

Welcome to “TILting Your Online Assignments”



First

Have an assignment in mind.

Second

Relax and take a deep breath. This is your time.

Third

In the chat: What interested you about this webinar?



Transparency in Learning & Teaching

Jesse Bishop – Georgia Highlands College

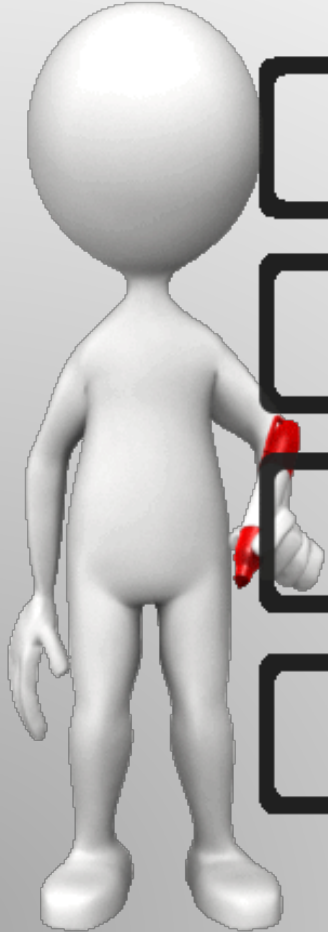
Jordan Cofer – Georgia College & State University

Denise Domizi – University System of Georgia

Rod McRae – University of West Georgia

Marina Smitherman – Dalton State College

Session Objectives



Background – What is TILT & why should we care?



Process – What makes an assignment TILTed?



Example Assignment – Before & After TILT



Data & Application – Why do this online?



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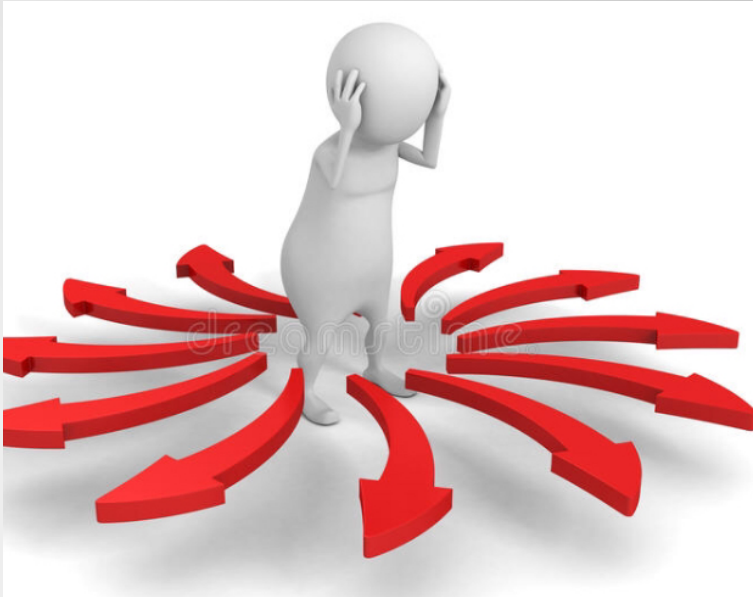
Example Assignment – Before & After TILT



