

Michael Harbuck  
Essay - I  
Dottorresssea Hawkins

## The Natural Food of Man is Contaminated

The natural resources of our planet are becoming gradually inedible. The industrialism that began in the late nineteenth century has

slowly overtaken nature in the magnitude order of the human species' thinking. Within global areas of high population and manufacturing

density the human refuse and manufacturing wastes degrades the quality of nourishment harvested from the oceans, seas, lakes, and

waterways. In Florida, the third most populous state of the union of America, as well as being the largest and most fecund sport fishing

region on the planet, the levels of the element Hg (Mercury, Quicksilver, Hydragyrum (I.)) have become so profound, that only between

one and four fish per month are recommended for consumption by adults from any waterway or body of water in the Florida fishing

domain. The source of natural sustenance has been significantly contaminated, and should be a great concern to all persons.

The heavy metal poison enters the natural ground water system of waterways by several means. Geologic formations with

naturally occurring deposits account for some of the found mercury. Industrial factories exude mercury with waste water and cooling water

into the lakes and rivers, and are a second source. The thermal transformation of coal, which is the primary source of electrical power in

the State of Florida, also releases heavy elements into the atmosphere, being a third initial entry point into the organic world of the

biosphere. Incinerators, such as those used in hospitals also release mercury vapor into our circum-terrestrial gas bubble. These vapors

then condense or form compounds with other elements, and rain down upon the Earth into the ground water system. According to the

"Florida Fishing Regulations 2007-2008" developed and written by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Division of

Freshwater Fisheries Management all water bodies in the Florida managed water system contain mercury.

The biological chain of the contaminant begins in the detritus, which are mainly bacteria feeding upon dead and decaying

matter. These same microscopic organisms then take up the elemental form of the metal and bond this

organically with the organism. A

process of accumulation then occurs, as the smaller organisms are eaten by the larger and the percentage of the contaminant grows with

each ascension upward within the food-chain. Consequently, the large, long lived organisms, namely predatory fish, contain more of the

metal within it's muscle tissue where the organically bound metal is concentrated. The benefits of eating fish have been touted for years.

The high protein content as well as the minerals and oils feed the human body the nutrients it need to grow and repair itself. The fact

that the maximum recommended ammount of consumed fish has gradually been reduced over the years, and that the recommended

levels have been assessed so low that humans would not be able to sustain themselves from the harvested fish without highly possible

detrimental heath consequences to the brain and nervous system should have to be a great burdon on future humans.

The lacksidascal attitude of industries and the persons who manage them, as well as the education of persons regarding the

proper disposal of the mercury containing electronics and electrical appliances that have already become a permanent feature in the past

decade, is of vital importance if the society is to become aware of the fact that food is being contaminated. For example, many of the

large lamps which light the warehouses and work areas in the industrial world are of the Mercury Vapor type. When these are broken

upon replacement, and or thrown into the municipal waste, the metal within is released into the environment, and will eventually be

absorped my the ground water system. Secondly, the liquid crystal displays of many of the laptops in use contain mercury lamps used as

lighting. There are oftern disposed of improperly, which adds to the accumulation of heavy metals at waste facilities, rather than being

recycled or being dosposed of in a more proper manner.

If the prioroties of the human race is to continue to live and develop on the planet Earth, then there will be several large concerns

within the next fifty years. Global warming, loss of clean water, and contaminated food supplies will only exascerbate the existing

problems which many countries and peoples face. It is no longer a question of whether or not man harms his environment, but rather is,

if he is intelligent enough to change and adapt without creating further damage. Nature is forgiving, but man has perhaps taunted her to

the point of retribution. Beware of your environment, and care for it as it were your own. For it is.

