

**DIVISION**  
**or**  
**CLASSIFICATION**  
**ESSAY**

# PREWRITING



# PREWRITING

- o Decide upon which side of the coin you will focus.

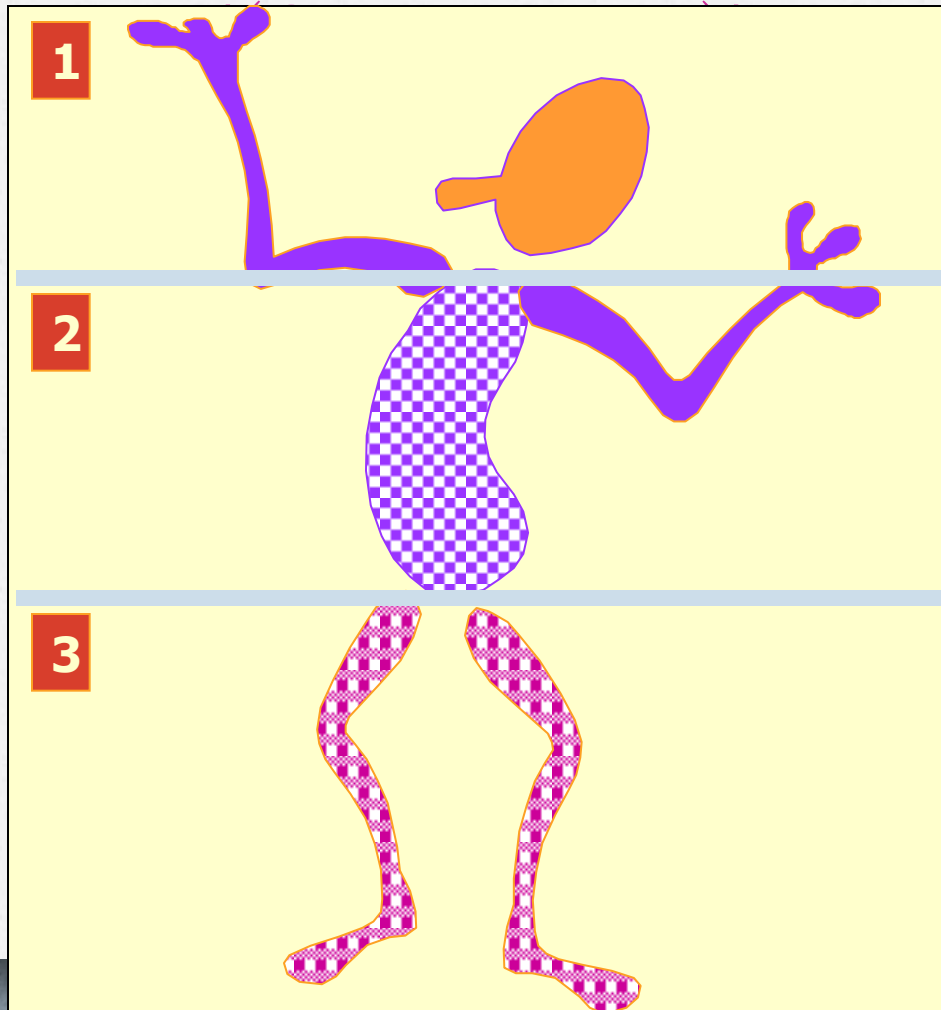


- o That is, decide whether you will divide OR classify your subjects.



