Youth Cultures: Inquiry Assignment Guidelines

This assignment is designed to give you practice at reading and absorbing research and also at the inquiry process: developing questions and answering them through your own research.

Part 1: Reading and analyzing research (500 words)

Choose one of the following articles from the book Youth Subcultures, read it carefully, and summarize the main ideas. What is the author trying to show or prove? What is the position of the social scientist who wrote the article: Insider? Outsider? Objective? Biased? How do you know? What kind of evidence does the author use to support his/her claims? How credible/convincing is the article and why?

“Youth Activism in the 1990's”
“Bboys on the Eastside”
“Economic Status and Raving”
“My Life as an Enterprise Slash Writer”
"From Geeks to Freaks: Goths and the Middle Class"

Part 2: Inquiry Process (500 words)

Based on the article you read, identify a question you have about the subculture described. Do some research and try to answer the question in a way that satisfies your quest for truth and accuracy. You must consult at least 3 credible sources.

Write up: present your question and describe how you went about answering it. Describe each of your sources and why you found each one credible. Present the answer and how you determined that your answer was correct.

Evaluation: a 10-pt assignment would review the article accurately; answer all questions (and possibly more that interest you); identify a good question to ask; locate good, credible sources; provide a good answer to the question; do a good job of explaining how you went about your inquiry and why you are satisfied with your answer.