

Fall 2014

Artifact in Action 4: Negotiating Purpose

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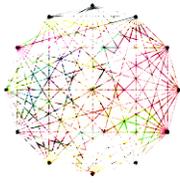
Recommended Citation

Hollinger, A. & Charlton, C. (2014). Artifact in Action 4: Negotiating Purpose. *Crosspol: A Journal of Transitions for High School and College Writing Teachers*, 1(1), 47–48.

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Artifact in Action 4 · Negotiating Purpose

Andrew Hollinger + Colin Charlton



Student Introduction

With any writing assignment, there are multiple goals in play. Of course, there's what your teacher wants, what you can understand from the actual language of the assignment. But there are also the underlying goals your teacher has that s/he may not have written in the assignment. There are your goals for working with your teacher and the assignment, how you want to prove yourself in this particular class. And there are your goals for yourself as a reader, researcher, and/or writer, what you want to learn from doing the assignment. You ask yourself (or you should ask yourself):

- *Why me?* What does this assignment mean to my work as a reader and writer?
- *What else?* What drives me to make some meaningful connections to this assignment and invent something?
- *What for?* What do I really want to accomplish if I engage with the difficult work of this assignment?

The following sequence of prompts can help you carefully analyze your assignment, your teacher's goals, and your goals. Hopefully, it will give you a sense of personal investment and help you uncover productive connections between your goals and your teacher's.

