**Comparison-Contrast Essay**

This assignment allows you to develop your own thesis based on a conclusion you derive from data analysis of the survey responses. Due to the large amount of information, you must be selective and only use that which is useful to support your point. If you decide you want to focus, for example, on comparing and contrasting American and Taiwanese students’ view of *community*, you would focus your attention on survey areas such as “Word Association” #4 and #6, “Sentence Completion” #1 and #3, and perhaps “Situations” #6. These are examples. You can pull any material from any category that helps support your point. Maybe you just want to focus on the views towards *police* in the different countries. “Word Association” #1, possibly “Sentence Completion” # 3, and “Situations” #6 will give you enough material to support your observations.

To determine your thesis, you’ll first need to look at a large cross section of the responses from both Taiwanese and American students. I suggest your reading over various categories of responses before choosing an area of focus: just see what you discover. There’s a lot of good material here and you may be amused and surprised by what you find. Your thesis, most likely, will characterize a basic difference in the two groups—a difference you will support with data drawn from the surveys. It’s possible that you could argue the two groups are more alike than different in certain areas of focus, but you’ll need to use the data to support that approach.

Be sure you organize your essay so all related material is dealt with in the appropriate sections, introduced by topic sentences. If you’re not careful, the points of evidence will seem to jump around randomly.

To get an initial sense of differences between students in the two countries, you can start with “Word Association” #14 and #15.

**Survey Results:**

<http://colexa.pbworks.com/w/page/FrontPage>

**Word association**

1.Family

2.Weekend

3.Graduation

4.Neighbors

5.Guns

6.Community

7.Police

8.Love

9.War

10.Responsibility

11.Youth

12.Pets

13.Cartoons

14. America

15. Taiwan

**Sentence completion**

1.A good neighbor is someone who...

2.A good parent is someone who...

3.A good citizen is someone who...

4.A good teacher is someone who...

5.A rude person is someone who...

6.My greatest fears are...

7.In five years I hope to be or have...

**Situations**

1.You are at the movies. The people sitting right behind you make loud comments about the film.

2.You are walking down the street in a big city. A stranger approaches you with a big smile.

3.You are walking down the street. You see someone throw an empty can of Coke on the sidewalk.

4.You have been waiting in line for ten minutes. Someone cuts the line in front of you.

5.You see a mother in a supermarket slap her child.

6.A police officer stops you in the street and asks for your ID.

7.You’re on a bus or a train. The person sitting next to you is talking non-stop on a cell phone.

8.You see a student next to you cheating on an exam.