## Vanessa Garcia July 7, 2011 Phyllis Salsedo RDG 091 College Preparatory Reading Section 12329 Reflection #1

**Chapter 1**

When I browsed through chapter 1 I already knew the meaning of synonyms, antonyms and the general sense of the sentence or passage. A synonym is easy to identify because it is the same meaning of a word. An antonym is the opposite of a word. If a synonym or antonyms are hard to use to figure out the meaning of word, you can use the general sense of the sentence or passage. In this case you have to really think about the main point in the sentence/passage, to figure out the meaning of the unfamiliar word. For example, “This may not be the opportune time to tell you this, Cranston, but you’re fired.” (Langan 27) In this picture the worker is injured in the hospital and his boss is telling him that he is fired. The word *Opportune* is used in this sentence, and the boss used this word because it means “suitable”. So, telling him he is fired while in the hospital is not a suitable time to inform him, but he did anyway. One fact did stand out for me, and that is the fact that a sentence contains examples of an unfamiliar word.  This is good to know because it will make it easier for me to understand the meaning of an unfamiliar word. For example “Indolent? I’m not being indolent! Trying to find something good to watch on TV while eating these chips is really hard work!” (Langan 24) This sentence contains an unfamiliar word, but towards the end of the sentence it has an antonym “hard work” Therefore, the opposite of hard work is lazy, so indolent means lazy. The examples make it so much easier for an individual to understand. It is amazing!  **Chapter 2** In this chapter I learned about the main idea of a passage. In a passage are examples that notify the main point. For example, in the power point “Our marriage has problems. He likes to spend money; I like to save it.” (slide 2) Those are examples, so the main point is that their marriage is on the rocks. To find the main point in a summary you really need to know what it is about. For example, the first summary is about how thief’s aren’t so clever after all. On sentence 2 “In reality, thieves can be remarkably foolish.” (Langan 75) To find the main point in a summary you really need to know what it is about.