THE DUTCH GO TO POT

By Eric Pape and Adam Piore
Taken from Newsweek, September 15, 2003

READING COMPREHENSION SECTION:

Read the article “The Dutch Go to Pot” carefully. Write the answers at home and bring them to class.

Part 1: Answer the following comprehension questions based on the article read.

a) What are many Europeans planning to do, now that the Dutch have decided to go to pot?
b) How do Americans and many Europeans see this new Dutch approach?
c) In what way is this new policy not as “out-there”? Give an example from the reading.
d) How is the U.S.A. viewed by its neighboring country Canada and Europe after all?
e) What is so ironic about French Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy? How does his behavior differ from U.S. Justice Department attorneys?
f) Why do you think the article ends with “Arrogant America”? What purpose does it have on you, the reader?

GRAMMAR SECTION:

Part 2: Complete the following sentences using ONLY Past Unreal Conditional as studied in class. Pay close attention to tense. You may either consult your book or web sites available in your English IV web page in case of any doubt.

a) If the United States had held everyone to the treaties and policies it wanted, …
b) Europeans would have followed the Bush administration’s “zero tolerance” if …
c) Tommy Chang would not have had to spend three years in prison if …
d) If the Rave Act had also been enacted in Europe, Europeans …
e) The U.S. Parliament would have already tightened/reinforced/implanted trade penalties to Canada if …
WRITING SECTION:

Part 3: Read the following questions and express your opinion in an eight-sentence paragraph including at least 5 Past Unreal Conditional Sentences. To avoid exceeding the number of sentences, number each at the end until you complete your 8 sentences. Do not write more nor less. Use 5 of the vocabulary words given in the Vocabulary Section (Web page).

Which of the two policies do you agree with: Americans or Dutch? Where do you think Venezuela stands concerning drugs? Support your answer with examples from the reading or real life.