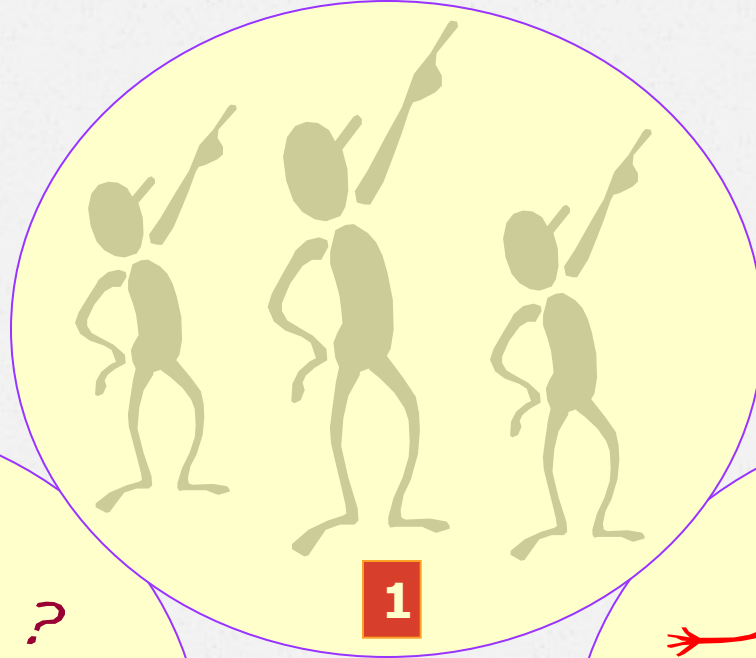


# DIVISION

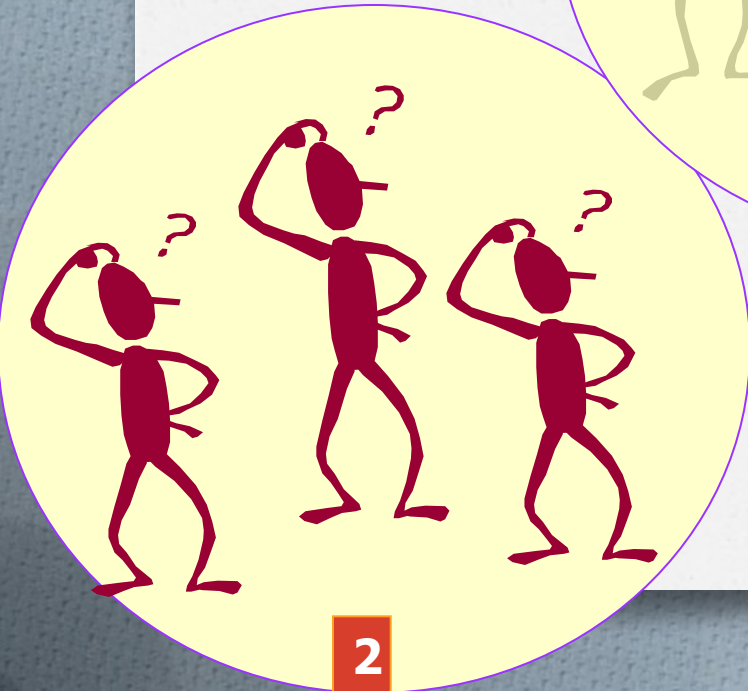


# CLASSIFICATION

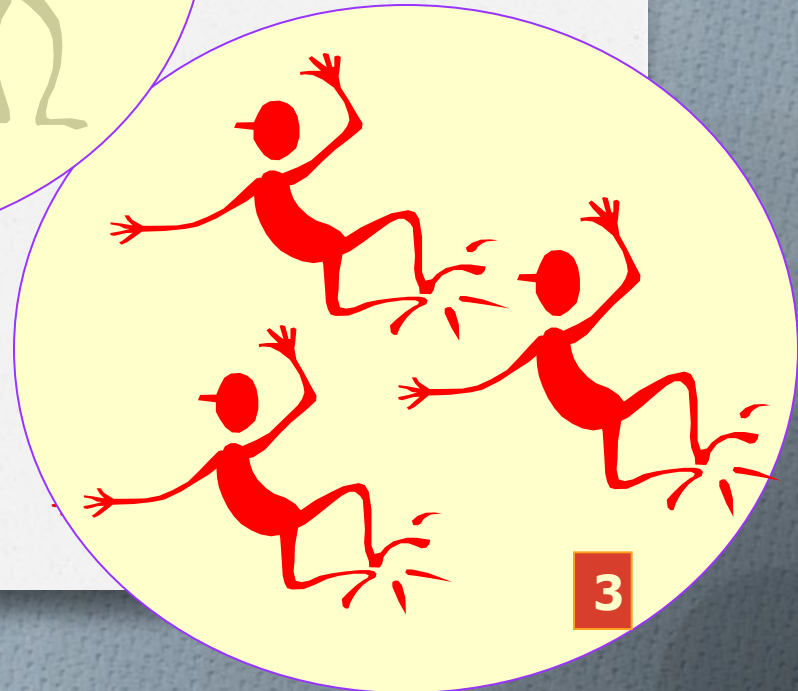
\*(MANY into GROUPS)\*



1



2



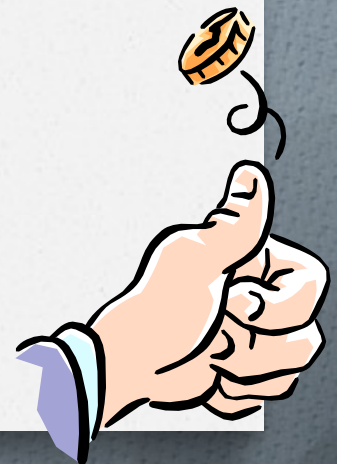
3

# **DO NOT DO BOTH!**

**\*Divide one subject into 3 parts/subgroups  
OR  
Classify many subjects into 3 groups/types.**

**\*This is only a 3-4-page paper;  
thus, we do not have the room to  
perform both tasks.**

**\*Focus your energy on one.**





# **PREWRITING**

- (1) Choose between division OR classification.**
- (2) Select a topic about which you know a good deal.**
- (3) Brainstorm many subgroups OR types.**
- (4) Chose the 3 *most significant/prevalent* subgroups OR types that will be the focus of your essay.**
- (5) Draft a *detailed* outline of this essay following the outline template.**

# TITLE



# TITLE(1)

TOPIC + MAIN IDEA

- o Name your **Topic\***
- o Clearly identify the **Rhetorical Mode \***
- o Be as **Specific** as possible regarding your topic
- o Reference your **Emphatic Order**

The **Three Most Annoying** **Types of Co-Workers** at Super Max Grocery Store

# INTRODUCTION

# INTRODUCTION (1)

## PURPOSE

- o **The PROMPT:**
- o Use the given prompt, in some form or another
- o Some generalization about the broad subject:
  - EDUCATION
  - WORK
  - TRAVEL & LEISURE
- o This will address the next 2 slides....



# INTRODUCTION (1)

## PURPOSE

- o **SO WHAT?!**
- o **What importance does this D/C system have for the reader?**
- o **Create a relevant *scenario* (see Process Essay).**
  - assistance/help for the reader
  - insight into human nature
