First Year Seminar: Strangers in Paradise
Dr. L. Iskold

Essay # 2
Guidelines

I. Form:
- 1 1/2-2 pages; typed and double-spaced; 12 Times New Roman font; 1" margins; MLA style.
- Provide a minimum of three specific examples from the JLC and two examples and/or quotes from material not covered in class (see handout) to support/debate/contradict your thesis.
- Due date: Thursday, October 30 in Dr. Iskold's mailbox (Ett. 104) by 4:00 p.m.

II. Theme: Mothers and Daughters in Amy Tan's Novel "The Joy Luck Club."
(What compromises do mothers and daughters make for each other? How do Chinese mothers' expectations affect their daughters' lives in the US? This essay may include, but is not limited to, discussion of generation/cultural/literacy gaps; conflict and compromise, sacrifices, etc).

III. Structure:
- Introductory paragraph(s): the theme and the general context (1-2 paragraphs in which you declare the thesis; your thesis statement is NOT the first sentence of the introductory paragraph. In the introduction, you declare the point of view which you will demonstrate/prove throughout the essay.
- Thesis statement (that is debatable) in the introductory paragraph. Be sure to underline it!
- Body of the paper: series of CONNECTED paragraphs (evidence to prove your thesis in the form of specific examples from the JLC and material not covered in class). Provide support for the thesis or for the subtopics/subthesis: specific information in the form of examples, anecdotes, quotations, plots in favor or against the central idea. For research papers, you may include definitions, categorizations, classifications, data, etc.
- Concluding paragraph(s). Synthesize the theme, the thesis statement, and the central argument without simply repeating yourself.

IV. Academic Behavior Code Statement:

Please include the complete Academic Behavior Code statement with your signature: "I pledge that I have fulfilled the requirements of the Academic Behavior Code in this work."

V. Help Getting Started: discuss your thesis statement with our writing assistant Nikolay Pandoursky. See Nik during her official hours at the Writing Center, or contact her via e-mail or phone.

VI. Revised Essay #2 is due Friday, Nov.7 in Dr. Iskold's mailbox (Ett. 104) by 4:00 p.m.