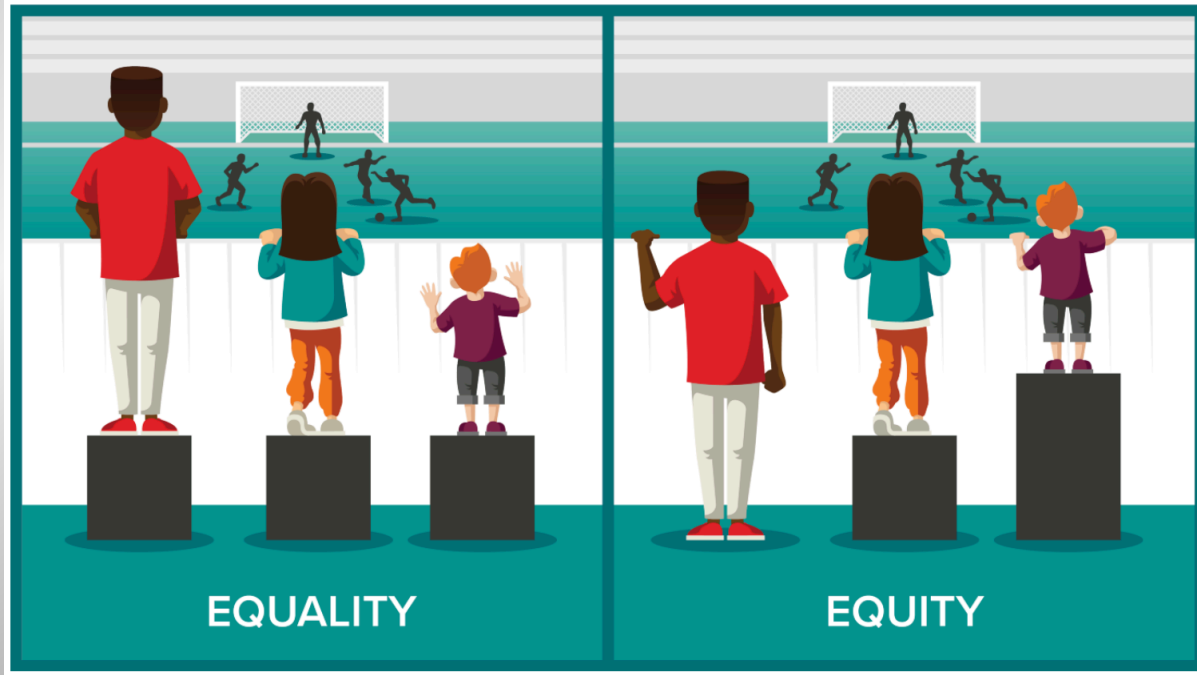
Data & Application – Why do this online?



What is TILT and why is this important?



Are expectations clear for ALL students?



“All of us in the academy and in the culture as a whole are called to renew our minds if we are to transform educational institutions—and society—so that the way we live, teach, and work can reflect our joy in cultural diversity, our passion for justice, and our love of freedom.”

