

## **Paper Three: Rewriting the textbook**

**DUE TO YOUR TA BY 9AM ON FRI, NOV 5**

Paper Three must be drawn from the materials relating to Lectures 17-24 / Chapters 13, 15-17

For this paper, your goal is to draft a new piece for the Gleitman et al. textbook. The centerpiece of this paper will be a piece of textbook prose. Aim for a piece that would be like one of the sections with a reddish-brown title in the text. If that makes no sense, open to page 384 (to pick a random page). You want to write something that could be like the "Attribution as a rational process" section or the "Errors in the attribution process" section. Note that these are very different in length. Notice that different topics require different lengths of text. Pick a topic that will give you 6 manuscript (not 6 textbook) pages of material.

Your paper should have the following parts.

- a. **Rationale:** Why is this topic something that really should be in an introductory text?  
NOTE: In coming up with an answer to this question, you may find that you need to broaden your topic. A cool experiment, no matter how cool, is likely to get a line or two in a textbook. The articles posted in the folders on the server are, for the most part, pretty specific. You will need to read enough to generate a textbook section – not a textbook sentence. This section is NOT what you would put in the textbook. It is your short justification for the inclusion of this topic. It might be a cover letter to the editor.
- b. **The textbook bit:** In writing this, pay attention to textbook style. If you introduce an important new term, you should put it in **boldface** and, more importantly, you should be sure to define it in the text. Think about level of detail. There are not a lot of methodological details in the typical bit of textbook prose. Don't forget to cite your sources in the text. Look at the rate of citation in Gleitman. Can't have a citation on every line but you can have quite a few in a section.
- c. **Placement:** Tell us where this would go in Gleitman. Now, if your TA were a real textbook editor, he/she would tell you that you can't make your book any fatter or the students will scream. So a clever version of this section will describe what will be removed to make room for your brilliant piece of prose.
- d. **Summary:** Look at page 411 of Gleitman. Summary point #9 covers the two sections mentioned above from page 384. You should write the *very brief* summary that would go at the end of the chapter. What critical bits do the students have to get into their heads in order to pass the exam?
- e. **Bibliography:** As ever, the listing of the works that you used.