  - revelation regarding US society
  - personal favorite
  - effects of the roles/types
  - messages sent by roles/types
  - lessons learned from roles/types

# INTRODUCTION (2)

## AUDIENCE

- o To whom are you writing?
- o For whom are you writing this D/C system?
- o Audience → Purpose
  - Determination of *whom* your are addressing will assist you in your selection of *why* you are writing
  - classmates
  - college students
  - co-workers
  - friends
  - general reader

# INTRODUCTION (3)

## NUMBERS

### o NUMBER of ROLES or TYPES =

- **3** Body paragraphs

- the **3** most ...

- relevant,
- prevalent,
- numerous,
- favorite,
- least preferred,
- annoying,
- pleasant, ...





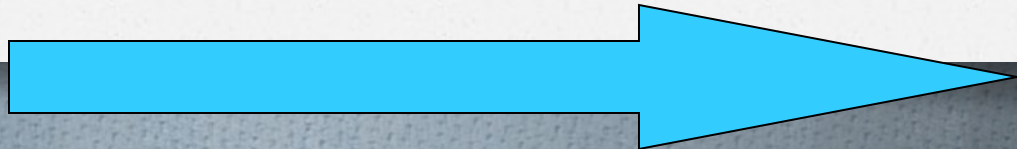
# INTRODUCTION (4)

## NUMBERS

- o **HOWEVER, life, especially the life of a college freshman, is much too complex to be reduced to 3.**



- o **Therefore, because of the infinite possibilities of roles or types regarding any given topic, AND**
- o **because the variables will be too numerous for a 3-4-page essay, ....**



# INTRODUCTION (5)

## \*TIP YOUR HAT:

- o You can mention *additional* types/roles that exist concerning your topic:
  - the minor ones
  - that you will *not* write on
  - that did *not* “make the cut”



# INTRODUCTION (5)

## \*TIP YOUR HAT:

- o Mention that *other* roles/types exist beyond those you have chosen, and mention them as items in a series:
  - “Some I remember were the nerd, the freak, and the geek. However, the three most common types of students I saw at George W. Bush High School were the slacker, the hacker, and the attacker.”





