

## **Activity #1—Writing, Technology, Plato, and Ong**

We are going to make some information today and use the computers that are in front of us—no matter how much they may decrease our intelligence. There are a number of questions I have that I'd like you to respond to. Now don't worry, you don't have to respond to them all and they aren't over the weekend homework. Instead, I'd like you to help me make information from our readings and be oral about it!

### **Activity A: Plato, Socrates, and Ong**

For this activity, I want you to remix the *Phaedrus* with "Writing Restructures Consciousness." Write a dialogue where Socrates gets in an argument with Ong about writing. You can add some of your own words to make your dialogue work.

Last—in a couple sentences tell me which author you agree with and why.

### **Activity B: Writing is a Technology**

For this activity, I want you to think critically about writing as a technology. I want you to think about whether or not technologies are exterior or interior or both and what this means. Make a simple rhyme or catch phrase that defines technology. Then make a catch phrase that defines writing according to Ong!

### **Activity C: Interiorizing a Technology**

For this activity, I want you to think critically about technology and writing. Write a simple poem or song that rhymes and shows us what Ong means by "interiorizing a technology" and describes why this is important.

### **Activity D: The Onset of Literacy**

For this activity, you will create a short "Once upon a time..." tale which describes how perceptions of writing changed through time. Make writing the protagonist. Tell the story like you'd speak it.

### **Activity E: The Alphabet**

For this activity, I want you to think critically about the alphabet as a technology. Create a simple poem or song that rhymes and describes what an alphabet is and why it is significant.