

**AP Homework Assignment-Peer Rescue**  
**Beginning of Spring Semester**

Students are asked to choose what they think is the weakest piece in their portfolio to date. I ask for them to place the work on my desk. After the student leave, I pair that piece with a person in the class that I believe will have the most useful information to offer the student. It might be because it is a medium that that student uses frequently or it might be a topic that a student knows a good deal about and could provide insight into how to make the work stronger.

The works are wrapped in newsprint and a sticky note with the chosen student's name on it is attached. The chosen student is given the work to take home over the weekend and they are told the following.

- ***Do not open the work until you are home***
- ***Do not talk to anyone about this assignment***

Inside the package are the following instructions:

*You have been entrusted with the work of another person who is struggling with this piece. There may be multiple solutions to this problem. Please look at it closely, then place it across the room from you, look at it and for now, consider it yours. What do you need to do to salvage the piece? What methods or interventions can you think of that might save it, might give it new life?*

*Take a day to think about it. Then, in a (type-written) paragraph or two explain, in detail, what you would do to give this piece new life. Take it apart? Reassemble it? Add to it? Add it to something else? When you arrive Monday you will have the work closed back up with your type written suggestions inside. **No one should know whose work you received. This assignment is worth 100 points. If you allow anyone to know whose work you received, you will forfeit the points for this assignment.***

When students return to class on Monday they turn in the package with their letter to the owner of the work inside the package and distribute the work back to the owner and I project this PowerPoint, after which we have an open discussion:

**Homework Assignment**  
**Please answer the following questions on paper**

- What was the first thing that came to your mind when you realized the work wasn't your own?
- When you realized you had been tasked with finding a solution to someone else's problem, what was your first thought?
- When you received your work back, what was the most useful suggestion and will you implement it and if so how do you think it will contribute to the overall success of the piece?
- Were you surprised by the suggestions and if so why?
- How useful was the person's input in moving you forward?