WR227 Homework Assignment
“My Position” – “Counterpoint” Exercise, Part 2

Note: This is the second part of a two-part assignment. You must have completed the first part – or gotten explicit instructor permission – before attempting this second part.

Format: This assignment is to be written in the body of an email message (not as an attachment), sent to your instructor at WR227@ClarityCorvallis.com (NOT Brian’s LBCC address).

Your email’s Subject line must be in the following format:
   (WR227 Jones, Davey) Counterpoint: Writing well is useless
Note the capitalization, spacing, and punctuation.

The part after the parentheses must reflect the content of this message’s topic, not Part 1’s. So, for example, if your Part 1 statement was “Writing well is very important,” the Part 2 subject line might be the one above.

Do not double-space the email message’s body.

Content: At the top of the body of the email, type in the single sentence you wrote in Part 1, and add two blank lines after it. Then write one or two persuasive paragraphs about the content of that single sentence. However, you must write from the viewpoint opposite your own. For example, if your Part 1 topic was that 18-year-olds are too young to vote, Part 2 must present the case that 18-year-olds are NOT too young to vote.

You must present this opposite viewpoint respectfully, compellingly, and completely, as if it is what you truly believe.

For a good grade, do NOT simply invert every point you’d use for your own viewpoint. Do not research the other side’s position. Instead, use your imagination! This exercise is about empathy, rather than the content of your argument. (Proper spelling, grammar, sentence structure, and other WR95-121 skills count during grading. So does your ability to stay on target with the viewpoint truly opposite to your original one.)

Due date: Email your assignment no later than 11:59 p.m. on Monday, April 8. Be sure to email it to WR227@ClarityCorvallis.com, not to Brian’s LBCC email address.
WR227 “My Position – Part 2” Checklist

Note: The points below are not equally weighted, but all are important. The various ratings below will be considered within the context of the overall effectiveness of the document to arrive at a “holistic” grade.

Email:
- Subject line is exactly as specified.
- Email is sent to WR227@ClarityCorvallis.com.
- Subject line’s subject phrase is meaningful.

Assignment Format:
- Sent in the body of an email
- Part 1 sentence appears at top, followed by two blank lines
- Not double-spaced

Logic and Depth:
- Stated position is genuinely the reverse of the Part 1 sentence.
- Position is explored in breadth and depth.
- Rationale is original, not just the reverse of typical Part 1 arguments.

Empathy:
- Assignment shows a genuine attempt to understand the other side’s position.
- Language is genuine, not ironic or clearly done under duress.

Overall writing style:
- Formality (including word choices) appropriate to audience.
- Grammar, spelling, and punctuation correct.
- Sentences are constructed well.
- Paragraphs are constructed well, and the sequence flows in body.