In my first few paragraphs, I focused on the introduction of being a gladiator and the daily life. With an exception of the first few lines, all of the information in the first paragraph is from Meijer. The first few lines came from Knapp. On page 266, he explains how slave owners would sell their slaves to a gladiatorial recruiter to punish the slave for misbehaving or simply just for money. I decided to go with the idea of retribution because it makes it seem like the gladiator has a chip on his soldier; it makes it sound a little more heroic than just being sold for no reason. On page 55, it explains how people are admitted to gladiator school. First, they are examined by a doctor and a tirones who is a recruiter for gladiators. Once they are admitted, they are considered a novicius which is the term used for aspiring gladiators and they have to sign an agreement (auctoramentum) with the lanista and swear an oath (sacramentum). The agreement is a contract which tells them how much they will earn and the oath basically says that the gladiator agrees to subject himself to any form of humiliation and punishment and recognizing his downgrade in society (Meijer 51). The housing is self explanatory. The second paragraph focuses on training and most of this information also came from Meijer. I added in the detail about the spectator boxes because I thought that it was important to the sexual appeal aspect that gladiators were supposed to have (Meijer 57). I thought the trainer or doctores was essential because gladiators spent most of the time training so the trainer was key to their success. I chose to be a retiarius because I think that particular type of gladiator would fit me most. He isn’t a gladiator that relies on strength, but rather on speed and strategy (Dunkle 109). I am a fast person so I thought it would be more meaningful and easier to write if I chose the one that reflected me more.

In the third paragraph, I wrote about a battle in terms of how I would feel if I was the one fighting. I incorporated the Dunkle passage in this paragraph with the description of the secutor...
and the crowd’s involvement (147). The ending of the paragraph is what I would be thinking if I killed someone. I would feel really bad killing him, but at the same time it is something I have to do. I would feel guilt and maybe self hate after it, but I would eventually overcome that or at least I would have to if I wanted to be successful as a gladiator. In the fourth paragraph, I talked about what happens after the battle and I used this opportunity to add in my academic journal source which was very interesting. After the battle, Meijer explains how the gladiators are examined to make sure they are still okay physically. The academic journal doesn’t say that the gladiators had their blood collected during these examinations but I decided to add that in because I thought it fit well (Moog 139).

In the last paragraph I talked about money and the relationship with my trainer. In both the Dunkle and Meijer source, it said that gladiators who are slaves earn 1:4 or 25% of whatever the lanista gets (Dunkle 143). I chose to talk about the relationship with the trainer because I thought this was kind of unique that the gladiators had trainers specific to what they were doing. I described him as kind of a best friend because I imagine as a gladiator, it would be hard to make really strong relationships because you dedicate all of your time to training and live in a barrack. Also, I don’t think it would be wise to get attached to another gladiator since it’s just a matter of time before they get killed; having that kind of relationship would just be a weakness. However, since the trainers are retired gladiators you don’t have to fear losing them. I made my trainer seem like the smart and informed guy by adding in the detail about Cicero and Seneca from the “primary sources for tweets n blogs” source and the detail about the graffiti. The idea of adopting a name came from Meijer. On page 70, he explained how gladiators chose to call themselves a name that had an “erotic flavor” to appeal to women. I also talked about how I thought being a gladiator was better than being a slave. I think it would be better to be a gladiator
because I feel like slaves in Rome were treated like garbage. At least as a gladiator, you kind of have this sense of being a human and people adore you. Some adore you just because of the visual pleasure you provide them, and perhaps there are others that actually adore you for you. I talked about the future being uncertain because as a gladiator, the future really is uncertain. You don’t know if you are going to die your next fight, and you really do not know how long it will be until you can buy your freedom because the earnings depend on how large the event is. Overall, I gave my adopted identity my feelings and thoughts and having a good friend was one thing that would be very important to me.