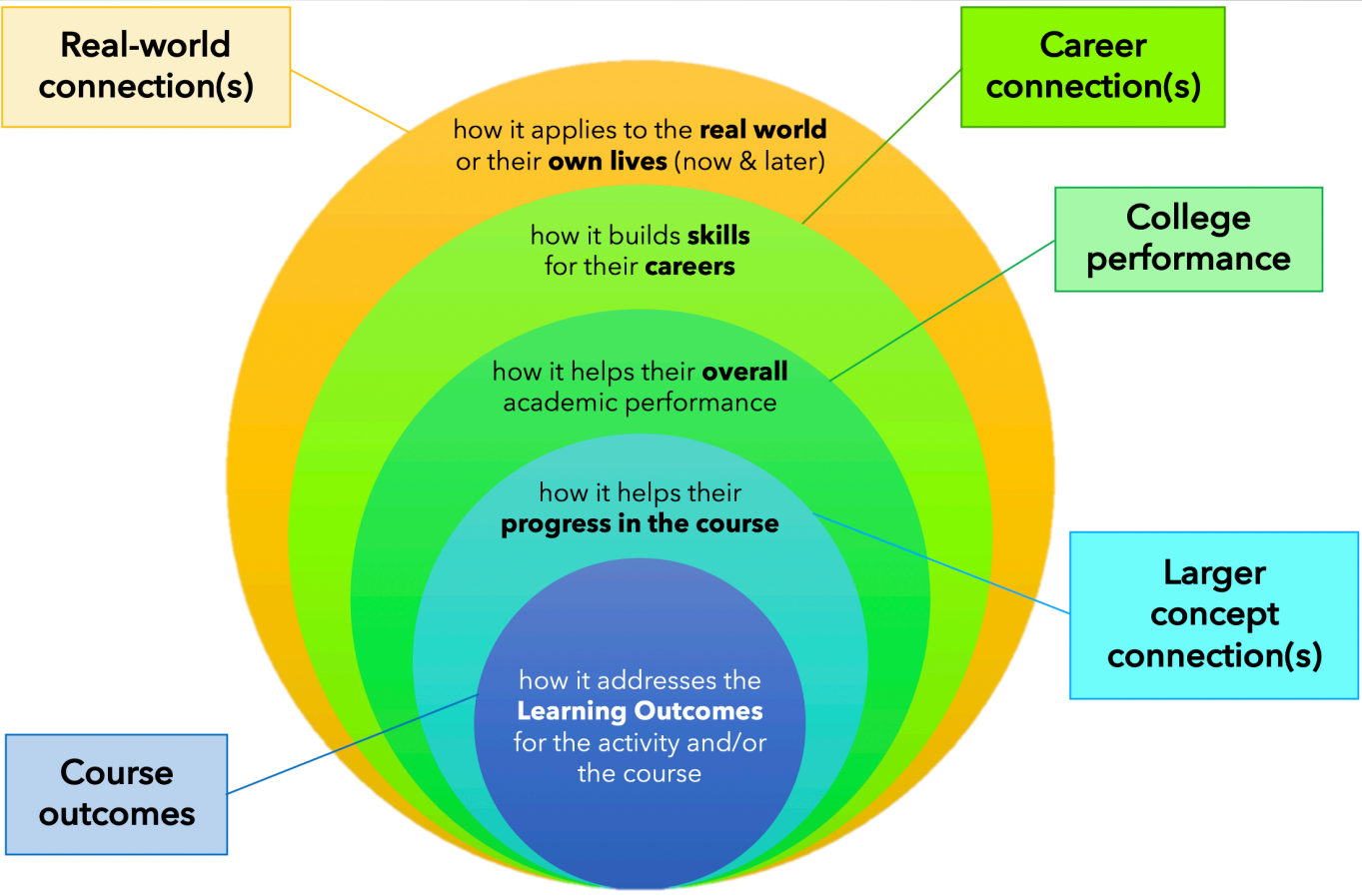
– bell hooks

Consider the assignments you give frequently...

