***A Modest Proposal* Study Guide**

Use this study guide to guide your reading of *A Modest Proposal*. The study guide will be due the day we take the *A Modest Proposal* test for class assignment points.

What is the definition of “modest”? How do you think it will relate to the essay?

What is the purpose of the proposal (based on the subtitle)?

Describe the conditions in Ireland:

What is the main problem?

What did Swift find out about children from America?

According to Swift, what will the children do as adults to support themselves?

What are the advantages of Swift’s proposal?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Who would make possible objections to the proposal? Why?

Does Swift really think it’s a good idea to eat babies? If not, what is the real purpose of this essay? What is Swift trying to change?

What is the tone of the proposal?

What techniques of satire can you identify in *A Modest Proposal*? (irony, hyperbole, etc.)