You have three options.

1. The French government allocates $32 per person per year to funding the arts. The United States government allocates approximately $.42 (in 2006). The arguments for public funding of the arts which seems to raise the most philosophical issues is the argument that the arts elevate culture. Discuss this claim. What does it mean to elevate culture? Can art do this? What are the fundamental value questions underlying this claim? Even if you agree with the claim, is it the proper role of the government to perform this function?

2. Shiner assumes that “the great division” was a bad move in the history of the arts. Does he offer an argument for this position, and if so, what is it? And aside from Shiner’s position, is this really bad? What is your position on “the great division”?

3. Shiner holds out the prospect of a third system of the arts. Give a brief overview of the first and second systems (covered in the earlier part of the course). Then sketch what such a third system might look like. You can use some of Shiner’s suggestions, but add some of your own.

Due date: Wednesday, April 11

Two to three pages; 1 inch margins; normal font (12 pt.); double space; no cover page; place your name, the date, and the name of the course in the upper left or right corner; place a header on pages other than the first page with your name and the page number; use the MLA parenthetical style for references.

Remember that references to paintings and sculpture should be in italics or underlined.