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Core II Essay  
03-10-2007  
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### Observant Producer vs. Insolent Consumer

The amount of earth under fingernails of individuals will determine the depth of enjoyment of daily nourishment. A future demand for ecological equilibrium between the human species and our planet will be best fulfilled by those having the skills and character traits of the agricultural producer rather than the industrial consumer. As the population increases, and the requirements of this populous mass reaches the proportion of use of natural resources which in turn affect a change regarding the relational interaction of humans and their environment, evolutionary intervention will be required. Therefore, the industrial consumer will face the challenge of reinterpreting his role in an ecologically advanced society. Those who produce naturally and those who consume these products are two very distinct dimensional frames of reference with different schools of thought and observational patterns.

The appreciation of nature and the natural world is of great importance when beginning to describe the difference between those who do have an active participation and interaction with the locating, making, and preservation, of the basic necessities, and those who are indifferent towards those who feed them to the point of belligerency towards nature itself.

Without a general continuous awareness of the fact concerned with what man eats, what he drinks, and uses, there can be no basis upon which can be expounded into fruitful active participation in energy use reduction, general re-use and recycling of materials and goods, and finally elimination of wastes within feasible non exploitive boundaries. The crop farmer, as generally known, has been taught to reuse and recycle wastes by returning these to the ground for the good of the land and increased productivity, while according to my observation, the urban worker still must be reminded to recycle an aluminum soda can. The cattle farmer is active in the production of beef. The office worker consumes this beef. Both have an appreciation for what has been utilized from nature. A differentiation is to be seen not in a degree of appreciation, but rather within the amount of biologically and ecologically interactive work and applied ecological reverence.

The trend in the manufacturing world to reduce all production to a single source where the individual producer no longer plays a vital role is harming the environment by creating more monoculture instead of growth diversity. Respect for the land around us will provide more profit in the form of natural beauty and diversity than any overzealous manipulation ever will yield. The farmer will not cut the stand of trees which protects his acreage from wind erosion, yet a consumer readily patronizes the farm sized store upon which there had stood a natural habitat for many creatures without this fact ever coming to mind.

Many years in a land where the availability of land is not as prevalent as in the United States of America proved to me that not all persons on our planet take the land

for granted. Strict laws, the absence of litter and the very air of consideration leads to this credible tangible observation. Every consideration is to be made before destroying, changing or threatening any natural habitat around us, for it may never recover from man's intrusion.

Obvious historically fore coming faults in man such as greed and jealousy play a large part in the decisions and conflicts around the world today. Human acceptance of the fact that there is a larger organism than themselves involved in this great planetary balance is the final outcome of individual factors. Ecological interaction, animal interaction, and natural observation are all necessary steps on the path the realization of this truth. Being unable to grasp this new ecological dogma will be a detriment to many persons and countries as the expected climate change and accompanying relationships between differing cultures arise. The farmer knows that he is at the mercy of the weather, wherewith he accepts his part within the larger organism. The consumer becomes angry that the weather does not permit the purchase of something absolutely unnecessary for sustaining a life. Having personally observed the Masai pastoralists in East Africa, the refined non invasive ecological interaction of these peoples with the environment, being the reverence and understanding for, as well as the careful observation of the world around them, allows them to live without excess consumption. If all humans were endowed with such wisdom the change toward ecological balance would not be uncomfortable.

The laws of science state that energy is either consumed or released in the chemical reactions governing matter and the universe. These same laws make known that reactions are also on the whole reversible. Perhaps the human reaction with the Earth has reached the point of reversal where humans will release energy into the equation instead of consuming it disproportionately. The experience and the skills necessary for the survival and adaptation within the human species will not be able to deny those with agricultural skills and experience as well as those with acquired advanced biological interaction skills the dominant role in society's development and advanced regression to more awareness of human industrial consequences and lower consumption in the years to come.

## The Garden Watchman

See the cane tower rise from the earth,  
One meter high, one inch in girth.

A small pointed head, dark and unseen,  
Stoically watching the growing and green.

Each morning you rise to your small precipice,  
Observing and saying: "what's that?" and "what's this."

The giant slumbers 'round, kicking the dirt,  
His thumbs glow green, but his patience is curt.

Leaves become larger with each passing day,  
Some however, turn brown then decay.

