**English 102:**

**An In-Class Argument**

**Purpose**:

The goals of this assignment are (1) to help you write better arguments by applying what the class has discussed about argumentation, (2) to give you additional experience in writing under a time limit, and (3) to allow you to incorporate the ideas of published writers into your own arguments.

**Task**:

Write an essay arguing for or against Art Spiegelman’s use of the graphic novel genre to tell his Holocaust story. ***What was the reaction of critics to this format?*** Did they criticize the use of a comic book to tell such a tragic story? ***How do the real images of the Holocaust contrast with the visual rhetoric in Maus?***Why does Spiegelman use mice to depict Jews? ***Defend your argument with some research, but primarily with your opinion****.*

**Research**:

Find at least one outside source to incorporate into your paper. Use this resource to enhance your writing, but do not let this source dominate your paper. Your source will be criticism of *Maus* from twenty-five years ago.

Your source could be, among other things, a magazine article, something from a book, or a newspaper article. You must do a Works Cited Page for your sources.

**Evaluation**:

Papers will primarily be assessed based upon the “Shared Criteria” in *Resources*. In particular, your *focus* must be arguable (must be debatable) and clearly based on the assigned topic; moreover, your *development/support* must be logical, accurate, and clear.

**Format**:

You will be given one week’s worth of class meetings to write this paper in class. At the end of each day, turn in what you have written in a folder with your name on it. Bring only your paper, outline, and Works Cited page to class. On the last meeting allowed for this paper, turn in all drafts along with the final copy in your folder.