# INTRODUCTION (6)

## \*TIP YOUR HAT:

- o By “tipping your hat” to the others,
  - By mentioning that other possibilities exist,
  - By transitioning to your chosen 3,
- o You prove you’ve carefully considered this
- o You answer the vital question of purpose:

*Why these three?*



# INTRODUCTION (6)

## \*TIP YOUR HAT:

*Why these three?*

- \* This forces you to specify why you chose the 3 on which you will write.  
(the *most common, annoying, pleasant, ...*)
- \* Readers now clearly understand your rationale for writing on these 3 roles/types.
- \* They understand your purpose.



# INTRODUCTION (7)

## NAMES

### o NAME the ROLES or TYPES in your THESIS

- “The Johnny-come-lately” type of customer
- “The Hitlerian type of boss”
- “The I-wanna-be-your-friend type of professor”
- **Be ORIGINAL. Be CREATIVE. BUT...**  
***Please do not insult anyone.***



# INTRODUCTION (8)

## o Generalize:

- *Everybody has a **hobby** with which to occupy his/her spare time. Some people enjoy playing sports, like running, basketball, and hockey, and others prefer non-physical recreation, such as chess and painting.*

# INTRODUCTION (8)

## o Then narrow towards you:

- *While I , personally, enjoy all of these, my favorite hobby is playing **video games**. As a matter of fact, my bedroom is littered with all types of games, **from sports to superhero games**.*

# INTRODUCTION (8)

## o Lastly comes your thesis:

- However, *my favorite types* of video games include *the blow “stuff” up games, kill through the eyes of the assassin games, and live somebody else’s life games.*



**BODY**

# BODY (1)

- o DIVISION: split 1 into many
  - (*roles, sub-groups, subdivisions*)
- o CLASSIFICATION: group many into 1
  - (*types, classes, groups, cliques*)
- o DIVIDE or CLASSIFY \*\*

*\*do NOT do both\**

# BODY (2)

\*\*\* IN EACH BODY PARAGRAPH\*\*\*

- 1) NAME the type (**Type-Name**)
- 2) EXPLAIN or define the type (**Type-Traits**)
- 3) ILLUSTRATE the type with a specific person
- 4) REITERATE the type name, by relating the example to the type



# BC

\*\*\* IN

1) NAME

2) EXPLANATION

3) ILLUSTRATION

4) REITERATION

- Do **NOT** start the para. with the Example
- that makes an **ILLUSTRATION** (Example) Essay
- ***instead*** of a Classification Essay
- which means **automatic failure**
- so ... start with the **TYPE**

# BODY (3)

## 1) NAME

- o in a Topic Sentence (or transitional sentence), name the type/subgroup
- o repeat part of your thesis sentence (“types of customers that annoy me”)
- o *One type of customer that annoys me is the Johnny-come-lately.*
- o *While the “What’s that Pat” and the “Gimme more Thor” are two types of infuriating customers, the most annoying type is the “Time to Leave Steve.”*

# BODY (4)

## 2) EXPLAIN

- o Then, briefly describe the traits of the type or subgroup .
- o In a word, *define* the type/subgroup.
- o *This type of customer is typified by stupid questions and a bad smell.*
- o *As the name implies, this type of customer decides to shop for a complete order five minutes before the store closes.*



# BODY (5)

## 3) ILLUSTRATE

- o Lastly, and most importantly, give *specific* **EXAMPLES** of the type/subgroup
  - o Use transitions such “For example” and “For instance” to set up your illustration.
  - o *For example, last Friday night, this obnoxious adolescent strolled in near closing time and.....*
  - o Then go into detail describing the incident.
- 
- \* Don't end paragraph with generalizations that introduce new traits/ideas—keep **DEDUCTIVE** order (G→S)
  - \* Generalize only to transition to next trait/paragraph

