ENG 3080J
Writing & Rhetoric II

OHIO UNIVERSITY 1804

Writing Task 1 (WT1):
Constraints & Affordances

Summary
For WT1, you will be asked to choose one technology and explore both its constraints and affordances.

Basic Requirements
WT1 must be a minimum of **500 words** and include at least one visual of the technology that you refer to.

Due Date
Final drafts of WT1 are due on **Friday, September 4th at 11:59 pm**

Learning Objectives
The purpose of WT1 is to build on knowledge in the following areas:
- Thinking critically about technologies
- Identifying constraints and affordances
- Exploring digital literacies
- Explaining technologies

Task Basics
- Choose a technology that you use regularly. It can be physical (such as a game console, tablet, or watch) or digital (such as a website, app, or media platform). No two people in class can choose the same technology, and no one can choose "cell phone" as his or her tech.
- Explain the "affordances" of the tech: What does it help you to do? How does it change what things mean, how we relate to others, how we think, or who we can be?
- Explain the "constraints" of the tech: What does it make more difficult to do? How does it change what things mean, how we relate to others, how we think, or who we can be?
- Include an introduction (introducing the tech briefly) and a conclusion (explaining your overall impressions of the constraints and affordances).

Submission
WT1 will be submitted via Google Drive. Please share your document with me and name it using your name, your class, and the assignment (i.e. "Malcolm Reynolds ENG 3080J WT1"). If you completed your final draft before the due date, you can let me know by placing the word "Final" at the end of your title.

Grading

Your grade for WT1 will be based on the following:

- **Focus** on a single technology. You do not get off track discussing other topics
- **Explanation** of the affordances of the technology. These are explained clearly and in detail.
- **Explanation** of the constraints of the technology. These are explained clearly and in detail.
- **Introduction and conclusion**. The introduction clearly introduces the tech and the conclusion summarizes your overall impressions.
- **Attention to assignment**. Your final draft is at least 500 words and includes at least one visual. Your final draft is shared with me in Google Drive and named appropriately.

Writing tasks are worth 500 points. You begin with the full 500 points and lose points for not meeting the grading criteria—up to 100 points per criterion.