For strongest of which, been neatly sown,  
Treasures to be kept, once fully grown.

Here then I will stay in this place of fun,  
Watching, waiting, and enjoying the sun.

Michael Thomas Harbuck 2008 , Sanford FL USA

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November 26, 2007

### The Real Workplace

The heat of the Florida sun was only a memory on this mid-summer day. The dust and smell of paint stripping chemicals which permeated every square inch of the hanger on this particular Monday afternoon was not present here in the super opulent management offices at the fixed base operator. The polished wood and the arctic air were unknown to those who performed the physical labor. The office was centered around a very nice writing desk, adorned with a rack of collectors writing utensils, some worth more than five thousand dollars each. More than six months hard work had preceded this encounter with the management, and every person with whom there was contact, had been congratulatory upon hearing that a substantial raise had been granted with the six-month review.

“Sit down, there is something I would like to discuss with you.”

“Certainly,” replied the worker.

“Everyone says that you are a great worker, and that you are always on time.”

“Thank you.”

“Two of the men on the night shift have come to me with something that I must speak with you about.”

The two other men in the room, both standing, one the department supervisor, the other, another of the top management, stood silently, arms folded in front of them.

“The two mechanics from New York said that you used a racial slur, and that you called

the maintenance supervisor a ‘sandnigger’”, said the head manager with a slight blush as controlled laugh, “I would like an explanation.”

Having already spoken with a confidant within the company, this did not come as a surprise.

“No, I did not,” replied the worker, “I was responding to a comment and discussion the two men were having about persons who should be shot because they are Muslim. The two men asked one another why Cat Stevens, a famous musician, would want to convert to Islam. My comment to them was that maybe he had heard the word ‘sandnigger’ one too many a time.”

With a bit of indifference and prejudice the manager stated, “Well if this was anyone else but you, you would be fired, you know that. Your supervisor will write up a comment for your file, which you will review and sign. Do you have anything to say?”

“This was two weeks ago, why have the two just now come to bring this forward? It was last Friday, that I was in the mechanics library using the computers, and was subjected to those guys’ usual disgusting conversations. This conversation, which referred to what one wanted to do with his foot and his friend’s wife’s vagina was so bad, that I told both of them there on the spot that they are offensive, and very unprofessional. Their response was to ask me if I was joking, as if I had done something wrong, and then, after seeing that I was in fact not, began to belittle me with explication. After I told them that I should write a letter to someone regarding their actions, I was belittled further.”

“Well, I will have a talk with them. Thank you that will be all.”

Feeling befuddled, the worker, knowing that he had been proverbially railroaded, and that

false witness had be brought upon him, left the office bewildered, and perplexed beyond explanation. Having been the brunt of sexual jokes, as well as having had to verbally request from the department supervisor, that the profane and disgusting comments of the other workers be toned down to an minimum, it seemed as though there would be no fairness, and justice in this entire situation. The profane language used by all at the hanger was so bad, that this created perceptible changes in people who did not want to be subject to the obviously condoned sexual connotation and idioms. These would be discussed, but conveniently forgotten later on.

Later in the afternoon on the same day, the supervisor called the worker into the office, were there was a reprimand which was to be signed.

“I will not sign that.” stated the worker.

“I will have to tell the manager” was the reply.

The two months following were very, very busy. Much overtime was worked, and the worker, already having agreed to work the second shift, was burdened further. There were instances that were very strange, such as being banned from certain areas, as well as being the brunt of further very disturbing sexual jokes. However, being in school, needing the income, and having so to speak been ‘warned,’ the worker was not about to rock the boat. The work being completed in record time and with no further contracts on the horizon, the worker was layed-off, although there were others there who had not been there as long, nor had the better work ethic. The workers thoughts: “The money one earns is not for work accomplished, but rather for having to endure the fellow workers.”