# BODY: OVERVIEW

TOPIC

ROLE/TYPE #1

NAME

EXPLAIN

ILLUSTRATE

ROLE/TYPE #2

NAME

EXPLAIN

ILLUSTRATE

ROLE/TYPE #3

NAME

EXPLAIN

ILLUSTRATE

# BODY · OVERVIEW

## FAVORITE TYPES OF MOVIES

### TYPE #1

Intelligent  
Thriller

Specific  
Traits

Scene(s) from  
*Identity*

### TYPE #2

Kung Fu Action

Specific  
Traits

Scene(s) from  
*Kill Bill*

### TYPE #3

Fictionalized  
Reality

Specific  
Traits

Scene(s) from  
*Beautiful Mind*



# BODY: SPECIFICITY

- o \* To *illustrate* the characteristics of each type/part, use
  - o *clear, relevant, effective, telling, and specific*
- EXAMPLES:

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES  
DESCRIPTIVE DETAILS  
RELEVANT ANECDOTES

# BODY: SPECIFICITY

- o \* After you have **named** and briefly **explained** the type or subgroup, you must then fully and clearly **illustrate** it *with specific examples*.
- o \* Because of this concrete level of specificity, this will be the longest part of the paragraph: onion-shaped

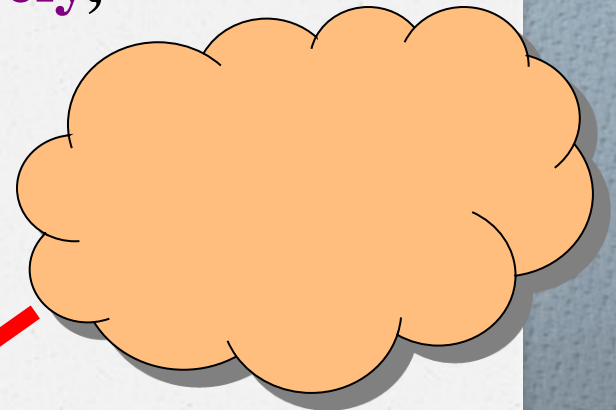
**SPECIFIC People**  
**in SPECIFIC Situations**  
**acting like those traits you just described**

# BODY: SPECIFICITY

- o To *illustrate* properly & effectively,
- o Move from the **ABSTRACT**
- o to the **CONCRETE**



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# BODY: SPECIFICITY

## \* LEVEL of SPECIFICITY:

- o Take us to a *concrete* level of specificity:
- o As best you can, be:
  - specific, particular,
  - explicit, illustrative,
  - descriptive, detailed,
  - expressive, meticulous, thorough
- o Show us a CLIP (highlight, scene):
  - a *specific person* (i.e.) acting in the manner you have described—



# BODY: SPECIFICITY

## \* LEVEL of SPECIFICITY:

- o Do **NOT** just mention that Psycho, The Exorcist, and Jaws are examples of the *intelligent horror movie*
  - one of your 3 favorite movie genres.

**NO LISTS!!!**

# BODY: SPECIFICITY

## \* LEVEL of SPECIFICITY:

- o That is to say, after naming and explaining your type or subgroup, do **NOT** simply write:

**“Psycho, The Exorcist, and Jaws are prime examples of the intelligent horror movie.”**

- o Lists are **NOT** illustrative.
- o Plus, *what if we've never seen them?!*



# BODY: SPECIFICITY

## \* LEVEL of SPECIFICITY:

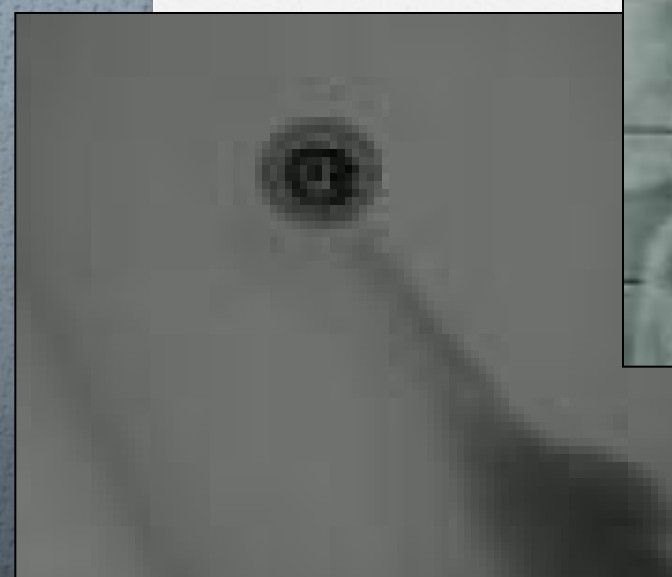
- o Rather, explain *in detail* how one of them fits the characteristics you have supplied;
- o *Instead* of ending with a list, continue your paragraph by *concisely explaining* how Psycho is the prototypical intelligent thriller due to its content.



