Glance
English 380
Spring, 2003

Report #1 Assignment:
Evaluating Site Design

For this first assignment I want you to find the ugliest web page you can and present it to the class. Note that ugliness can come from poor organization, unattractive color and font choices, a clumsy or irritating user interface, or other features that exhibit what you believe is poor design design. You should spend some time evaluating the page, based on the principles we have discussed in class, those in our texts, and your own opinions. Pay attention to the site's content, structure and navigation, visual design, functionality, interactivity, and overall experience. You can select a site that you have already used, or ponder those on such lists as www.uglywebdesign.com or www.worstoftheweb.com.

On Thursday, January 30, you will present to the class your analysis of the site. You should focus on details, and point out and discuss specific examples of what is wrong (and perhaps how to fix it). It would be helpful to provide the URL for each site for your classmates and me, but you will be discussing the sites using the projector. Your goal should be to teach your classmates poor design strategies and choices, so that they can avoid them later. Be sure to plan and practice your presentation so you can be brief—you will have about five minutes for your comments. I will need you to stick to this time limit this time!

I would like you also to turn in to me on that day a written, extended version of your presentation. This report should be typed, and more extensive than your report, but it does not have to be a formal paper. This report should be 2–3 pages long. Remember that this is an English class; proofread your paper for correct syntax, grammar and spelling.