

ACA Presentation Outline

1. Alan Jackson's "Work in Progress"—cd and handout
2. Brief autobiography
3. Community College article <http://www.mla.org/ade/bulletin/n079/079024.htm>
 - a. What Asimov is to prose, the community college English teacher is to pedagogy: the workhorse of the industry, systematically churning out a product that is, for its bulk, of amazingly high quality. Composition, by and large, is what the freshmen and sophomores need to learn and what we teach. Rows of students march endlessly through my nightmare visions like the stream of kings in *Macbeth*, each one bearing a load of essays, each essay written in spidery handwriting with a fine-point pencil on yellow paper.
4. English composition classes as moving targets
 - a. As student at Miami-Dade
 - b. As beginning adjunct instructor at TCC
 - c. As beginning asst. prof. at GCCC
 - i. Book, pen, and paper
 - ii. Computer revolution begins
 - iii. Computer knowledge is commonplace
 - iv. My Space and Facebook
5. Effects of state laws
 - a. Gordon Rule
 - i. <http://www.mccfl.edu/pages/210.asp>
 - b. CLAST
 - i. <http://www.firn.edu/doe/sas/clsthome.htm>
6. Community College article <http://www.mla.org/ade/bulletin/n079/079024.htm>
7. "What Asimov is to prose, the community college English teacher is to pedagogy: the workhorse of the industry, systematically churning out a product that is, for its bulk, of amazingly high quality. Composition, by and large, is what the freshmen and sophomores need to learn and what we teach. Rows of students march endlessly through my nightmare visions like the stream of kings in *Macbeth*, each one bearing a load of essays, each essay written in spidery handwriting with a fine-point pencil on yellow paper."

8. Burnout
9. Decision to come to Lee
10. Assembly-line mentality carries over
11. Supervisor and student evaluations
12. Back to computers
13. In search of a new paradigm
14. ACA grant
 - a. Various media
 - i. Chariots
 - ii. Music
 - iii. Powerpoint possibilities
 - iv. Computer as more than dedicated wordprocessor
 - b. Student folders
 - c. Modified portfolios
 - d. Tying research paper to Chariots
15. Demonstrations
 - a. Using Chariots
 - i. Narration
 - ii. Exemplification
 - iii. Comparison/contrast
 - b. The web page
 - c. Emailing
16. Evaluations-- <https://toolbox.leeuniversity.edu/login.asp>
 - a. Students
 - b. Course
 - c. Myself
17. Mistakes and opportunities
 - a. Educating the writing community members

- b. More informal, ungraded writing
 - i. Text reading responses
 - ii. End-of-class responses
 - c. More reading and study of composition theory
 - i. Formalism
 - ii. Reticist
 - iii. Expressivism
 - d. Going textless
 - i. Using the net
 - ii. Establishing class web pages
 - e. Reconsidering the purpose of first-semester composition
 - i. "Good" writing
 - ii. "Academic" writing
18. Question and answer

Alan Jackson “Work In Progress”

Okay, I forgot about the trash,
I didn't trim the long hairs on my moustache.
I did buy you a ring; I believe it was back in '93.
Alright, I admit it; I forgot our anniversary.
I did pick up the baby this morning at the nursery.
That ain't no big thing; It's a gold star for me.

You get tired and disgusted with me,
When I can't be just what you want me to be.
I still love you and I try real hard.
I swear, one day, you'll have a brand new car.
I even asked the Lord to try to help me:
He looked down from Heaven, said to tell you please;
Just be patient, I'm a work in progress.

I'm sorry I got mad, waitin' in the truck;
It seemed like hours, you gettin' all dressed up,
Just to go to Shoney's on a Wednesday night.
I read that book you gave me about Mars and Venus;
I think it's sinkin' in but I probably need to re read it,
But I'm starting to see now, what you been saying is right.

You get tired and disgusted with me,
When I can't be just what you want me to be.
I still love you and I try real hard.
I swear, one day, you'll have a brand new car.
I even asked the Lord to try to help me:
He looked down from Heaven, said to tell you please;
Just be patient, I'm a work in progress.

I know you meant well when you bought gave me those clogs,