Realism

1. Look at the two paintings by Francois Millet: “The Gleaners” and “Woman Baking Bread.” How are elements of realism shown in these paintings? Be specific.
2. Next, look at the three paintings by Gustave Courbet: “Proudhon and His Children”, “Stonebreakers”, and “After Dinner at Ornans.” How are elements of realism shown in these paintings? Be specific. Who was Proudhon? Why would he be a subject for realist painters in the 19th century?
3. Carefully study the painting “Work” by English painter Ford Maddox Brown. Describe elements in this painting that show the realities of the different social classes in the 19th century.
4. <http://www.schooltales.net/hardtimes/coketown_xrpt.html> Read this selection (or the PDF version) from Charles Dickens’ novel *Hard Times.*  What are his criticisms of the industrial world?
5. Read the selection from Emile Zola’s novel *Germinal* (on the attached PDF)*.* How is this novel an example of “realism”?
6. Based on what you’ve seen and read so far, do you prefer Romanticism or Realism? Why?