Assignment 1

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After reading “Consider This”, an article by Geoffrey Harpham, I have been enlightened of the way humanities are a major part in the way we live. I now have a better understanding of the benefits and why society should support the Humanities.

Throughout the article, Harpham displays the benefits of the Humanities by stating that it allows us engage in what he calls “projective retrospection.” I believe that Harpham means that the Humanities gives us the tools to bring clarity to the future from studying the knowledge we have gained, which allows us to try to predict what we think will happen. Society should support the humanities because understanding the human experience allows to use that knowledge to better project the outcome of an action.

There are many ways we can engage the Humanities through entertainment. When a person sees a movie and a sees a scene that intrigues them, they may begin to think about what cause the director to portray the scene in that way. Personally, I enjoy reading, watching movies or television, and playing video games. All of these past times include a common attribute, a story line or plot. In video games, I use the Humanities to understand how the characters life affect their actions throughout the game. These forms of art benefit society by enabling us to expand our knowledge through being exposed to something that excites our ability to think critically.

The Humanities are essential to the human experience, because without them we are unable to find insight, understand the world around us, and project the clearness of the future.