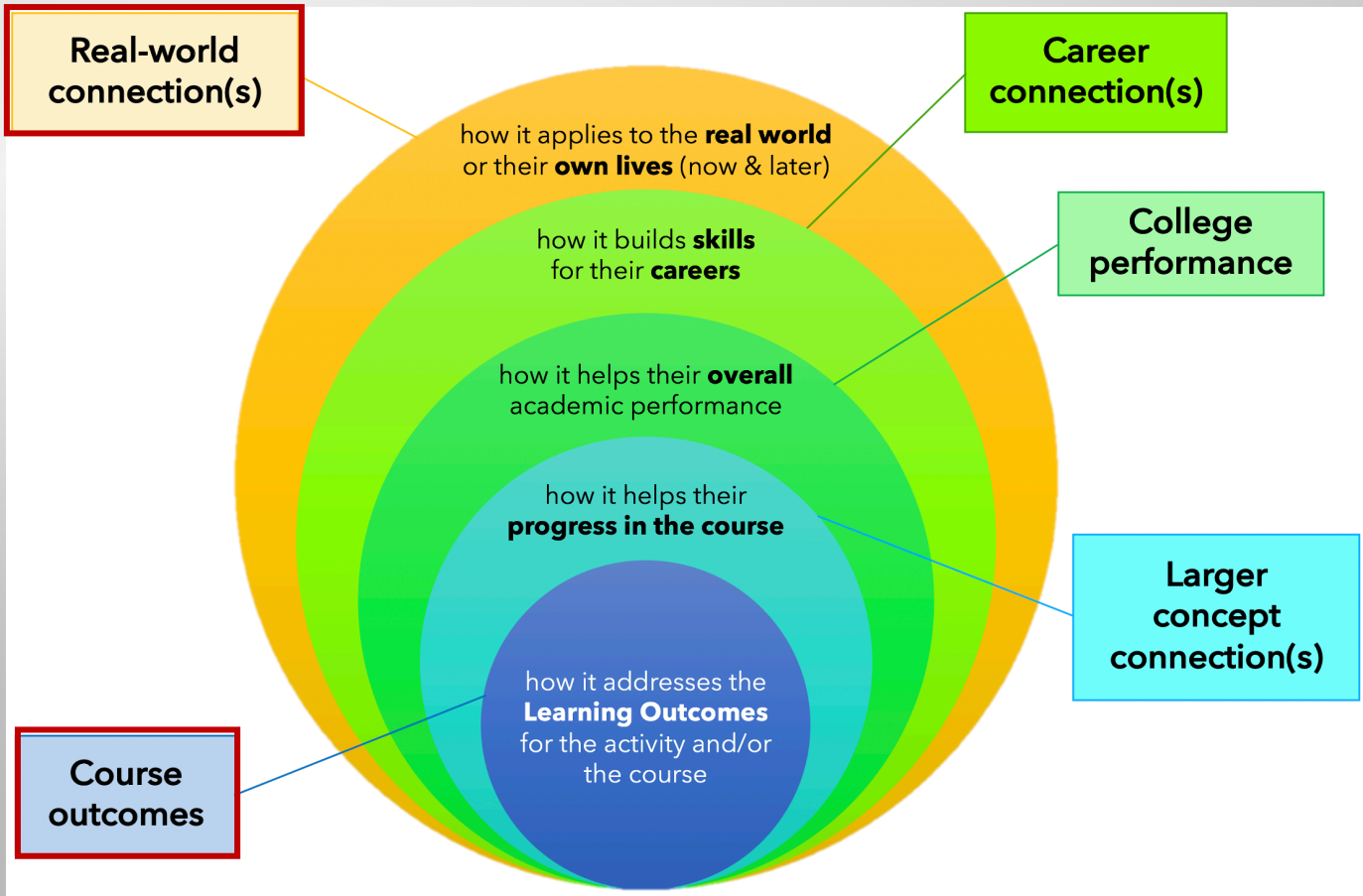


What common questions do students ask about how to succeed or get an A?
(Write your answer in the chat.)

