

Provide a **thesis or “mapping statement”** in the **first few paragraphs** to introduce your audience (exhibit viewers) to crucial issues and controversies. Weave in **ideas** from the **readings** and **organize artifacts** to raise consciousness about “Gender, Work, and Family.” As before, start with a tentative mapping statement; fine-tune it after drafting..

PRE-WRITING or PREPARATION: go from the gut/eye/brain.

Depending on your thinking style, you might start with the writing, images, or readings; allow time to move among them to focus your exhibit.

1. To pick subtopics, such as the need for childcare, try **“free-writing,”** brainstorming about ideas that grabbed you during the semester. Free-writing generates material to shape into the final essay.
2. Choose 15+ **artifacts**. Images convey more than words (“a picture is worth a 1,000 words”), so collecting and analyzing them may focus your paper and exhibit. Compare similar images, statistics, clips, etc. to consider variations on a theme. Think of questions you’d want viewers to consider. Juxtapose artifacts to create contrast; discuss it in the essay. Pick the **10-12 best** artifacts for the exhibit.
3. Alternatively, begin with the **readings, oral presentations, or films** that you see as cohering around a theme you can represent with artifacts. Sequence these texts or create dialogue among them to order your essay. **Remember: use and cite 6 assigned course readings.**

WRITING (essay and comments on artifacts): **talk** to interest a general audience.

1. Think about what you would **say** to help someone appreciate the exhibit; point out the significance of individual artifacts and relationships they create with each other and texts. You can refer to the exhibit items directly in your essay (e.g., a specific ad) or describe a general category (equal pay or equal opportunity).
2. Weave in references to the readings and questions for the audience. If you have a sense of how people will view the artifacts and the key points, themes, and controversies you want them to consider, sequence the readings to build from easier or smaller points to larger, more complex ones. **For example, the gendered “wage gap” appears simple, yet its causes are complex and debated.**
3. Avoid advocating a solution or proposing a political point of view. Instead, point to conflicts of values, trends and controversies, “hot spots,” contradictions, and **costs of different gender equity strategies**. Generate questions that reflect on the artifacts. **Example:** Why do we tend to value paid work more than unpaid (housework, volunteer)?

N.B.: Add a list of Works Cited.

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