

## PREPARATION TO WATCH THE DVD *THE PROP MASTERS* (THE TV SHOW “ER”)

### Part 1 of the Assignment

- I) After viewing *The Prop Masters* program, each person will answer the following questions. Where appropriate provide specific examples to explain your answer. Do not use the examples provided with this document.
- II) Bring two copies of the typed, double-spaced document. A cover page is not necessary. Come prepared to work in groups to discuss concepts and the second part of the assignment.
- III) Part 1 is due \_\_\_\_\_



#### A. What are the characteristics of good props (for a show)?

List three examples.

- a. For example, “A prop must be yellow”.

#### B. Describe good props in your own words.

Describe the importance of each of the characteristics of good props and provide a **specific** example to support each answer. The examples can be from any television show except ER. Identify the show for each example.

- a. “A prop that is yellow is easily identified by the viewer. For example, on an episode of ER a man was in danger of falling off a bridge. He used a yellow flag to signal that he was in danger, and you could see that he was in danger”.

#### C. What is the definition of a good property master?

List three personality traits that are likely to make for a successful property master.

- a. For example, “A prop master must be funny or humorous”.

#### D. Describe a good property master in your own words.

Describe the importance of the three personality traits that make for a successful property master.

- a. For example, “Humor is important because when there are problems with work you must not get so upset that it distracts you from doing the job.”

#### IV) Conduct background research on “ER” the series.

- a) Web site resources: <http://www.tv.com/> <http://www.zap2it.com/> <http://www.nbc.com/er>  
<http://www.local44.org/> (site for the union that includes property masters)
- b) Understand what the show is all about, the type of show it is, the characters and setting.
- c) The research will be helpful for you to complete both parts of the assignment.
- d) Cite your sources using MLA style.

### Part 2 of the Assignment

- I. Our discussion will focus on sharing information from part 1 of the assignment and agreeing on the criteria that will be used to create a job description for the position of Property Master.
- II. The job description is a typed, double-spaced document including cover page. The assignment is due on \_\_\_\_\_