**In-Class Exercise #5: Prompt and Activity**

**English 1130.010 and 1130.12 – Academic Writing**

**Tues. and Thurs. / Douglas College / David N. Wright**

**Due: September 20th Class**

**Task:** Write as quickly and succinctly as possible exploring the possibilities for Essay #1.

**Notes:** This exercise emphasizes the generating of ideas. We will do a series of timed “writing sprints” in order to get a sense of possible approaches to our thesis sentence or developmental sentences (topic sentences, transitions, explanations, assumptions, etc.).

**Process:** We will begin with a 30-second sprint for the thesis statement, followed by a 60-second re-writing opportunity, followed by a further 120-second rewriting opportunity. At no time should your sentence be longer than 20 words. Try to re-write your sentence for precision, using specifics rather than general categories (type of chair rather than chairs), nouns instead of pronouns (not “it,” but “straight-backed leather-covered dining chair”), and strong verbs instead of weak ones (“use” not “utilize”). We will repeat this process with a variety of sentences and see if we can come up with a few good sentences to help in your essay drafting (due next class).

**Attempt #1 (30 seconds—including the writing!):**

**Attempt #2 (60 seconds):**

**Attempt #3 (120 seconds):**