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Assignment Number 1: Research and Search

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General Questions

1. Have you created your own web page? If yes, please describe the purpose of the web page and provide the link if available.

I would have answered no until I signed up for the webpage. I think this was created to some EECS course I took years and years and years ago as an undergraduate. I obviously have no recollection how to do this.

2. Have you used technology in your class? If so, describe the programs or applications that you used and for what purpose.

When I taught English 101 and 102, I used blackboard online. I'm not currently teaching. For work, I have used hawkdrive, excel, word, and powerpoint. I'm not embarrassing at these programs.

3. Have you used any the following programs: Power point, spreadsheet, database?

Yes to powerpoint. I've used excel. I can do some basic stuff in it and feel reasonably competent—unless I'm doing some kind of math thing in excel. Otherwise, I'm great at tables, charts, and formatting things to automatically change colors.

4. What other software programs have you used in an educational setting?

None off the top of my head.

5. What do you expect to learn from this course?

I'd like to be more comfortable with technology so that I can have my own Latin website when I'm a teacher, possibly with discussion forums, but definitely with links to required materials for class.

6. In one or two sentences explain your central belief about how technology can best be used to enrich education?

Technology provides ACCESS to information, and access to information is critical to actually learning it.

Search Questions

1. Consider your philosophy of learning and/or teaching and find at least three web sites that reflect your philosophy. Reply with a short (<50 words) description that describes your philosophy and how the affiliated web site(s) reflect your philosophy.

<http://learnfrommyfail.failblog.org/>

I believe that everyone makes mistakes on a regular basis, but mistakes are great opportunities for learning. After all, it's hard to learn without making mistakes; it's just a part of the educational process. I also believe that we can learn from each other's mistakes—and that it's much better to laugh about mistakes rather than get upset about them.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEOGwgl9tMU>

Latin should be FUN because it IS fun! Students are going to be more engaged if the teacher is making the learning environment a fun and “irresistible” place to be. And while Latin can be difficult, teachers should maximize learning opportunities by linking to what students already know.

<http://www.facebook.com>

The classroom should be a communal environment where people can be friendly, collaborate, and share interesting information—much the way facebook operates. Moreover, facebook is in Latin (mine is anyway), and it provides a quick, easy way for students to communicate, express themselves, and inject some personality.

2. Find a picture of the state capital building in the state where you were born. Provide the URL for the picture and briefly describe your home state's capital building's architecture. Also explain how many people currently live in the state where you were born and the area of your home state in square miles.



<http://www.statesurge.com/news/top-5-ugliest-state-capitols>

Yep, that's right, not only am I from Alaska (born in Wasilla, which used to be an unknown city), but my state capitol building was NUMBER ONE on the ugliest state capitol buildings list. I guess rugged outdoorsmen aren't really interested in the aesthetics of the building. And it's basically a brick square, but at least they threw some lovely marble columns (it looks like they are doric columns) on the main entrance.

Alaska's population: 710,231 (census 2010)

Alaska's square mileage: 571,951.26 (that's 1.2 persons per square mile!)

3. How many cars were parked in the parking lot just to the north of the Pearson building when the last Google Earth photo of the building was taken?

36

4. Translate this question and provide a brief responses in Spanish. ¿Cuál es su deporte favorito, película y actor?

My non-google-translate is: What is your favorite sport, movie, and actor? (Is it cheating if I've studied Spanish?) Google translate tells me the same thing though.

My favorite sport to participate in is horseback riding. It's lots of fun. My favorite sport to watch is basketball, but I also like football.

I don't really have a favorite movie, but I do like the Keira Knightly Pride and Prejudice movie.

I also don't really have a favorite actor. I like Colin Firth—I recently saw him in the King's Speech and thought he was very good there. I like other actors too, but it's hard to say I have a favorite.

5. Provide the longitude and latitude of a parent/friend's house and how many other houses there are on that block. If the house is not on a block, how many houses are there between the your parent/friends house and the closest major intersection (not including the private road that leads to the house).

38°58'59.73" N 95°17'35.50"W

There are 6 other houses on my mom's cul-de-sac, which I am counting as a block because I really, really do not want to count all the houses from hers to 6th and Monterey, which I consider to be the closest major intersection. ☺

Favorite One Liners:

“If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow.” John Dewey

“Any teacher who can be replaced by a computer deserves to be.”

...these aren't one liners, but I enjoyed them too much as a series not to share them:

- From a principal's publication in 1815: “Students today depend on paper too much. They don't know how to write on a slate without getting chalk dust all over themselves. They can't clean a slate properly. What will they do when they run out of paper?”
- From the journal of the National Association of Teachers, 1907: “Students today depend too much on ink. They don't know how to use a knife to sharpen a pencil. Pen and ink will never replace the pencil.”
- From *Rural American Teacher*, 1928: “Students today depend on store bought ink. They don't know how to make their own. When they run out of ink they will be unable to write words or ciphers until their next trip to the settlement. This is a sad commentary on modern education.”
- From *Federal Teachers*, 1950: “Ballpoint pens will be the ruin of education in our country. Students use these devices then throw them away. The American values of thrift and frugality are being discarded. Businesses and banks will never allow such expensive luxuries.”