252: Grammar and Communication Paper

Prompt: Discuss the concept of underlying competence in the linguistic principles which govern human communication. How can understanding this issue better enable you to control your own writing and/or speech? How can this also facilitate understanding of and relationship with individuals from a variety of socio-cultural backgrounds?

Translation: Everyone communicates without thinking. How can knowing this help you write &/or speak better? Also, how can this help you deal with people who are different from you? (Use some examples of messed up communication from everyday life)

Length: 2 pages (450 words - in the final draft)

Weight: 5% of your final grade

Format: MLA, Times New Roman, 12pt, Double Space, etc…

Sources: At least 1 source as defined below

- Academic journal article or book
  (Online or print)
- Wikipedia is NOT an acceptable source
  (nor are other encyclopedias, blogs, or wikis)

SPECIFICS details on language in action are REQUIRED
 ALSO: Use information from the text & discussions to support your claims

Avoid: Preaching about prescriptive rules

Grading: See separate rubric

Due Dates: 1st Draft: second day of class.
Final Draft: last day of class.

Notes: This paper will be done in two installments. The first draft will be due the second day of class and should be at least one page in length (~250 words). This draft can be rough, but should be complete. No sources are required for the draft. Please post to Blackboard and print this out. Bring a copy to class with you every day.

The final draft of this paper will be due on the last day of class. You are expected to revise the original for both content and grammar. Your final draft should be free of grammatical and stylistic errors.