

## Group Project

### The Presentation

Read and research the topic/chapter in Postman that your group has been assigned. Then prepare a presentation for the class. Your group will be required to lead class discussion for the entire class period. You have three responsibilities:

- 1) Make sure the class understands the main claims being made in Postman's chapter. (You may want to do some sort of summary or outline of the big ideas.)
- 2) Discuss the "truth" of Postman's claims.
- 3) Discuss whether or not Postman's claims are as pertinent today as they might have been in 1985 when the book was first published.

Note: Your presentation should be more than just a lecture on the material. **Present the material, but in a way that a) engages the class and b) encourages critical thinking on the topic.**

Take a deep breath... Just because you are leading a 75 minute discussion does not mean you have to lecture for 75 minutes! Think about ways you can involve your classmates. How can you foster discussion among the class? Do you want to plan some small group activities? Maybe you can show some clips from YouTube! How has modern (entertainment, news, religious, political, educational) television evolved since Postman's day? Think about fun ways to complete Part 3 of the above assignment. Should you try applying Postman's ideas to Facebook and Twitter? To the Charlie Sheen controversy? To the show *Teen Mom*? To Joel Osteen or T.D. Jakes? To the upcoming 2012 Presidential Election?

### The Paperwork

On the day of the presentation, the group will turn in:

- 1) A short "essay" describing the ideas they plan to present to the class. (This essay shows me you have read and understood the material. This essay must include a bibliography in MLA format citing any outside written or visual sources that you will use in the presentation.)
- 2) A lesson plan that details *how* they will present the material and *why* they have chosen that particular method of presentation
- 3) A "log" (This should record the times the group met, who attended each meeting, the time spent in the library, planning the presentation, typing up the findings, etc.)

Additionally, each individual student will turn in privately:

- 1) A self evaluation, explaining their contribution to the project
- 2) An evaluation of each of the other group members, detailing their contributions
- 3) An evaluation of the group as a whole: How well did everyone work together? Did everyone contribute equally?