Paper 2: (Summary/Response)

The purpose of Paper 2 is both to summarize and response to John Taylor Gatto's article "Against School: How public education cripples kids and why." You will not only have to condense the main ideas of Ripley's essay, but you will have to follow your summary with an evaluation of Gatto's ideas, determining their validity. Since this article is to persuade the reader, be sure to search the essay for clearly defined terms, fair use of information, and logical argumentation) as you focus your critique on the essay's main points. Be sure to use transitions not only as you move from one ideas to the next within a paragraph but also use paragraphs to clarify the organization of your summary/critique. Also, you will be using parenthetical citations every time you quote and every time you paraphrase one of Gatto's ideas.

Paper Guidelines:

Introduction:

A) Thesis Statement-

Include the author's name and the title of the article in this thesis statement, which will be paraphrase the author's thesis statement.

B) Essay Map-

Followed next with a sentence stating the main points of the essay and the points you intend to make (Essay Map).

C) Your Own Thesis Statement-

Lastly, your own thesis about the essay should be included, to let the reader know where you stand.

Summary:

Remember, a summary is a restatement of the <u>author's main ideas</u> in your own words. Since you will be moving quickly from one point to another, the effective use of transitions is important. Use a quote here only if you cannot effectively paraphrase the author's idea.

Response:

- A) Summary Point 1
 - 1) Author's point—restate author's point briefly
 - 2) Agree/Disagree
 - 3) Analysis:

Comment on the author's success in achieving his purpose. Some key questions you might consider are:

- 1. Is the information accurate?
- 2. Is the information significant?
- 3. Has the author defined terms clearly?
- 4. Has the author used and interpreted information fairly?
- 5. Has the author argued logically?
- 4) Repeat this process for each response you analyze.

Conclusion:

State your conclusion(s) about the overall validity of Gatto's article. Include both your assessment of the author's success at achieving his purpose and your reactions to his views. Restate the strengths and weaknesses of the article.

Note: Don't forget to check your parenthetical notation for accuracy. Carefully annotate the article before you ever begin your first draft. This paper should be 3-4 pages long. Please note the syllabus for the rough draft and final draft due dates.