**Time-on-task: 2 hours.**

**PRO TIP: Do the Assigned Reading in They Say/I Say before starting this paper.**

**PRO TIP: Use your annotations/markups, conversation maps, and the article itself while writing this paper. Don’t try to write the paper using just your head.**

**Write** a 600-750 word paper using the following structure:

* **First introduce ONE aspect of the "endless conversation" about animals** **by** **describing and explaining** the positions in the conversation as you found them in Pollan.
  + Your reader should be able to understand what Pollan and Singer think without having to read the original. So be sure to give enough context for your reader to understand and explain any missing background they need to understand. Be sure to explain difficult or special uses of important terms. Guide readers through the examples and ideas Pollan and Singer use to make their points. Remember to connect the ideas in the conversation together by explaining WHO said WHAT in response to WHOM. Be sure to **Play the Believing Game** with ideas you find hard to accept and avoid **Derailing the Conversation.**
* While you're describing Pollan’s (and his allies) and Singer’s (and his allies) positions put your "oar" in and **tell your readers what you think** of the existing positions in the conversation. What’s right or wrong about them? How useful are they in thinking through the ethical questions around meat eating?
* **Finish by explaining** how your effort to understand Pollan's consideration of Singer's positions has moved your own thinking on the matter forward.

**Possible Aspects of the Conversation to Write About:**

* What should be the criteria for determining whether it's ethical to kill and eat animals?
* Singer's speciesist/racist analogy
* The relative weight of human suffering and animal suffering
* Whether human beings have a responsibility to treat animals well
* Whether the happiness or welfare of animals matters
* The implications of Pollan's definition of "domestication"
* Should we define what's good for animals as what's good for the individual animal versus what's good for the species
* How useful is philosophy in thinking about these questions? Are there limits to philosophy?
* Singer's response to Pollan's email
* Animal rights versus animal welfare
* How effective Pollan's "glass walls"/"looking" solution would be to improve animal welfare

**Technique/Skill Requirements**

* Use your sources in **THREE of the SIX** ways [experienced writers use sources](http://ericdrown.uneportfolio.org/2016/10/31/on-working-with-the-words-of-others/) (the handout from Sept 10 can be found on the course calendar via a link in the Homework subsection of the Sept. 10 entry).
* **Frame** 3 quotations using the techniques from They Say/I Say (TS/IS) pp. 45-49.
  + Use the Templates for Introducing and Explaining Quotations in TS/IS
  + Follow all quotations or paraphrases with a paragraph number in parentheses – like this (para. 43).
* Steal some of Pollan’s **signal verbs and pivotal words** and use them in your own writing as you introduce the views of other people.