1.What is the nature of Berlin’s critique of rhetoric relative to cultural studies?

2.What are some of the ways that Zappen et al reply to this critique, arguing against it, or for a more complex unerstanding of it?

3.What are some examples the article gives of how rhetoric participates in the “formation of citizens?” (p 4) Can you think of other examples?

4.What does Berlin mean when he says, “Rhetorics and poetics and rhetorical and poetical texts can be regarded as a technology [sic] for producing consciousness, social and material conditions, and discourse activities that will ensure their continuance" (3).

5.Locate in the article the quote from Cicero (via Crassus) that discusses the power and importance of rhetoric (p 7). Can you explain what he is saying--and do you agree? Why or why not?

6.The authors argue, " The role of rhetoric in democratic institution-building coincides in the information

age with its role in creating technologies that foster participation." Do Berlin and Hauser agree with this? Why or why not? What do you think? (8)

7.What does Winner say about the role of "citizens" in the shaping of technology development? Do you agree or disagree? What do Zappen et al say?

8.How does the quote from the Reort of the Committee on Rhetroical Invention explain the idea that, "… a vital aspect of man’s [sic] experience is rhetorical" ?

9.What do the authors intend when they ask, "[Is rhetoric] … a way of 'making ways of acting'

that are then inscribed and normalized in the technologies we employ?"

10. Why do they mean when they say, about Connected Kids, " The project illustrates Hauser’s vernacular rhetoric as a process of negotiation, a “self-structuring activity” in which social actors make and remake themselves in concert and sometimes in conflict with others" ?

11. Describe the rhetorical situation surrounding the development of "Connected Kids" database: who are the various stakeholders, and what is the nature of the "negotiations" that the researchers are interested in observing and documenting?

12. What are some of the issues and conflicts that come up during the development negotations as the database is collaboratively designed and developd? How are they addressed?

13. At the end of the article, what are the suggested, "important paths" rhetoricians might take in

order to pursue acritique of the rhetorical tradition, but also a reconstruction of that tradition in the interest of making and remaking “littledemocracies.”