Use a SPECIFIC SCENE that clearly illustrates the previously mentioned traits.



# PSYCHO's "Shower Scene"



# BODY: Grammatical Points

## o POV=1<sup>st</sup> PERSON

- (“I”) because it’s *YOUR* D/C system

## o WHO vs. THAT:

- “who” refers to people (“this is the type of customer *who*....”)
- “that” refers to inanimate objects & animals (“this is the type of car *that*....”)

## o ORDER/COHERENCE:

- save the “**most**” for **LAST** (& say so)
- the most numerous, common, prevalent, annoying, ....
- (“**Emphatic Order**”)



# BODY: *Grammatical Points*

## o PRONOUN REFERENCE:

- when applicable, make your term (role, type) plural

## o TRANSITIONS: to build coherence (links in a chain),

- the topic sentence of each Body paragraph should look *back* AND look *ahead*:
  - BACK to the previous paragraph/s and AHEAD to the one it starts
- “After that type of X, there is the Y type.”
- “Although I often see the fool and dolt types of students on campus, the most prevalent type of student at Whatsamatter U. is the stooge.”

# BODY (13)

- o Hopefully, you have noticed by now that each essay, in addition to its own unique characteristics, includes elements from the other rhetorical strategies;
- o The D/C essay is no exception, for it possesses subtle elements of CONTRAST insofar that you must make each subdivision/type distinct from the others (through direct verbalization & illustrative examples) ...
- o Plus, DESCRIPTION, NARRATION, & EXAMPLE

# CONCLUSION



# CONCLUSION

o Bring the essay full-circle:

- consult your Introduction, but do not repeat it word for word.
- refer to your opening generalization or scenario



# CONCLUSION



- o **Restate purpose and thesis**
- o **Mention that other types/subdivisions exist, but you chose only the 3 most common (i.e.)**
- o **Reiterate your 3 types/subgroups and the main points concerning each**
- o **Wrap it up with a Clincher Sentence (perhaps related to your purpose)**







Division  
VS  
Classification



# Division VS Classification

## o SUB:

- o Subgroups
- o Subdivisions
- o Roles
- o Parts
- o Fraction
- o Component
- o Section

## o PURPOSE:

- o To divide, separate, segregate, split, partition one item into its significant parts.

## o TYPES:

- o Groups
- o Categories
- o Kinds
- o Collections
- o Clusters
- o Styles
- o Varieties
- o Classes

## o PURPOSE:

- o To collect, organize, categorize, catalog diverse items into recognizable groups or types.



**Classification Essay**  
**VS**  
**Example Essay**

# Classification Essay VS Example Essay

o **TYPES** (*types of*)

o **Classification System**

o **BODY STRUCTURE:**

o 3 Body paragraphs

o 3 types

o Each supported by:

o examples

o description, narration

o **PURPOSE:**

o To notice the similarities between separate items & then group them based upon such criteria

o To illustrate the shared traits of each type/group through description, narration, and/or example

o **EMPHATIC ORDER**

o **REASONS** (*reasons for, examples of*)

o **Argument/Claim**

o **BODY STRUCTURE:**

o 3 Body paragraphs

o 3 reasons

o Each supported by:

o examples

o description, narration

o **PURPOSE:**

o To use examples to reason/argue, explain, clarify, convince, persuade, prove a point, support a claim

o To illustrate each reason/point with clear, relevant examples in the form of description, narration, and/or example

o **EMPHATIC ORDER**



# TOPICS

# TOPICS

- o **The following illustrate approaches to this essay**
  - (ways you can Divide or Classify)
- o **If no topics are given, then these may be used.**

# TOPICS: Division

(subgroups, roles, parts, subdivisions)



1 item  
into  
many  
parts

- o **Robert De Niro/Meryl Streep Acting Styles**
- o **Degrees of Murder**
- o **Divide Wife/Husband into 3 Roles, Roles of Motherhood, boy/girlfriend, sister/brother**
- o **Holy Trinity (how each is different), 3-fold goddess of Wicca**
- o **Roles You Play during a Given Day**
- o **Roles Your Pet Plays in Your Family**
- o **\*Roles your technology plays (phone, computer, car)**



