

## Ashland English 101 Essay #3

### Evaluation

#### Your Writing Task

Choose one (and only one) of the topics below:

1. As the authors in “Language: Do Words Matter?” point out, some words say too much, some say too little, and some are in the Goldilocks<sup>1</sup> region of just right. Discuss which essays in this chapter are particularly compelling in showing when a word is illuminating and which essays are particularly convincing in pointing out when a word is meaningless. Use examples from the essays to illustrate your point.
2. What are some of the reasons that we say the word *sorry*? What thoughts and impulses lie behind that word? Does Sarah Elliott’s essay (*America Now*, page 62) touch on any common points made in in the debate between Lauren Apfel and Carinn Jade (page 56)? Explain in a brief comparison contrast essay.

#### Mechanical Details

**Length:** Minimum 1300 words. (That is about four pages, not counting the title, your name, etc.) There is no set maximum, but try to keep your paper under 150%.

**Format:** Standard MLA format. (12-point Times Roman type, double-spaced, 1” margin all around, MLA header.)

#### *Submitting the paper:*

- The English Department wants electronic copies of all your essays this semester, so please upload the final product to the drop box in Blackboard. Some students (especially those who use Google Docs) have trouble figuring out how to do this, so ask if you are uncertain how to proceed!
- If you have any trouble getting the Blackboard upload to work, simply print a copy and bring it to class.

#### Due Date

- **Final copy:** Friday, March 1, 2019

This essay is worth 100 points.

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<sup>1</sup> “Goldilocks” refers to a traditional children’s story, “Goldilocks and the Three Bears.” In the story, the little girl sneaks into the bears’ house and tries their breakfast. One is too hot; one is too cold; and one is just right.