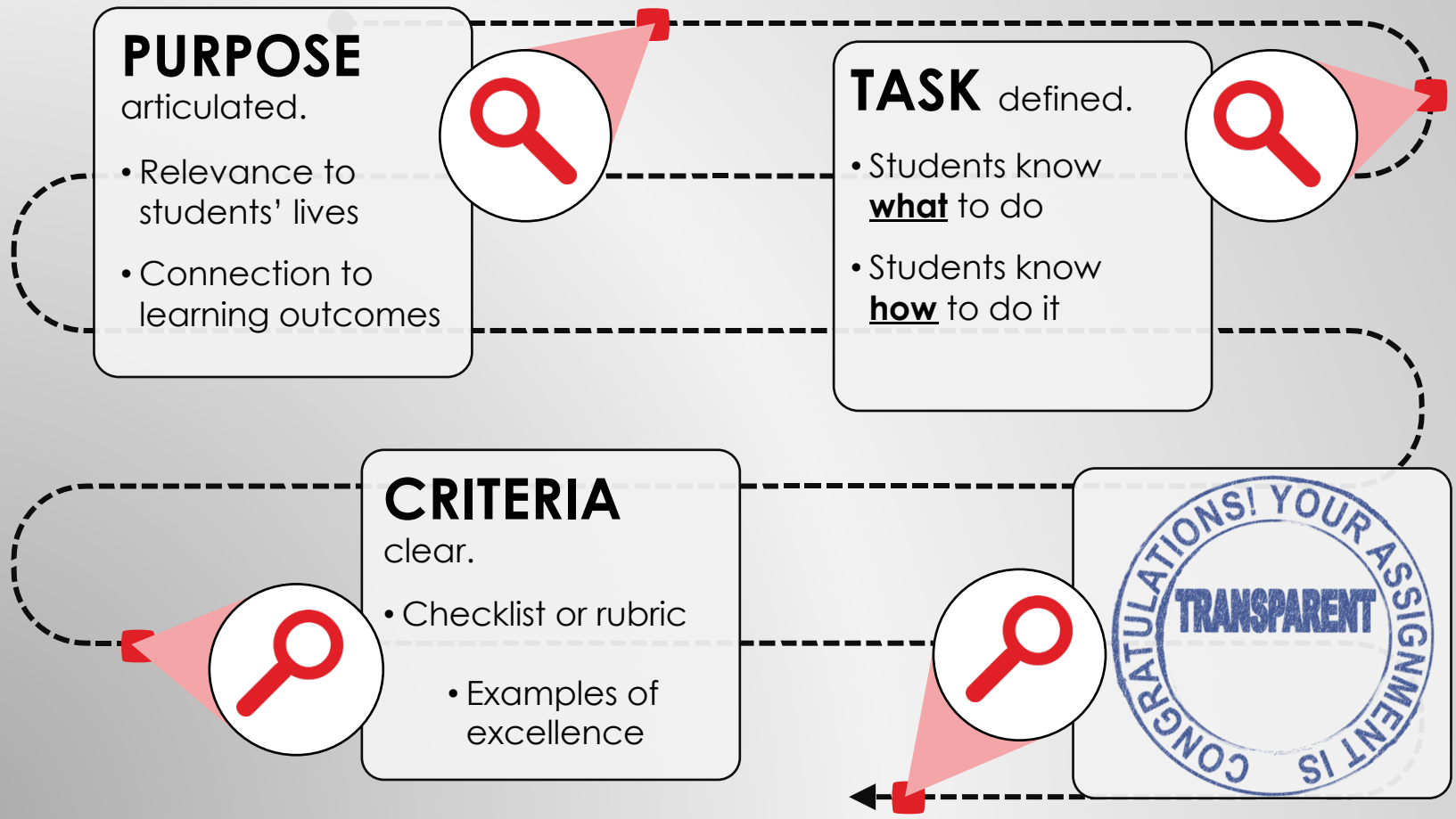
What makes an assignment transparent?



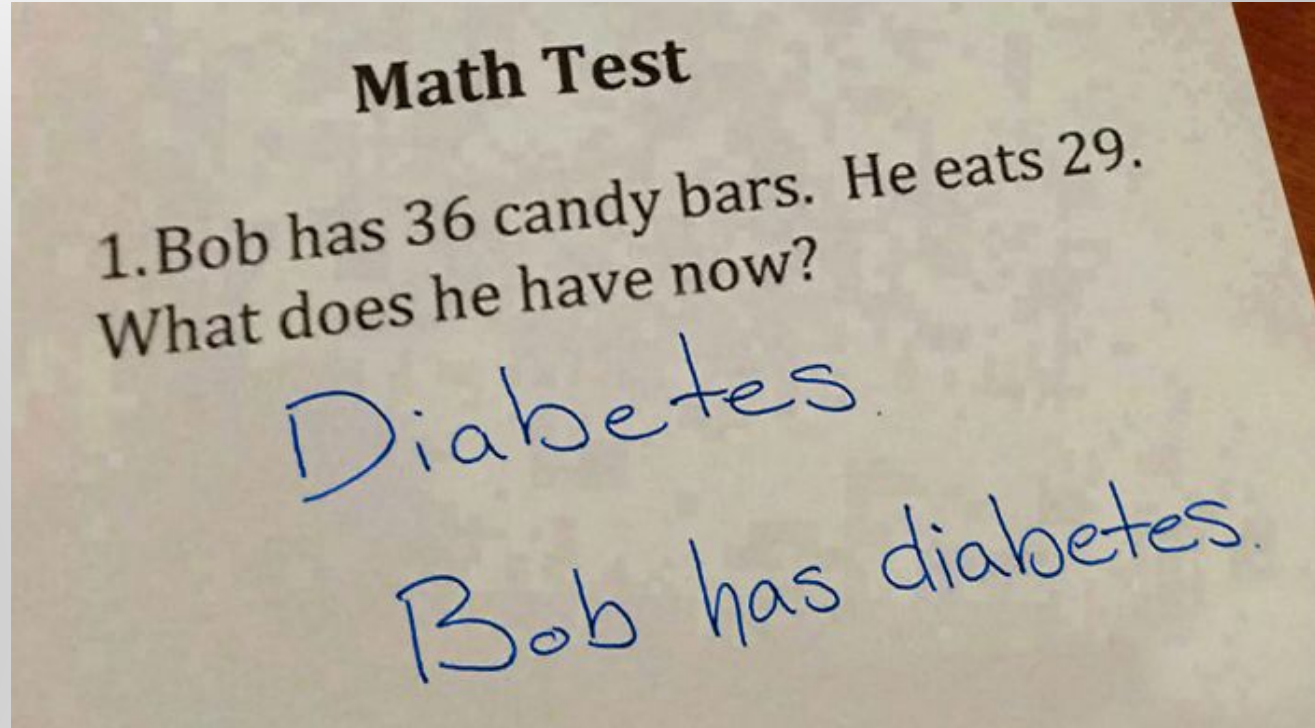
What makes an assignment transparent?



