DIFFICULT PASSAGE ANALYSIS
Instructor: Amy Fenstermaker

1. Brief Description of in-class writing exercise:
Difficult passage analysis - students work together in groups to decipher the meaning of a
difficult sentence(s) from an article they've been assigned to read for homework.

2. Context for the exercise:
Can be used with any article

3. Goal(s) of the exercise:
• to show students that even though they think they don't understand a difficult passage,
  they really do
• to show students the benefits of discussing ideas with others

4. Common results of the exercise:
Students struggle at first, but seem pleased with themselves when they get it.

5. Student responses to the exercise:
Sometimes they complain, although lightheartedly, about the difficulty of the passage
they've been assigned