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November 11, 2007

### Urban Sprawl and the Ecosystem of Florida

The urbanization and urban sprawl in the State of Florida may eventually engulf the majority of sensitive natural ecological habitats. Many predictions and models regarding the future and possible effects of man's intrusion into an ever-increasing larger portion of the outwardly appearing undisturbed areas surrounding the already populated and inhabited cities have been speculated and created. Since the realization that man has a net negative effect on his immediate environment through roads and the reduction of large tracts of open land into non ecologically balancing edifices, studies have been performed, articles have been written, and documentaries have been filmed. Yet, these media may have had no real affect until there is a collapse of the ecological systems in which these indices of sprawl are enumerated, and cause an unmistakable change in thought.

It is only in the late months that there has been a media frenzy drawn upon from the information which has been available and viable for more than two decades. Scientists and educated persons from all walks of life have been observing, collecting evidence, and collating this evidence. Having been shunned and not taken seriously for so long it appears as though a realization of sorts has begun to emerge from the consumption madness. The question which arises from this apparent realization is this: Why now? Each time there is a nearing vote in the United States of America, many persons will bring forth the ideas and concerns of those who are

in the professions of environmental protection. Most of these concerns are not publically long lived after the votes have been counted, however.

" In 1971 a local resident wrote a book in which he asserted that the steephead ravines are the original Garden of Eden..." (Mohlenbrock). These ravines are archetypical Florida habitat near Apalachicola. The amount of research material and official studies penned by many various official and non official entities throughout Florida, and of all of the states of the Union is overwhelming and often outdated and not current. The areas which have already affected human consumption and impeded the growth are what are noticed and addressed first, not by choice, but because of complaints.

The Water Issue: "Thousands of acres of lakes and wetlands are drying up as the demand for water increases for Florida's growing population." (Leisner, Word). The range of the water shortage problem is vast, and not confined to a single region. Information on the geological makeup of Florida reveals the karst or limestone filter layer which *is* Florida. This layer of porous rock is a huge natural water treatment plant which provides water to all of the residents through springs and wells.

To begin to describe the importance of water is akin to asking what if the sun stopped shining tomorrow. So unequivocally important is water to the agriculture and prosperity of tourism in Florida today. As is known, there is a biological hierarchy in the system of life as is known. There must be water as the solvent of life for any life to form or thrive. It is the all encompassing media in which all biological processes occur. "It (water) produces bountiful harvests of oranges, grapefruit, berries and a medley of winter vegetables." (Leisner & Word) Nowhere within the research is found how water is wasted, or used inappropriately, without

disregard for the consequences. There is no mention of the vast number of lawns, the numerous golf courses, or the wasteful toilettes.

Lakes are drying up. There are persons who spent quite a bit of money for lake front Property, which is now more like a desert. Perhaps stopping waste of water will bring in an era of new water engineering development, and a change in water use habits. As for the reason for the exploded water use, only the more numerous population, which increased the land use per capita accordingly degrading the status of the water use problem complex.

The Habitat Issue: "Urban sprawl continues to destroy Florida's natural habitats and farmland at an accelerated pace " *Sprawl in Florida*. The amount of energy and money which is required to demolish the homes of natural animals compared with the amount required to rehabilitate these once they have been gleaned of all use by those who wish to use the land without due respect is not logical. Creative manipulation could hide the non apparent change and loss until a point is reached when a want will not be appeased in the blink of an eye, being then the cause of a massive and costly inquiry.

The information available on the subject is extremely vast. The loss of habitat may continue as long as crime and other factors drive families from the cities' central areas into quieter suburbs where the proverbial American dream can be realized, causing in turn more sprawl. "Because each American demands so much more energy and food and so many more raw materials than the average global citizen, the collective impact of grazing, plowing, timber harvesting, draining and bulldozing is enormous " (Peters & Noss) Roads divide habitats and render them inactive and inaccessible.

"Native Fauna in the state (FL) are suffering beneath the heels, wheels, asphalt and outboard motors of the dominant mammal - homo sapiens" *Sprawl in Florida*. Larger animals may suffer more population damage and may be more affected than smaller animals owing to their large range and travel capabilities. As sprawl and growth take in the range of these animals, encroachment and extinction are the only two routes which man has actually paved.