# TOPICS: Classification

*(kinds, types, groups, categories)*

## o ENTERTAINMENT:

- movies genres, movie-goers, television shows, music styles/genres, concert-goers, computers, educational technology or software
- most common today, least preferred, favorites

## o SPORTS:

- NBA rookies, mountain bikers, runners, bowlers, professional athletes, weekend warriors, drivers, fans

## o PERSONAL:

- friends, boy/girlfriends, relationships, couples
- classification of video games (ex: fighting games)



several  
items  
grouped  
into  
categories

# TOPICS: Classification

*(continued)*

## o SCHOOL:

- teachers, students, exams, activities

## o WORK:

- bosses, co-workers, customers,
- jobs you have had, jobs in a particular field

## o VEHICLES:

- SUV's, minivans, sports cars, European, owners, drivers, passengers
- in LCCC parking lot, in your driveway, in PA, in USA

## o ANIMALS/PETS:

- cats, dogs, birds
- politicians, dieters

# TOPICS: Classification

*(continued)*

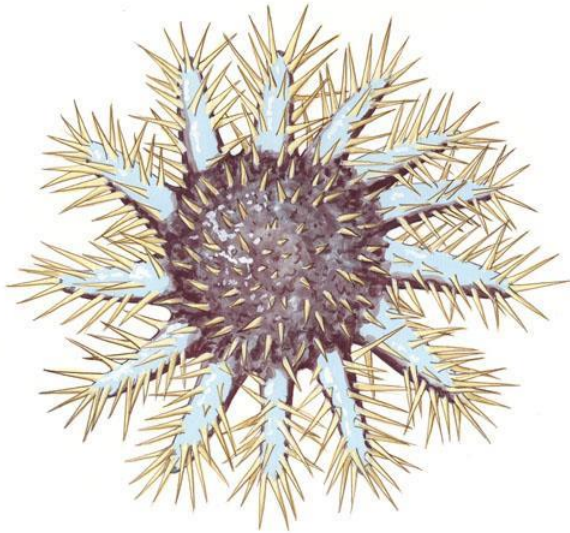
## o \*TECHNOLOGY:

- Cell Phones
- Cell Phone plans, companies
- Cell Phone users
- Cell Phone accessories, ring tones
- Computers
- Computer users, Internet providers, Web sites
- Computer accessories, games, software, hardware
- Televisions
- Television watchers, channels
- Television cable providers, accessories