What makes an assignment transparent?



Based on the transparency criteria, how transparent do you think your assignments are at the moment?



Assignment example

ENGL 1101 (*Less transparent example*)

Objective: Students will demonstrate proficiency with the narrative mode, the four major grammar errors, and purpose and development.

Directions: Students will write an essay of no fewer than 400 words that tells a story of an experience they have had with a particular social problem. Think about the essays covered in class. The essay will be graded using the Narrative Rubric.

Tips: Essays should

- be focused on a single problem or issue and the narrative should be organized around an attempt to relate an experience with issue or problem to the reader.
- be chronologically sound and should focus on a single instance or incident.
- be well-developed and should feature relevant details.
- be edited carefully.
- adhere to MLA formatting (*Harbrace Essentials*).

Due Date: Sunday, 5 February at midnight. **All submissions must be made through Vista, as attachments (.doc, .docx, or .rtf). Please save all files using the following convention: Firstinitial_Lastname_assignment (An example for John Doe: J_Doe_Essay1.docx)**

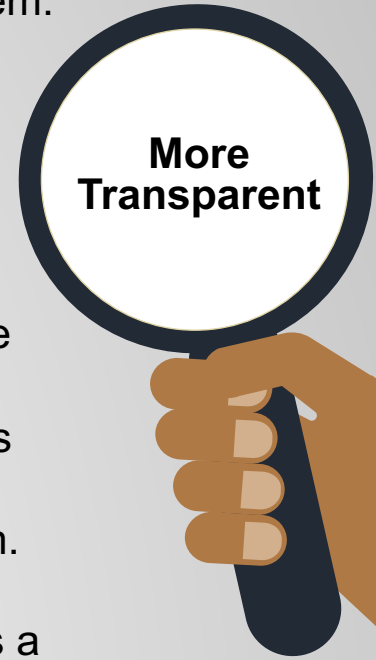


Transparent assignment example

ENGL 1101 (*more transparent example*)

Objectives: Students will write a narrative that identifies a specific local problem. Students will proofread and edit texts and correct errors in mechanics and grammar in accordance with standard written English. Students will recognize and utilize the elements of effective writing including active voice, concrete nouns, precise word choice, strong verbs, and use of descriptive details.

Purpose: Your purpose for this narrative is to tell a compelling story that introduces us to a particular localized problem. Stories are essential to how we learn and how we make change in the world around us. When you address a problem in life, you often do that by telling a story that frames the issue. This is important for establishing logos, ethos, and pathos of your work. Being able to tell a story about a problem can be one of the first steps in solving the problem. Telling a story can allow you to collect data about and analyze the problem. Telling a story can allow you to solicit help and to ensure that the problem gets a voice, whether the problem is a malfunctioning vehicle, an issue at your child's school, or a local ordinance that you want to see addressed. Tell us a story about a problem in your community.