Recently the Everglades have come into view of the eye of the authoritative figures and become a topic of debate. The wetlands habitat of South Florida is changing rapidly where humans have taken land for plantation crops, especially sugar cane. According to an article entitled "America's Endangered Ecosystems" in *Defenders*, "More than half of Florida's wetlands have been lost to drainage and development including more than 65 percent of the 3,900 square mile Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades system." Waterfowl and plant habitat has been choked out by human-induced growth of formerly minority species caused by over fertilization. The Everglades is water to South Florida, and therefore, deserves the same factor of importance. The wildlife and plant life are an added resource included with the region.

The Animal Issue: "Urban Sprawl is Threatening Some of the Nation's Most Endangered Wildlife" (Nickens). The list of "68 species" which are threatened or endangered in Florida is long. Nature and evolution have adapted many animals to small confined areas where they are in symbiosis with the other organism around them. If man removes a key variable of the life cycle of an animal, then it is likely that the animals will fail to survive. Humans recognize of an animal to exist and perpetuate themselves, but usually at the leisure of man. All humans may have to sacrifice wants for the good of the animal kingdom.

The Key deer, the wood stork, the bald eagle, sea turtles, all of these species are

facing the challenge of competing for space with humans. Other than reducing living space for animals, they are also indiscriminately killed. "Road-kills are a major source of mortality for a wide variety of herpetofauna,..."(Shwiff, et al.).

It will be left to see whether there will be a renaissance of conservation study in the coming years, as studies require time to publish. Many of the available articles on the subjects of urban sprawl and growth were published more than ten years ago, and I believe that if there were more up-to-date data, that the problem may be even worse than had been prognosticated. When one looks around and notes observations from year to year, it is apparent at certain times, that cycles and patterns have changed in Florida. It would be advantageous to speak with older native Floridians, to ask what is different, and to obtain the observational comparisons of this group of persons. The tangible facts are that ponds and lakes are drying up, more land is used each year, and more animals are displaced or killed with newcomers.

The scientists all predict the trend toward continual land use will increase all of the associated complex problems. "As the state's complex natural systems crumble under the weight of an ever-increasing population many Floridians have come to realize that the tropical paradise they sought is slipping away." (McManus, Brown)

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Michael Thomas Harbuck  
English - Signorina Dotoressa Hawkins  
Journal 1 : 29-08-07

Mostly I will have had many thoughts and associations throughout the day, which I enjoy discussing in my one viewed manner at the end of the day. Often I will let a single day go untamed, but have come to see, that this is not good, if I want to remember the details of the item, thought, or whichever of the astronomical reasons that are seen felt and heard each day. Having been a fairly diligent journal writer for many years, albeit ninety-five per cento in German, and not in English, although I have made entries in my mother tongue, I have come to understand the process of becoming a polyglott first hand, and from a very close perspective.

For me, personally, I usually will write a main theme of the day, or time period, and then expound upon it. Very rarely will I delve into the matter for more than the basic description, but am sure to include all important details, especially descriptive elements of that day, of the 'occurrence.' All of the human emotions and characteristics which we know and readily attribute to the human mode of thinking have driven me to write. Beauty, fear, annoyance, indulgence, arrogance, worry, joy, and love... this list and many others are eternal members of my writers club.

I am lucky to have a nice machine to write with, and am very appreciative of my tool. I have had an electronic word processing device, portable at that, since 1996. My journal and thoughts in archive start in this year. For the past five years, I have not written as much as I would have liked.... and there are reasons there which I will not discuss here. However, there is no excuse, and I will not give a 'woula, shoulds, coulda'. Not exactly perfect English, but appropriate none the less.

My process is simply to write. I can always find a subject which usually stems from an observation made the same day. If only one sentence to describe something I found interesting has been journaled, this is more than ample for me to read later, and know the paragraph which I had not written then, but still am able to further along the path of life.

I like to indent to make a point.

