**9th Grade Literature Digital Assignments**

**Final Week – Coming of Age Interview**

*This week you will be interviewing a person of your choosing about what it means to “come of age” or mature as a young adult. Then, you will be writing a reflection about what you learned from interviewing this person.*

Learning Objectives:

* Distinguishing the difference between open and closed questions.
* Drafting effective detailed questions in interview format.
* Conducting an interview using professional communication skills.
* Writing a detailed reflection based on learned experiences.

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Monday:

1. Decide who you would like to interview first. This person can be anyone you personally know that you look up to you. This person should be older than you since you are interviewing them about their life experiences.
2. Some ideas of a person to interview could be:
   * A parent
   * An extended family member (grandparent, older cousin, uncle, aunt, etc.)
   * An older sibling
   * A neighbor
   * A family friend
3. The person I will be interviewing is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. How do you know this person?
5. Write a three sentence (minimum) summary about who this person is and why you chose to interview them. Think about what type of life experiences they have (raising children, getting an education, moving to another place/country, getting a job/career, giving back to the community, etc.).
6. **Be sure that you practice social distancing during your interview!** You can interview this person via a phone call, video call, or by email/text. **DO NOT interview someone in person that you do not live with.**
7. How will you be interviewing this person? (Via phone, video call, text/email, or in person with someone you live with)
8. It is professional best practice to schedule an interview in advance with the person you are interviewing. Be sure to be considerate of their work/school schedule. What date and time will you be interviewing this person?

Tuesday:

Your focus today will be on drafting your interview questions. Below you will find closed interview questions. Change each of the questions to make them open-ended OR add follow-up questions to elicit more detailed answers from your interviewee.

1. *What did you do professionally or academically after grade school?*
   1. Add a follow-up question below (think of “who”, “what”, “where”, “when”, and “why”):
2. *Do you feel like you made the right choice?*
   1. Change this to an open-ended question OR add a follow-up question below:
3. *Did you learn anything from this experience?*
   1. Change this to an open-ended question OR add a follow-up question below:
4. *“Coming of Age” means to fully mature as an adult and take on responsibilities. When did you come of age?*
   1. Change this to an open-ended question OR add a follow-up question below:
5. *Do you have any advice for a high schooler?*
   1. Change this to an open-ended question OR add a follow-up question below:
6. Develop your own open-ended question based off the person you are interviewing (HINT: think about their unique experience such as being in the military, college, going straight into a job, raising children, moving to another place/country etc.).

Wednesday:

* This is the day that you conduct your interview. It does not have to be on Wednesday. Conduct the interview at a time that is convenient for you and your interviewee.
* You will record your interview so that you can reference back to your interviewee’s answers. Record your interview in one of the following ways…
  + Record the interview on your phone/another electronic device and write down their answers later.
  + Write down their answers as you conduct the interview.
  + Create a questionnaire form for them to fill out.
* Be sure to use professional communication in conducting your interview. This is practice for the academic/professional world after high school!
* Be sure that the open-ended interview questions you wrote from Tuesday are all answered. Copy and paste the answers below or write on your sheet of notebook paper.)

Thursday:

* Write a two-paragraph reflection of your interview. Your reflection should include information you learned from this interview that you can apply to your own life.
* Each paragraph should be at least five sentences long and use correct spelling, grammar, and conventions.
* Paragraph 1: Describe the person that you interviewed. Who are they? Why did you choose to interview them? Refer back to your questions from Monday to help you. Summarize some of their answers to your questions here.
* Paragraph 2: Describe how you can apply the lessons/advice this person taught you from the interview to your own life. What stood out to you as important information and why? What part of their story inspired you?
* Write your paragraph below if you are completing this digitally or complete it on a sheet of notebook paper if you are not.

Friday:

* Submit this assignment via:
  + Turnitin.com
  + Emailed to me
  + Or pictures sent via Remind or DM the class Instagram @missmuellersclass
* *Please reach out to me with any questions you have! Enjoy the conversations you have during this assignment and really try to learn something valuable from the person you interview.*