**“Your Own Modest Proposal” Project**

Swift’s narrator is objective and his presentation tempts us to agree with him. He hopes that by outraging us, he will force us to draw conclusions that are the opposite of the narrator’s.

Consider some issue involving human suffering in today’s world. As Swift did, propose an outlandish solution to the problem. Before writing, list facts and details that support your solution. From your notes, compose the first draft of your proposal while concealing your opinions with an air of detachment and objectivity.

Like Swift, do the following:

\* suggest your proposal is modest, when really it is horrible

\* pretend to be emotionless

\* pretend to be very objective

\* number your reasons

\* appear to document your evidence

\* remove yourself from the profit motive (if one exists)

\* present some real facts along with your outrageous solution

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“A Modest Proposal” Outline

*A modest proposal for . . .\**

Paragraph 1:

*It is a frustrating problem . . .*

*It is horrible to realize that . . .*

Paragraph 2:

*I think we can all agree that . . .* (List general facts, not yours)

Paragraph 3:

Your five facts and commentary

Paragraphs 4&5:

Two possible solutions that won’twork

Paragraph 6

*I will now humbly propose my thoughts on the problem, and hope you will consider them thoughtfully.*

Paragraph 7:

Your bizarre proposal – in detail

Paragraph 8:

Recap your goals and say you have nothing to gain from this.

**\* The *italicized* portions should appear word for word in your paper.**

**Name 1:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class\_\_\_\_#\_\_\_\_\_ **Name 2:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class\_\_\_\_#\_\_\_\_\_

Planning Sheet for Your Modest Proposal

We have chosen the following area of concern:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5-8 Facts/Statistics/Expert Opinions to support our assessment of the problem:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2 other possible solutions for the problem people have suggested and why they *won’t* work:

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Our solution is:

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**Teacher’s Evaluation for Student Satires**

Text & Organization: \_\_\_\_/5

Objective and Formal Voice/Tone: \_\_\_\_/2.5

Title & Subtitle: \_\_\_\_/2.5

MLA Document Format: \_\_\_\_/2.5

Fluency/Style: \_\_\_\_/2.5

Conventions: \_\_\_\_/2.5

Success as a satire: \_\_\_\_/2.5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Points: \_\_\_\_/30 in the Writing category