

HOMEWORK READINGS TO PREPARE BEFORE SESSION 5



A. WRITE

1. Write an essay based on one of the topics listed in the previous session.
 - Write a one page to half page essay.
 - Use full sentences and proper punctuation and grammar.
 - Try to use some of the new vocabulary you learned.
2. Create an outline before you write. Your tutor can help you create an outline for your essay.
3. Email in your essay. Your essay will be graded. Your tutor will help you understand the corrections after class during the tutoring session.



B. READ

Instructions

1. Before attending the next session in the classroom, you should finish your homework readings.
2. The texts for this session look at the cycle of street culture, systemic racism and crime. There are 2 texts to read.

Two texts are on Street culture.

- "The Code of the Streets" by Elijah Anderson.
- "Deciding to Commit an Armed Robbery" by Richard Wright and Scott Decker. (This text is optional and only for those that want to be challenged when reading. It is also emotionally a harder read.)

3. Understanding the texts.

- a) First read the Abstract or Introduction and/or Summary and Conclusion of each text. What are they arguing?
- b) Read the subtitles. Can you tell how the text is organized?
- c) Below each of the texts you will find a table that helps you to dissect the text you are reading. You can also use highlighters or another method or chart to dissect the text so you can remember and understand what you read.

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4. Do the Check your Understanding questions. Your tutor will help you mark the questions after class.
5. When you come into class you will need to be prepared to discuss the question below.

"How can we break these cycles? "



PART B - 1. READ THE ARTICLE "THE CODE OF THE STREETS".

Read the article. You can use the table below to take jot notes help you organize your thoughts as you read.

WHAT IS THE PAPER ARGUING?		
Turn titles into Questions	Answer questions	Comments /Inferences
Decent versus Street Families		
Campaigning for Respect		
Self-Image Based On Juice		
By Trial of Manhood		
Girls Versus Boys		

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Going for Bad		
An Oppositional Culture		
WHAT IS THEIR CONCLUSION?		



PART B - 2. CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Write all answers in full sentences in your notebook.

1. a) What is the culture or code of the streets? Describe it.

b) What is motivating the interpersonal relations in poor inner-city black communities?

c) Explain these characteristics of the code.

➤ Deference, respect, treated right versus being dissed

➤ Alienation, Lack of faith in public institutions

➤ Taking personal responsibility for safety

2. a) Compare "decent" and "street" families

	Decent	Street
Values		
Employment Finances		
Parenting		
Consideration of Others		
Self- destructive behaviors		

b) Is there a strict line between decent and street cultures? How do they influence each other?

3. a) Explain how street-oriented children are parented and then socialized on the street?

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b) How is the cycle of violence and fighting perpetuated among children?

4. a) How do these street youths enhance their self-image?

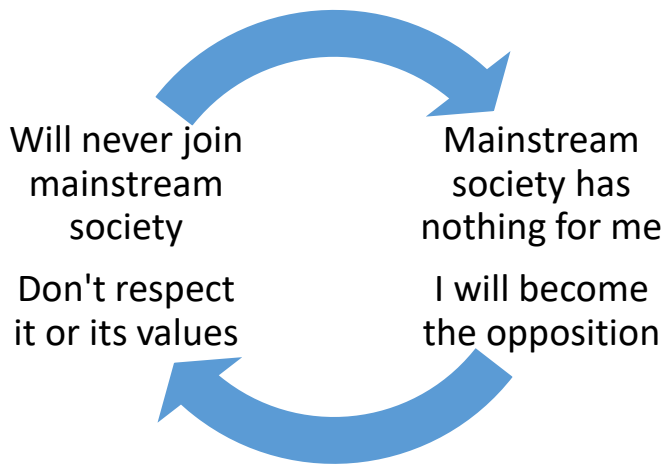
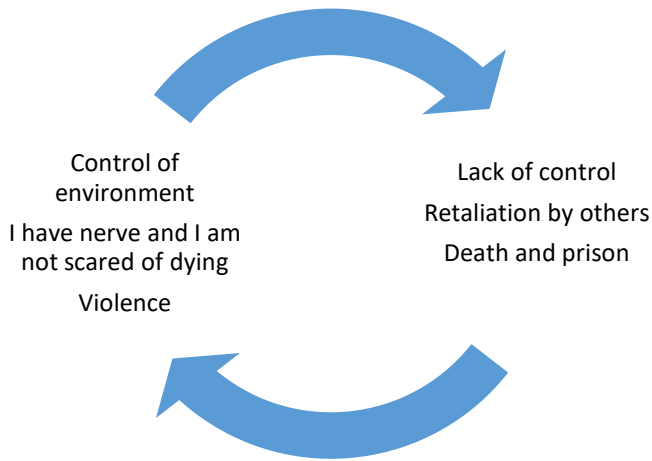
b) How do they express their manhood?

c) How is their relationship with law enforcement affected?

d) How do girls differ?

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5. Look at the cycles below. Can they be broken? How?





PART B - 3. READ "DECIDING TO COMMIT AN ARMED ROBBERY"

(optional for readers who want to be challenged).

Read the article. You can use the table below to take jot notes help you organize your thoughts as you read.

WHAT IS THE PAPER ARGUING?		
Turn titles into Questions	Answer questions	Comments /Inferences
Desperate Partying		
Keeping Up Appearances		
Keeping Things Together		
Why Robbery?		
The Seductions of Armed Robbery		
WHAT IS THEIR CONCLUSION?		



PART B. - 4. CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Write all answers in full sentences in your notebook.

1. a) This text argues that the motivation for entering into street culture and robbery is far more basic than the text you read before. The authors state that "Demography is not destiny" and most, young poor blacks do not commit crimes even though they live in poor inner-city environments. What do they feel is the real motivation for crime?

b) Describe each factor

➤ Need for immediate cash

➤ Opportunity

➤ Hedonistic lifestyle (drugs, drinking, gambling, partying)

➤ Jealous of others

➤ Become isolated from rest of society

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- No future and personal sense of failure

- Keeping up appearances (clothes, flaunting trophies)

- Cost for addictions versus keeping things together

- No hope for employment that will make real money

- Like the feeling of power, control and violence

2. Compare the two papers you just read. Which do you feel describes the reasons for inner city violence better? Why?

3. a) Where do you think these armed robbers will end up finally?

b) Do you think that there is there any hope for these people? Explain.