**DIVISION**  
**and**  
**CLASSIFICATION**  
**in the**  
**SCIENCES**

# DIVISION: STARFISH

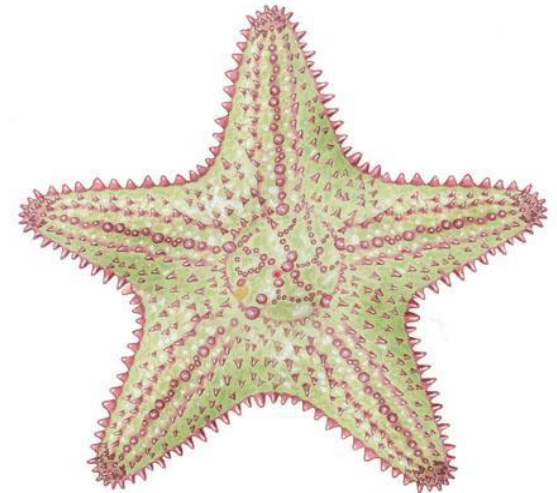


crown-of-thorns starfish  
*Acanthaster planci*

UNIVERSITY of  
MICHIGAN MUSEUM of  
ZOOLOGY



blue starfish  
*Linckia laevigata*



cushion sea star  
*Oreaster reticulatus*

**KINGDOM:** Animalia  
**PHYLUM:**  
Echinodermata  
**SUBCLASS:**  
Asteroidea



# CLASSIFICATION: ORDERS of MAMMALS



**minke whale**



**pallid bat**

**Kingdom**

**Phylum**

**Class**

**Order**

**Family**



**white-faced capuchin**



**CLASSIFICATION**  
**THROUGH**  
**SONG**

## TYPES of COUPLES: BILLY JOEL "A Matter Of Trust"

**Some** love is just a lie of the heart  
The cold remains of what began with a  
passionate start  
And they may not want it to end  
But it will it's just a question of when  
**I've** lived long enough to have learned  
The closer you get to the fire the more you  
get burned  
But that won't happen to us  
Because it's always been a matter of trust  
I know **you're** an emotional girl  
It took a lot for you to not lose your faith in  
this world  
I can't offer you proof  
But you're going to face a moment of truth  
It's hard when you're always afraid  
You just recover when another belief is  
betrayed  
So break my heart if you must  
It's a matter of trust  
You can't go the distance  
With too much resistance  
I know you have doubts  
But for God's sake don't shut me out



**This time** you've got nothing to lose  
You can take it, you can leave it  
Whatever you choose  
I won't hold back anything  
And I'll walk a way a fool or a king  
**Some** love is just a lie of the mind  
It's make believe until its only a matter of  
time  
And **some** might have learned to adjust  
But then it never was a matter of trust  
I'm sure you're aware love  
We've both had our share of  
Believing too long  
When the whole situation was wrong  
**Some** love is just a lie of the soul  
A constant battle for the ultimate state of  
control  
After you've heard lie upon lie  
There can hardly be a question of why  
**Some** love is just a lie of the heart  
The cold remains of what began with a  
passionate start  
But that can't happen to us  
Because it's always been a matter of trust

## Billy Joel's "An Innocent Man"

**Some people** stay far away from the door  
If there's a chance of it opening up  
They hear a voice in the hall outside  
And hope that it just passes by

**Some people** live with the fear of a touch  
And the anger of having been a fool  
They will not listen to anyone  
So nobody tells them a lie

I know you're only protecting yourself  
I know you're thinking of somebody else  
Someone who hurt you  
But I'm not above  
Making up for the love  
You've been denying you could ever feel  
I'm not above doing anything  
To restore your faith if I can

**Some people** see through the eyes of the old  
Before they ever get a look at the young  
I'm only willing to hear you cry  
Because I am an innocent man  
I am an innocent man  
Oh yes I am

**Some people** say they will never believe  
Another promise they hear in the dark  
Because they only remember too well  
They heard somebody tell them before

**Some people** sleep all alone every night  
Instead of taking a lover to bed  
Some people find that it's easier to hate  
Than to wait anymore

I know you don't want to hear what I say  
I know you're gonna keep turning away  
But I've been there and if I can survive  
I can keep you alive  
I'm not above going through it again  
I've not above being cool for a while  
If you're cruel to me I'll understand

**Some people** run from a possible fight  
**Some people** figure they can never win  
And although this is a fight I can lose  
The accused is an innocent man  
I am an innocent man  
Oh yes I am  
An innocent man

You know you only hurt yourself out of spite  
I guess you'd rather be a martyr tonight  
That's your decision  
But I'm not below  
Anybody I know  
If there's a chance of resurrecting a love  
I'm not above going back to the start  
To find out where the heartache began

**Some people** hope for a miracle cure  
**Some people** just accept the world as it is  
But I'm not willing to lay down and die  
Because I am an innocent man

I am an innocent man  
Oh yes I am  
An innocent man



## Brooks & Dunn's "Good Girls Go To Heaven"

**Some** girls go to church on  
Sunday  
Live life by the golden rule  
You got **girls** gonna graduate one  
day  
Summa cum laude from party  
school

**Some** they walk the straight and  
narrow

**Some** girls they just don't care

**Good** girls go to heaven

**Bad** girls go everywhere

**Some** girls are into heavy metal  
Dance with the devil everywhere  
they go

**Others** of 'em cut a rug to the  
fiddle

Dance to the rhythm of the cotton  
eyed Joe

(chorus)

**Miss high-faluting** likes to sip fine  
champagne

Prim and proper drippin' in  
diamond rings

**Little sister** wears high heels and  
blue jeans

A long neck drinkin' certified wild  
thang

(chorus)

**Good** girls go to heaven

**Bad** girls go everywhere



# HALLOWEEN

or any Holiday

## TYPES OF

- o Candy
- o Costumes
- o Masks
- o Mischief
- o Houses
- o Props, Decorations, Accessories
- o Parties
- o Folklore, Superstitions, Traditions  
(apply to *any* holiday)



**END**