# English 121 – Jennifer Garner

# Written Introduction: A Diagnostic Essay

In-class writing assignment:

Compose an essay on the topic of your name. Be as clear, organized, and specific as you can. Try to write a minimum of 3-5 substantial paragraphs on the topic. Turn this in today before you leave.

Some ideas: Naming is a powerful thing: describe how you think your name has influenced who you are, how you think of yourself. Think of a name that is very unlike yours, and speculate about what your life might have been like if you were called by that name. Or, discuss your family. What kind of associations or pride does your family have in your last name? Do different members of the family have different names? Or consider cultural and gender distinctions: If you are a woman, will you or have you changed your name when/if you marry? If you are a man, would you want your partner to have the same name? Does your culture, religion or heritage suggest ways of naming? What are the options?

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