I usually do not run on a deadline, but will have circumstances beyond my control which DO limit my time frame some. For example, I am writing here at work, where I will have to leave in a few minutes because of closing. I never consider such a limit a shortcoming, but rather the way the maker wants me to enter the days thoughts. If it has not been said up to now, then there will be another time for it to be put forth.

I have not had the opportunity to evaluate the class exercises which help write, Dotoressa Hawkins. I do not believe any one could hurt. Personally my writing patterns is already very established.

At this time there are no issues which appear to threaten any part of the participation in your English class.

My reaction to the reading I will have to expound upon at another time, while I do not have the text book, and will most likely borrow one from a student, and or read the text from a copy in the book store, and then finish the journal. If not, then I will send you a revised copy per electronic mail

piacevole,

Herr Harbuck

Michael Thomas Harbuck  
English - Signorina Dotoressa Hawkins  
Journal 2 : 26-09-2007

Sehr geehrte Frau Doktorin Hawkins,

How I would really love to be able to write academically in German again... I guess I will have to wait. There have been some amazing discoveries at the Technical University in Munich, in whose teaching realm I lived and explored. Sometime I will have to show you the data and pictures of all of the fungi which I collected and listed, and attempted to taxonomize accordingly. My last course where with I was able to write in German for a teacher was at the Volkshochschule in Garmisch in 2006, where I attended Italian I and II. I did well, and should really try to finish my novel this weekend, as I have renewed it from the library four times. It is not difficult, and I am well able to comprehend the sentences, however, I feel the need for a very intense period of vocabulary and grammar review. It can never be read or re-ingrained enough.

I try to read many types of materials for different subjects. Writings from the marine institute in Venice, comics called Mr. No from a friend of mine, and Italian brochure advertisements for expensive one of a kind articles, of which a many are produced in Italy. Last but not least, I had my pasta(chuta) for today. Mmm.. The fall is my favorite time of year, with the changes in the plants and animals, and the melancholy of the cool day. The song birds greeted me this morning, and I was fortunate to be able to have them come and play very close. Out of all of the classical music, there is nothing to compare with the avian morning symphony. Why there were so many in the one tree this morning I do not know. But the group of five or six fink like birds, being as diligently working as possible, seem to capture the attention of and mesmerize the red birds, who sat with bewildered notions on a nearby branch. As I always try to mimic and speak to the birds, I was not surprised when a small one landed quite close, and then took a long wondering gander at what I was doing. It must seem really strange that I am not able to fly, and that I am not able to flight about the woods day in and out eating the wondrous numbers of nutritious invertebrates. I only I were able to do so.....

On to school work.

Writing the half of the first essay on a notebook was a change for me, as I usually write at a computer. It did seem to hamper thoughts, or make them more readily fluid, so I will say that I would do the same again. My handwriting is not the best, this I know, in fact it often seems like I do not know which font I want to use, even within a single word. It was much easier when I had a very nice calligraphy pen, and was able to use older characters, but this is not easily understood by most. The extremely organized essay is not something that I write at all, and I am thankful to have the opportunity to practice. I like descriptions, and have tried to improve upon them. There is an author by the name of Theodor Storm, whose descriptions are much better than the photographs they could represent. It is a combination of attitude, view, and passion which vividly evokes images with words, and I hope someday someone would like to read my descriptions. Tone and setting are literary, but the imagery is art, and specifically that which creates the lasting memory by etching the mind's eye with a hint of hopeful fantasy. The essay was not a summary for me per se, but it was rather easy, once I had a good template, namely the perfectly organized essay by the young man who was not required to rewrite. I was inspired by the organization and crispness, but feel that there is so much more that can be added. This addition, however, discredits to a certain limit the readability and credibility within the seriously academic peer range. It is however good practice, to reiterate.

To be able to bring one's thought to paper is the purpose of the literary schooling. Be this in the ultra organized fashion, or somewhere below this structured level. Exercises in class are good, and make one think and do things one would not do outside of the classroom setting. I know it is difficult to incorporate all aspects of writing and thinking into one small course, and believe any exercise is beneficial. A dimension is lost when one tunes out a possibility.

