Assignment:

Does Technology Help Me Learn?

Purpose:

You're going to learn a new technology-based method to discover what words mean, and compare it to using a dictionary. Then, you're going to fill out a T-chart that will help you evaluate which method is more helpful. Why? So you can be a more informed and more efficient learner.

Instructions:

1. Here are two difficult sentences. Each sentence has four difficult words. Read both of the sentences. Underline the difficult words in each sentence. It's OK if you aren't sure what they mean.

   SENTENCE 1:
   The waiflike gamin looked out his window at the halcyon vista in the distance.

   SENTENCE 2:
   It was an inane venue choice because the mercurial throng couldn't hear the band.

(continue to next page)
The waiflike gamin looked out his window at the halcyon vista in the distance.

Get a dictionary, or log onto a computer and bring up an online dictionary. Look up the four hard words in sentence #1 and write down what they mean:

- **waiflike** means _______________________________________________
- **gamin** means _______________________________________________
- **halcyon** means _______________________________________________
- **vista** means _______________________________________________

Rewrite Sentence #1 so it means the same thing, but don’t use any of the original hard words:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

(see next page)
3. SENTENCE #2 ONLY:

It was an inane venue choice because the mercurial throng couldn't hear the band.

Bring up rewordify.com in your browser:

Type Sentence #2 into the yellow box and click “Rewordify text.” On the next screen, you’ll see the sentence re-written in a simpler way under the words “Rewordified text”:

It was a **silly** location/stadium choice because the **moody crowd** couldn't hear the band.

Four of the words are highlighted. Click (or tap) the highlighted words to see the original, harder words.
4. Click (or tap) the highlighted words to help you complete this section:

inane means __________________________________________________

venue means __________________________________________________

mercurial means ________________________________________________

throng means __________________________________________________

Rewrite Sentence #2 so it means the same thing, but don’t use any of the original hard words. The challenge: do not copy the rewritten version from the web site!

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

(see next page)
5. Now you’re going to fill out a T-chart. On the left, write at least three advantages of using a paper or online dictionary. On the right, write at least three advantages of using Rewordify.com. **Before you begin (and after you’re done), check the rubric on page 6 to make sure you get an “A” on this activity.**

| DICTIONARIES: Reasons for using / advantages | REWORDIFY.COM: Reasons for using / advantages |
Learning Activity: Does Technology Help Me Learn?
Assignment: Fill out packet, complete a T-chart

Rubric:

To get an “A”, double-check to be sure you’ve done each of these prior to turning in your paper. Check each one off after you’ve done it:

☐ I filled out Page 2 completely
☐ I filled out Page 4 completely
☐ I have at least 3 reasons on both sides of the T-chart
☐ My writing is legible and free of grammar and spelling errors
☐ My name is at the top of Page 1

TOTAL POINTS: _______