Read the following resources before answering the questions below

* <http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/emojis-forever-pringle-1.4577456>
* <http://www.cbc.ca/news/emoji-equality-google-1.3698970>

Questions

1. List and explain five (5) examples of how "images are becoming the new mode of expression."

~Five billion Emojis have been sent in the past year

~Emojis are quick and easy to send, and especially helpful in the day and age where mobile communication is rapid

~ Emojis help to reproduce characteristics of human communication that are present in the real world, in a digital environment

~ Seventy per cent of the meaning of an oral conversation comes from nonverbal cues; Emojis add personality to the text and generate empathy among users

~Emojis make a direct link between the written form and the object/ emotion being referenced

1. List and explain five (5) advantages of using emojis in communication.

~They’re quick and easy to send

~Anyone and everyone can understand them, no matter what language you speak

~They add a bit of expression and personalization to texts

~Can help prevent misunderstandings between people, because they help enhance the text

~Can be used to reply to a text with just an Emoji and no words

1. List and explain five (5) disadvantages of using emojis in communication.

~Some Emojis resonate differently across cultures

~They’re open to wide interpretation based on the context of their use

~There are technical issues with them, including an Emoji looking different based on the platform it’s being viewed on

~There are cases coming to the courts where the intended meaning of an emoji in interpersonal messages is unclear

~Emojis lack precision, "which limits their communicative efficacy"

1. Write a supported opinion paragraph (SOP) that addresses the comment "nothing is more important than how emojis are replacing words." (for or against)

~I agree with the statement that claims nothing is more important than how Emojis are replacing words. Emojis are becoming a universal language by breaking down language barriers, almost surpassing English being the universal language. They are quick to send and easy to understand, and can be understood no matter where you’re from. Lastly, Emojis, due to their personalization options and how you can essentially see yourself in their shoes, they can be used to easily replace words or whole sentences. There is no doubt that Emojis are replacing words at an accelerating pace.

1. List and explain three (3) examples of how emoji equity affects users.

~It helps to ensure people of all backgrounds can see images that represent themselves

~Helps to prevent stereotypical gender roles (especially amongst females); for example, a female scientist Emoji helps empower women that want to be one

~Empowers and gives role models to girls and women; “if that Emoji is a girl and an engineer, then I can be one, too”

1. List and explain three (3) examples of how emoji equity is being addressed by companies such as Google.  
   ~ Tech companies are trying to make people from all different backgrounds see themselves among the rows of random objects, facial expressions, hand signals, smiling poop and crying kitties

~They created new Emojis depicting females in different types of roles in society

~They added Emojis for different skin tones, same-sex families, people other than just male and female, etc.

1. Write a supported opinion paragraph (SOP) that addresses the twitter comment   
   “isn't there more serious issues to focus on in regards to women than emojis?” (for or against)

~I agree with the comment claiming that there’s more to focus on in regards to women than Emojis. Although large tech companies like Apple and Google are encouraging diversity among their users that use Emoji, there’s far more issues to worry about. There are girls and women in third-world countries that are *still* being denied the right to education, and there are still stereotypical roles that females follow in these countries. Additionally, there is still the problem regarding the man/woman wage gap (for example, women workers in Canada earn an average of 69 cents for every dollar earned by men), which is barely ever acknowledged. There are clearly more problems to worry about in regards to women than just Emojis.