

Prank Assignment

Now Due Tuesday, 11/20 by 11:59pm

As we progress deeper into the topic of humor we will think a lot about humor's relationship with morality. *What kinds of social or political benefits does humor afford? What does a sense of humor reveal about our moral character?*

To help orient us to these really big problems your task is to perform a prank and submit a 2-page reflection paper. You may work individually or in groups, *however all members must participate in the prank itself and each person needs to submit their own essay*. While I trust your judgment and leave the prank entirely up to you, I suggest forming an intention before you plan your prank. Proper planning and anticipation of reactions makes for better pranks.

The 3 “Don’ts”

1. Don't seriously harm or threaten to seriously harm, physically or emotionally, any sentient beings.
2. Don't break the law.
3. Don't do anything that would get you expelled *or me fired*.

Guidelines

- Use 12-point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1-inch margins (sometimes the default on Microsoft Word is 1.25 inches—be sure to change this)
- Some may not need to cite sources, but if you wish to cite sources please use MLA format:
 - http://library.csun.edu/egarcia/documents/mlacitation_quickguide.pdf
- Avoid *lengthy* quotes—no page filler please
- Pick a unique title (*not* “Prank Assignment”)—that would be really boring
- Submit your essay through Canvas under the “Assignments” tab

The Reflection Paper

- Explain your prank and your intention behind it.
 - Why did you pick this prank and what were your expectations? How did the audience and target(s) of the prank react? If you worked in a group, then explain who did what.
- How should we evaluate a prank?
 - What makes a prank successful? What is the difference between a good prank and a bad one? How does your prank compare to the criteria you just established?
- Do you see a connection between enjoying your prank and one's moral character? Why or why not?
- Overall, how satisfied are you with your prank? Is there a social benefit to pranks or stirring up chaos in general? Explain your reasoning.