

Self-Management as a Prerequisite for Success in Participation and Written Work: Factual accuracy is a key to success with any written assignment that is based on evidence, not opinion. Being able to focus on factual accuracy in class requires practicing self-management by the class. To encourage self-management, I will use the seating chart as a way to record distracted or distracting behavior and—the ideal—focused behavior. A mark on the seating chart in orange will mean a loss of the 30 points for the Unit; a mark in blue, a grade of 24 or above. (Details on points covered below.) For examples of distracted and distracting behaviors, see Classroom Civility and Attendance Policy on page 2. For examples of focused behaviors, see below. Each Unit has a Self-Management grade @ 30 points for a total of 90 points (9%) of your final grade.

If you read carefully before class, your focused participation can help the class dialog as part of the lecture. Good participation is useful to others and means such behaviors as:

- 1) No guessing and no use of information other than from the textbook or sources within the course
- 2) No answers that are off topic
- 3) Asking questions that are on topic (You can always ask general questions at the beginning of class.)
- 4) No hogging or bullying (examples available)

You have an alternative way to show focused participation because both InQuizitive and the textbook are new. New software, new textbooks, new products, and even a new set of instructions from an organization or company that you may go to work for will probably have problems like those I have found in InQuizitive and our textbook. These are examples:

- Errors in facts where InQuizitive makes statements contrary to the *Essentials* edition.
- Errors in coding, such as a question asks you to make 4 matches but the software only allows 3.
- Incorrect page reference, such as the prior page number has that information
- Omissions of information needed to answer an InQuizitive question or find something specifically referred to in the textbook. (The *Essentials* edition is abridged and does not have all content in the current 9th edition.)

In other words, InQuizitive and your textbook will be a lot like the information you will see for the rest of your life (including with information that can hurt your finances for decades or get you fired). If you use any source (especially a new one) and just repeat or click passively, you are not reading well—and you need to learn to do this. To use a word frequently in the research about our nations' reading problems, you need to “engage” the content. Engaging the content means:

- Not only will learn so that you know the words and can make your own sentences with them
- But also will simultaneously spot the types of problems listed above. - **Caution:** If you aren't seeing the problems listed above, this may indicate you are just clicking instead of reading and, to be practical, you are not “engaging” enough to learn and to do well on the two parts of the Unit Exam.

Given that InQuizitive and the *Essentials* edition are new, another way to demonstrate your focused participation is to help others. When you find a problem, make a screen print (instructions available) of the problem and try to include the date (frequently at the bottom of the screen). Then email your instructor the file of the screen print and bring a print of it to me so we can briefly talk about it. If what you have seen is accurate and therefore will help others in the class, I will:

1. Place the file of screen print in a section where all can see it (Your privacy will be protected.)
2. Mark the seating chart to record your focused participation.

Examples of how the 30 points work for each Unit:

Points	Letter Grade	What Do You Do to Earn It?	Quantity Required	How Is It Measured?
23.9	C++ averaging as a B-	In class, no distracted or distracting behaviors	0 (Absolutely not 1 time during the Unit)	No orange dots in your seating chart for the Unit.
25.5	Averages as a mid-B	Does the above and also does focused participation either in class dialog within lecture or by the alternative of providing information as explained above this table	At least 1 time	1 Blue dot in your seating chart for the Unit
27.0	Averages as an A-	Does both things above	At least 2 times	2 Blue dots
30	100%	Does both things above	At least 3 times	3 or more Blue dots

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus during the semester.

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