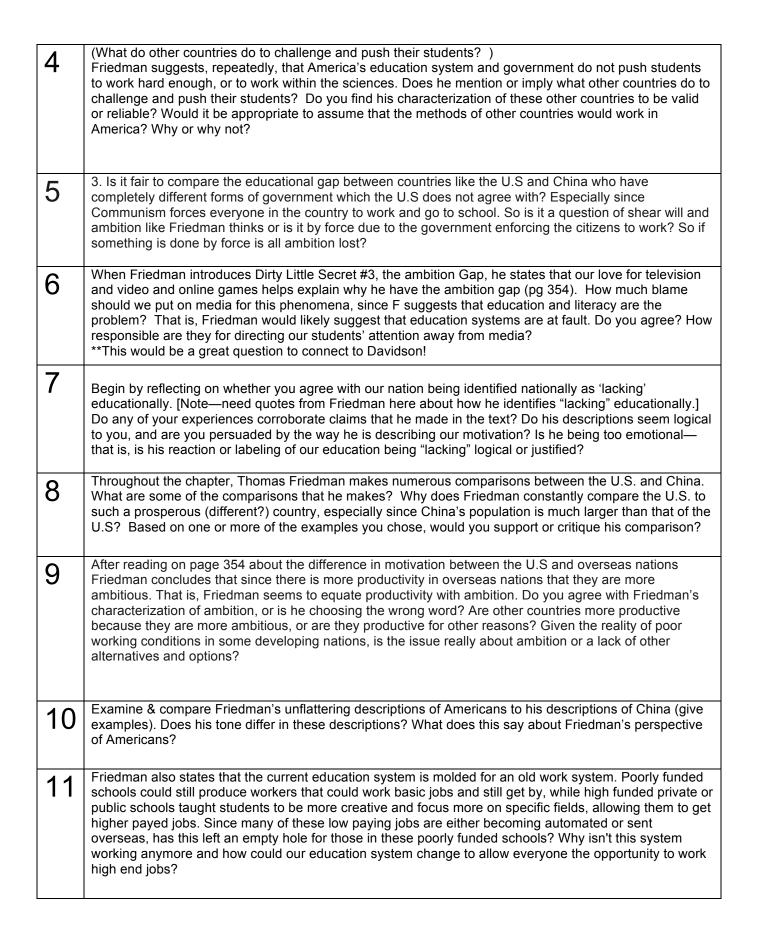
Here are the analytical prompts that we worked on, with my added revisions. I also included prompts from the emails I received - these were not revised in class, but feel free to use any of them. CHOOSE ONE—write a 250 word response (or more), and try to use a bit of textual evidence in your response. Post to BB.

In "Dirty Little Secret #3, The Ambition Gap," Friedman says that those in other countries have more passion and work ethic than most Americans. He quotes a CEO who states, "not only is outsourcing cheaper [...] but the quality and productivity boost is huge" (354). Friedman's argument makes it sound like people from countries such as India and China produce a higher quality of work than the average American. What, specifically, does Friedman say about work ethic and the efforts of American workers (give examples)? And how does this effort/ethic compare to the foreign workers that are discussed on p 354? Given these examples, what motivates some people to work harder than others? Judging from Friedman's evidence, what seems to motivate the foreign workers, vs. the American workers?

OR A different version of this question (drawing on more textual context):

In "Dirty Little Secret #3, The Ambition Gap," Friedman says that those in other countries have more passion and work ethic than most Americans. He quotes a CEO who states, "not only is outsourcing cheaper [...] but the quality and productivity boost is huge" (354). Friedman's argument makes it sound like people from countries such as India and China produce a higher quality of work than the average American. He goes on to suggest that recent immigrants to the US have a similar attitude toward work, and that they want their children to work much harder than American schools require (357). Furthermore, he suggests that in Western Countries (like Europe, and by extension, America), people would be unwilling to give up vacations and work on weekends to match the production of foreign workers(359). Drawing from these examples, describe the barriers that would stand in the way of improving American productivity. How receptive would Americans be to the attitudes discussed on pg 359?

- 1. Throughout the text, the subject of science and engineering came up acknowledging that America was definitely declining as a strong power in these subjects. Yet, during the introduction of the piece, Friedman introduces American's role in worldly competition by mentioning instances in the 2004 Olympic Games. Evaluate Friedman's use of basketball to set up his arguments of America's declining in competition against other countries? Does this parallel serve as a valid introduction to set up America is falling behind in science and engineering? Make sure to include textual evidence for further your claim.
- On page 343 it is said that "wealth will gravitate to countries who get three basic things right." One of these these conditions is "the right governance, which includes the right tax policies, the right investment and tax laws, the right support for research, the right intellectual property laws, and, most of all, the right inspirational leadership to enhance and manage the flow with the flat world." He goes on to conclude "the United States has serious gaps developing in these areas." (343) Friedman is suggesting that in order for the US to improve and maintain our wealth, there are many intricate ways in which government must lead.
 - Q- What is the author is referring to when he identifies each of these areas of governance? How do they affect the daily lives of Americans and/or our competitiveness around the world?
 - Q Given Friedman's claims about our shortcomings as a nation, what would the 'right' investment, tax laws, support for research, intellectual property laws and inspirational leadership be? Explain how these solutions could (or couldn't) actually work to help America and its' citizens increase our competitiveness with other countries.



- 12 In the Quiet Crisis, Friedman introduces 6 reasons why America as a country is in decline when it comes to science and engineering. Which of the six should require the most attention in order for America to have a resurgence? Use examples from the text that support your answer.
- Through out the piece Friedman places an emphasis on engineering and science. Being a freshman in college this is very relevant to us. Friedman quotes a science PhD student (and his daughters boyfriend) as saying that American kids want to get degrees in things that are "fun", and science and math aren't "fun". I think the implication here is that students not majoring in science or engineering are taking the easy way out. Does the language Friedman uses make you want to get a degree in science or engineering? How do you feel about his language?