It is 11:50 at night, and I am supposed to be working, but told the boss I needed a hour to do my assignment... no problems., except that I should have done this earlier! (and write more, as I enjoy it so.)

Men and women are not really all that different. The older one becomes, I believe the more the opposite sex seems to be the same. We are, as humans, the same except for differing ratios of hormones. Many of the 'classical' differences are born from mistruths and fallacies, although some have a strength in the natural role based lives of animals, and are strictly functional. All humans base their lives on the same basic needs. My view is that those who grossly exceed a natural life and deviate physically from the natural world, are the same who by the selfish outcome begin to misconstrue communications between the opposite sex, and distance themselves, rather than the difference being a tangible one. I will compare something in my next essay which will bring forth a better understanding of this observation.

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Michael Thomas Harbuck  
English - Hawkins  
Journal III – 20/11/2007

- Bold words from WORD POWER.

Also, I have reached the end of my first academic classes since being a student at VCC in the year 1995. I would like to say first of all, that the public language used by the American student has certainly reached the bottom of the world scale, and I see no change in sight. As a teacher of English, this should be of great concern. There may have been many shifts in the use of certain words which were at one time considered foul and vulgar, to being common place. There is perhaps a record of evidence of these use changes somewhere in the language archives.... When I am at the place and time to research these, I might do so. But for now, I will still be appalled at the definite infancy of the American student as compared to those I the rest of world, in regards to vocabulary and word usage. Perhaps this is different at other schools, but I so not believe so, because it is not teachable, not controllable.

You have certainly noticed, that I do not perceive the majority of what America considers culture as plausible or enjoyable. Without having a view from the outside inward, there is no means of teaching this missing link to the higher academics. I am not immune to the what I will describe at the American syndrome, being the two faced ethics and two-faced professionalism. I find America not multi-cultured, but rather a cultural **black hole**. **Anarchy** is not the way to peace and tranquility either, so there must be an attractive middle ground. I have found that life is a compromise. Often I am at the wrong place at the right time, and at the right place at the wrong time. My

personal observations are, that the Americans want to be European, but have no idea what it really means, and the Europeans want to be American, and have no idea what it means, yet this fallacy of the greener grass is always there. In the US, there are numerous jobs, and employment, in exchange for a non-existent community pride, and the loss of identity and importance within the industrially cloned consuming masses. Where in Germany, there is a great sense of pride and the joy of the discrimination between the ideals and characteristics of the German society, but the lack of resources and land mass has restricted the growth within the national boundaries.

By the way, I am not a National Socialist. Why people think this of any person who speaks German just proves their ignorance and stupidity. Person who think this should be required to learn the German language, or better yet, be hindered from using any product from their daily lives which was invented or influenced by a German scientist, chemist, author or philosopher.

As for my perception of myself..... Life is too short to ponder this question. I am a stubborn bull, and like to learn, but not with scum bags around. I will certainly be interested in seeing how the structure exercises in this course will help with composition in a foreign language.

Next semester: No hoods in class, and five points off for every use of foul language. If you ignore it, then it will continue to infect and make America look even more ridiculous to the outside world than it already does.

My narrative story would have been about my experience in a sexually harassing and demeaning work environment, but I have come to the opinion, after having been

proven wrong once again, that if I give the benefit of the doubt, that Americans will ALWAYS take advantage of this, and prove themselves beyond a doubt, to be inferior to the rest of the world, also not deserving of my story, nor ever be able to fix the dualism of their morals. I will therefore be American, and tell some dumb story which I have to, instead of what I would like to. I was told today by a fellow 'student' that I am not liked, and am a pest, because I reprimanded him for his use of foul language in a class. He commented that it was his job to do this. Well you can all go to hell, it is not far from here.

I have enjoyed your class, and hope that you do not have to teach American students much longer, but are able to use your time in a better way, as I wish I could.