

Week 8 Homework
“The Banks of the Sacramento”

A. Read the short story “The Banks of the Sacramento” by Jack London.

B. Find and list at least four different ways Young Jerry behaved in an adult manner. Explain why and how his behavior demonstrated maturity.

C. Brainstorm *one* of the following essay prompts:

1) What makes a person an adult? Is it behavior or age? If behavior, what types? If age, at what age does a person become an adult?

2) Should teenagers be allowed to work, or should they wait to get a job until they are through with their education? Consider the advantages and risks.

Write a thesis statement for the prompt using the Week 8 Brainstorming and Thesis Form.

*** Keep a copy of your brainstorming and thesis statement, as well as your leads, for you will need it to complete next week’s homework.**

D. Download the “Create Effective Leads” worksheet. Fill in the thesis you created on the Brainstorming and Thesis Form and then write three *different* leads (refer to the “Effective Leads for Expository Essays” handout I gave you in class) for the one thesis statement.

E. Poetry: Compose sentences based on **three** phrases below. Use imagery (a visual description) to paint a picture of what you see. Don’t just rephrase the images, but use unusual and creative ways of looking at the phrases. *Examples: The movement of a cat is “a pool of cat slides off the stairs” (Emily Clark from *The Roar on the Other Side*). *The boy’s hair stuck straight up* is “his hair stood at attention like soldiers at morning drill.” Be creative.*

1. The sound of a bird in the underbrush
2. The movement of a squirrel
3. The crowd after a game when its team wins
4. An early spring morning
5. Boots on the mat coming in from the snow
6. The wagging of a dog’s tail
7. The street light on a fall evening
8. Rain on the window

F. Vocabulary:

Consternation— bewilderment

Erratic— irregular

Fathomless— too deep to measure

Irresolute— indecisive

Quell— suppress