This writing assignment is about the required readings in *The Pattern on the Stone* by Daniel Hillis. This reading was:
- Bits and Logic Blocks (pp. 10 - 19)
- Universal Building Blocks (pp. 21 - 30)

Using the information from these readings, answer the following questions:

1) Hillis describes many different ways to construct logic gates (switches, tinker toys, hydraulics, etc.). Why do you feel he is giving so many individual examples of this? What are the only requirements needed to construct a logic gate? How are the logic gates in your computer constructed?

2) Do a little external research, can you find any interesting examples of other materials that researchers have used to construct logic gates? Be sure to cite your source(s).

3) Describe what you feel Hillis means when he states: "Computers are built up of a hierarchy of functional abstractions, each one embodied in a building block". Can you think of an example from class of these "building blocks"? Describe how this fits into the idea of "Layers of Abstraction" that we have covered.

4) Describe in your own words the concept of a logic block. How does this further lead to the concept of functional abstraction?

5) To hand this assignment in, you will post it as a blog entry to your CSC101 Journal. The page we will be using for our journal from now on is entries.html, in your CSC101 folder. Consult your past lab reports, or the information found at w3schools if you are unsure of how to do this. Add a horizontal line between your last entry and this one, and also include the date the assignment is due under the horizontal line. Use any of the formatting tags that you know (or even some new ones) to make your entry look good.

   a. Here are some tips to help you out:
      i. Edit the file entries.html found in your userdata/csc101 folder
      ii. Use Dreamweaver to add your entry to your page, as well as format the style of the entry.
      iii. Make sure your edited page looks the way you want it before trying to upload it to the server.
      iv. To upload your page to the web, use the “put” function in Dreamweaver. (Highlight entries.html, and click the blue up arrow)

6) I will check the following link to see if your entry exists:

   a. http://www.wfu.edu/~user/csc101
   b. Be sure to check this link to make sure your assignment appears online.
   c. If it does not, follow the instructions from lab3 to update the permissions of your website.