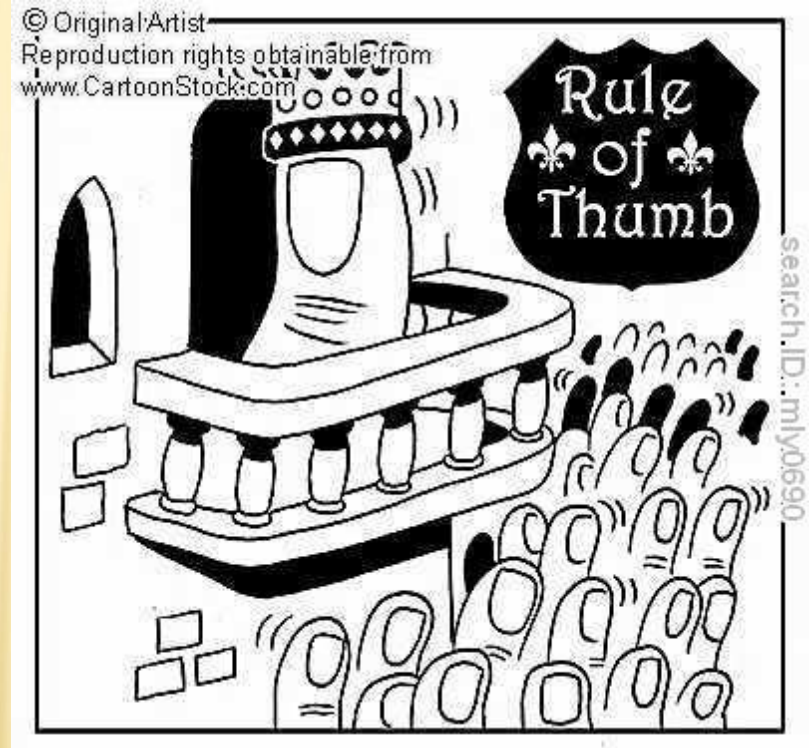


# **DISCUSSION FORUM: TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

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# WHAT DOES A GREAT POST LOOK LIKE?

- ✘ “A thoughtfully developed, well-written reply to the DQ” includes examples and explanation.
- ✘ A good rule of thumb is a well-developed paragraph.
- ✘ Like to see what a good post and a not-so good post look like? Check out the next two slides...



# A GOOD EXAMPLE

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- ✘ “I think computer technology is great. It gives people/students multitudes of information at the push of a few buttons. A paper that would have taken days of research at a library is virtually at your fingertips in minutes. There are so many things that can be done with a computer and the proper program. I do however think that there should be more access to computer classes for people who are just not technically inclined. I don't think that adding computer technology to any of the existing basic skills will take away from those skills in any way. There will always be the need for reading and writing and mathematics, in fact there are several very helpful websites that can help children with reading issues as well as writing and math. These programs become essential for parents who cannot afford tutors for their child. A parent can with the aid of these websites help their children themselves.”

# A NOT SO GOOD EXAMPLE

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- ✘ “I think that computer technology could more of a good thing than bad. Computers can help children in school with various subjects, plus like in my kids school, each classroom in equipped with a projector, screen and computer.”
  
- ✘ What could this student do to improve the post?
  - + Provide examples of how computers help students in school.
  - + Give further explanation of why computers can be both a good thing and a bad thing.
  - + Add any personal experience that may add to the post.
  - + Support his/her ideas with research from the textbook, articles, or other credible sources.

# HOW ABOUT THE RESPONSES TO PEERS?

- ✘ Weekly participation also includes “well-developed messages to the replies of others.”
- ✘ This is more than a “good post” or “I agree with what you said.”
- ✘ It includes the following:
  - + Respect.
  - + Alternative viewpoints.
  - + Probing questions to get others thinking.
  - + Additional insight or explanation on the topic.

# WHAT DO THOSE SYMBOLS MEAN?



- ✘ This means that your post has been graded by the instructor.



- ✘ If it's highlighted and has a number next to it, then someone liked your post!



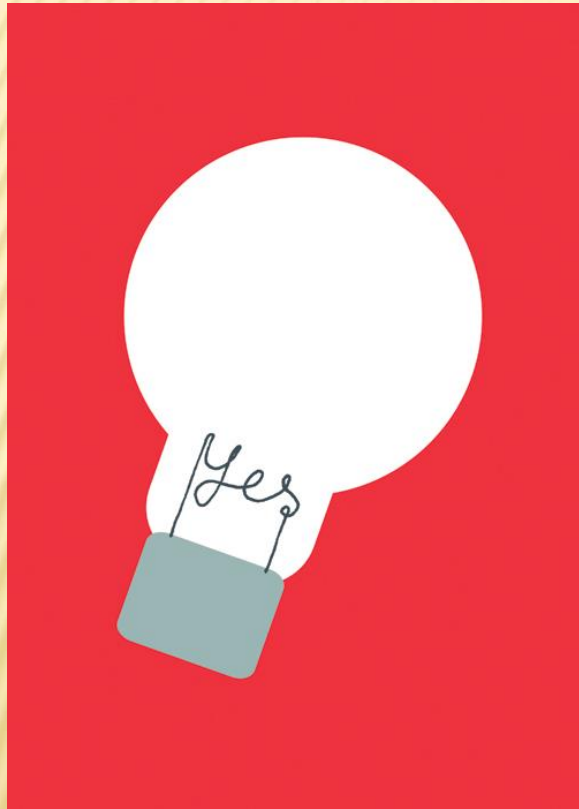
- ✘ This symbol represents the instructor.



- ✘ This symbol means that your post has been marked as substantive by the instructor and counts towards your weekly participation.

# TO WRAP IT UP...

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- ✘ Continue to engage in positive dialogue with each other.
- ✘ Think of more ideas that you wanted to include in your original post? Just go back and add a reply to your post to add additional thoughts.
- ✘ Have a question? Just ask! 😊