Transparent assignment example

ENGL 1101 (*more transparent example continued*)

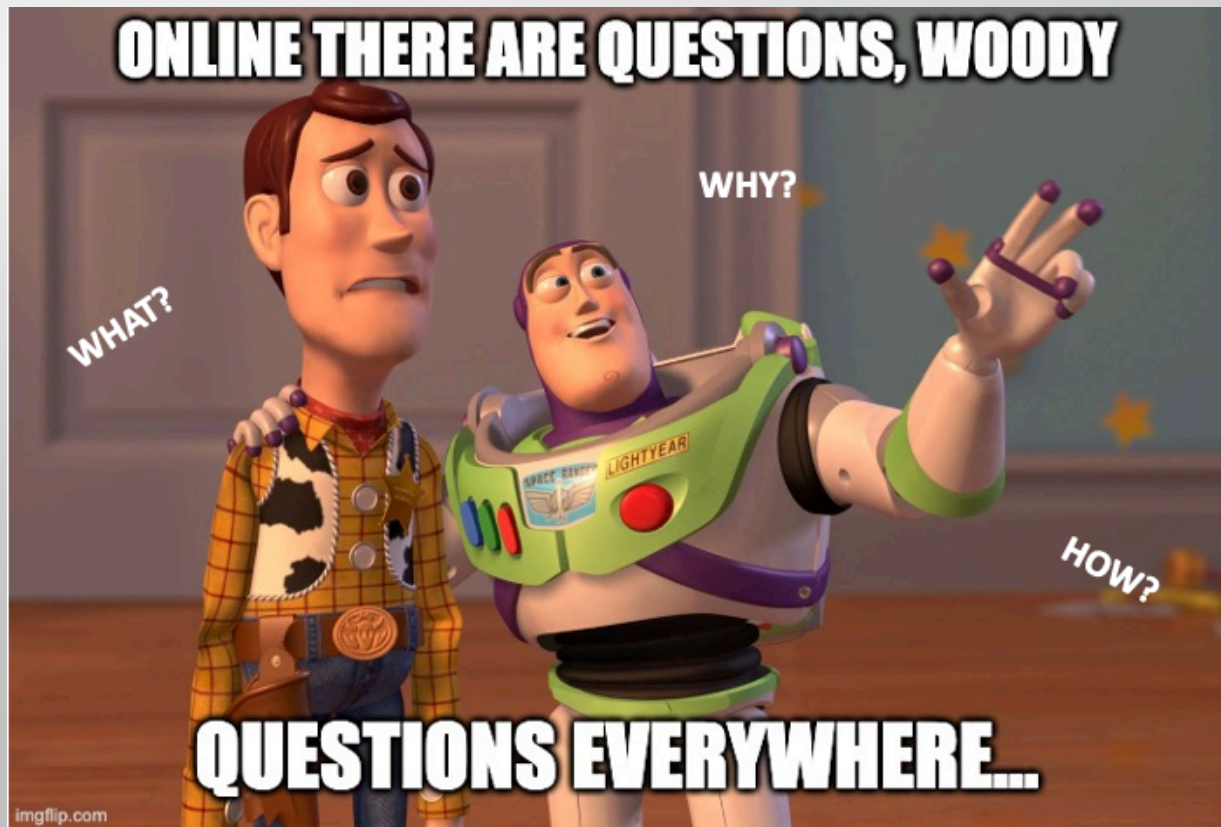
Task: Students will write an essay of roughly 400-750 words that tells a story of an experience they have had with a particular problem in their local context (in their community or area). Essays should be focused on a single problem or issue and the narrative should be organized around an attempt to relate an experience with issue or problem to the reader. Essays should focus on a single event or a set of related events. Essays should feature relevant details and that make certain aspects of the story matter. Essays should be edited carefully. Essays should adhere to MLA formatting. Please save all files using the following convention: Firstinitial_Lastname_assignment. (An example for John Doe: J_Doe_Essay1.docx)

Criteria:

The essay will be graded using the Narrative Rubric (linked document). Please see the examples linked in the rubric. Successful essays will 1) identify the problem, 2) show a clear purpose for the story, and 3) feature relevant details that are organized in a clear pattern.



