**IME Intro Worksheet 2: Considering Perspective, An Online Excursion**

Relates to **Considering Perspective, an Online Excursion**

Objectives:

* Observe a scene and compile notes based on your observations
* Consider the role of *perspective* in developing a research idea
* Practice descriptive writing

The *Times Square Earthcam* site displays several webcams that overlook New York City’s Times Square, enabling viewers to get different real-time views of this famous setting. The camera can be accessed by going to www.earthcam.com and choosing the Times Square camera or by entering “Times Square Earthcam” into a search engine.

With the lens zoomed in (4K or Street Cam views), you have only a limited view but you can see a lot of detail in that view. With the lens zoomed out, you give up detail for “the bigger picture.” You can see many more people and objects, thereby gaining in numbers but losing in detail. The lesson to be learned from this example is this: Perspective impacts what you see.

Imagine that you decided to devote an entire semester to a study of Times Square. Given who you are and what you do, what would you study? The best and fastest way to start any observation project is to ask “who, what, where, when, why, and how.”

* *Who…?*
* *What…?*
* *Where…?*
* *When…?*
* *Why…?*
* *How…?*

Finally, imagine in writing how you might design a study to address one or more of those questions. In a paragraph or two, write about the following: What exactly would you study? Which specific words might need defining? Would the “view” for your study be zoomed in or out? What would you observe? When and over what period of time would you observe? Why would those choices help you to address your questions? What would you hope to learn and why would that learning matter?