

Mid-course Friday

Dear Everybody,

You will probably get this letter after lunch when we review the week and look forward to next week. I have been reviewing my own writing this week and realise that I have had some strong experiences in terms of my own relational life over the past four days. I feel that I have been both a participant and the group guide in a fairly balanced way. I feel that I have come nearer to achieving this balance than I did on last year's course, the first one to run at Pilgrims. I am now glad to have been forced by colleagues into leading this course, though still a bit regretful that the person I proposed to run the course did not do it. This person is something else as a teacher of writing. All the above leads me to think that we have all worked pretty hard this week at a variety of levels and that we should sail happily into a relaxing week-end.

Can I ask you to please think forward to next week and prepare to tell me the things you feel we should be doing, the areas we should be covering etc..... I of course have some things up my sleeve but it is time for you to step onto the bridge of the ship and steer the course that, you as a group decide on.

Dare I suggest a spot of "homework" over the week end?

Might this bring you out on pedagogical strike?

Is this just a further instance of the Mario "hurry-up driver" (TA) coming into action?

I would love to have some meaty letters to reply to on Monday morning. Your letters now are likely to be full and relationally fluent.

Could you also each buy a magazine from a large shop like Smiths, a magazine that you would never remotely think of buying back home. D■■■■, how about a about a boxing mag? H■■■■ how about a zine aimed at 14 year old girls and all about ponies, point to points and hay? When you are far from home it is rational to be a wee bit mad!

Please come ready to a) explain who the readers of the mag are (check out the ads)

b) to report fully on one short article

c) offer a brief analysis of the style of writing

Have a good week-end

Mario