Why is it even more important online?



Online Assignment Review

Breakout session:

Identify opportunities to make your own assignment more transparent.

Non-existent	Emerging	Transparent
Dinosaurs, Loch Ness Monster, & merit raises	Getting there—but not there yet.	Nailed it!

Please refer to the Transparent Assignment Rubric (linked in chat window).

**Think back to
your online
assignment.**

**What could you
modify to make
it fully
transparent?**



Peer Review, 2016

AAC&U and *TILT* Higher Ed Collaboration with 7 minority-serving institutions, 1800 students, & 35 faculty:

- 425 first-generation students
- 402 non-white students
- 479 low-income students
- 297 multiracial students

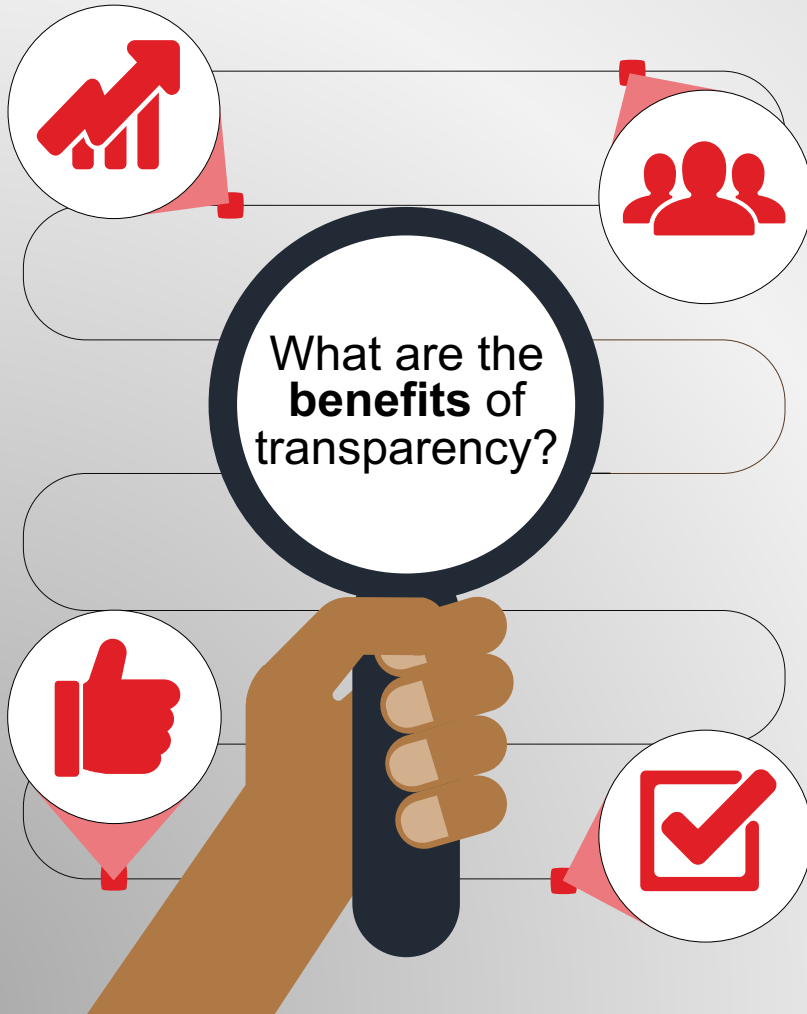
Faculty made just **TWO** assignments transparent.

RESULTS

Increases in

- Academic **confidence**
- Sense of **belonging**
- **Skills** valued by employers
- Student **retention**
- GPAs

(Winkelmes et al., 2016; Winkelmes, Tapp, & Boye, 2019)



Envision the future





Photo credit: Ave Calvar on Unsplash

Questions?

References

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TILT Higher Ed Project: <https://tilthighered.com/>