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January 19, 2016
Prof. Greg Shaya
FYS: The Witness in History
Short Writing Assignment #2

The Eyewitness Observer in
Bartolomé de las Casas' *Destruction of the Indies*

The purpose of this sample paper is simply to demonstrate the format for a short writing assignment. As you can see, it looks a lot like the sample short papers, though I include some adjustments so that you might be able to print your paper on one page front and back.

Some simple guidelines: Use one-inch margins and an easy to read 12-point font. Include your name, date, and class information in the upper left-hand corner. Include a title, centered above the text, without bold or italics or question marks (unless you are quoting someone). The text should be double-spaced and left justified, with the first line of paragraphs indented. Be sure to include a page number if you have more than one page to your assignment.

When should you use a citation? You should use citations (in whatever form) to identify the source of direct quotations, examples, paraphrases, or ideas. As you can see, citations can do a lot of different kinds of work, but the most essential is this: they take your reader directly to the sources you are using. For a short writing assignment in class addressing a work that we are reading together, you should simply include a page number in parentheses for a citation (245). If the work is not one that we are using in class, you should include the author's last name in the reference and list the work in a list of works cited (Hacker 79). Feel free to include

the works cited list below the text if it will save printing an extra sheet of paper (as it does here).

Works Cited

Casas, Bartolomé de las. *An Account, Much Abbreviated, of the Destruction of the Indies*. Ed. and intr. Franklin W. Knight. Trans. Andrew Hurley.

Indianapolis: Hackett, 2003.

Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual 5e with 2009 MLA Update*. Fifth Edition.

New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.