“WANTED: A FRIEND”

Loneliness is a common emotion that everyone feels once in a while--some more often than others. The ranch hands in Of Mice and Men were drifters; they had no families close by and didn't stay in one place long enough to make lasting friends. Theirs was a lonely lifestyle. Two fellows, George and Lennie, found friendship early in their lives and traveled together. From them we can see what it means to be a friend and what it means to have a friend. Friendship has great rewards, but being a friend isn't always easy.

Your assignment is to design an advertisement -- "WANTED: A FRIEND". Your advertisement should carry all the usual information in a "want ad": what you want, a job description, the requirements and the rewards. Your ad must fit on an 8 1/2" X 11" sheet of paper. Be as creative as you like, but remember your ad must contain the information requested above and remember that you are striving for an effective advertisement.

PREWRITING

 The first thing you need to do is to jot down ideas you have about what a friend's job description would contain. What does it mean to be a friend? What qualities are necessary for a person to have to be a good friend? What are the positive aspects of being a friend? What are the difficult parts of the job?

Put down all of your thoughts, and then go back and sort through them. Combine ideas that are essentially the same. Organize your thoughts into categories: job description, qualifications/requirements, and rewards. From there you can begin to design your ad.

DRAFTING

You need to make a few basic decisions: Are you going to have any graphics (drawings)in your ad? What will be the attention-getter in your ad? How can you make all of your most important information fit on one page? How will you lay-out or design your ad? (How will it look on the page?) Once you have decided these things, you can put pencil to paper and make a rough draft of your ad.

PROMPT

After you have finished a rough draft of your ad, revise it yourself until you are happy with your work. Then, ask a student who sits near you to tell you what he/she likes best about your work, and what things he/she thinks can be improved. Take another look at your ad keeping in mind your critic's suggestions, and make the revisions you feel are necessary.