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ENG1101

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# Diallo Portfolio

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Thierno Diallo

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ENG 1001

30 October 2019

*When writing this assignment, I chose the topic I really liked hip hop at first, I didn't know*

*how to write annotated bibliography but after a couple of class sessions I had a better understanding. When I was revising my annotated bibliography, I went back to all my sources and identified the artist’s message and identified the details in each song contributed to the artist’s message as well as how it worked to persuade the audience/listeners of that message. I also used Purdue Owl in order to make sure I cited each source properly.*

Annotated Bibliography Hip-Hop

DaBaby.” Intro.” Kirk, Interscope Records, 2019.

https://genius.com/Dababy-intro-lyrics

Intro” is the opening track to the DaBaby’s album kirk it sends a strong message that with hard

work and dedication, you can outcome any challenge to reach your dreams. In the song the North Carolina rapper reminisces about his past and reflects on his rise to fame. In the song he talks about his poor upbringing and the challenges he faced to reach success. He mentions that he was broke most of his life and at one point he was living with a friend because he couldn’t afford a place. Then his debut album Baby on Baby went number one and his whole life change. His songs went viral entered the billboard hot 100 opening huge opportunity for him like being able to perform the 2019 BET awards which he talks about in the song. In the song he mentions that at the same time his album went number he got the bad news that his father had passed. He able to bounce back from the loss of his father and write a new album and dedicated this song “intro” to his father. Through the song he talks about his family and how it is the most important thing in his life and how he is thankful to be able to take care of both his friends and family. Dababy uses detailed experiences in his life like how he grew up poor and the loss of his father to persuade his audience his message that with hard work and dedication you can outcome any challenge to reach your dreams. DaBaby can persuade his listeners this message because he was able to overcome these challenges that he faced and reach his dream of becoming and rapper and he wants his listeners to know so can they.

NBA Youngboy. “Lonely child.” AI Youngboy 2, Atlantic Records, 2019 https://www.billboard.com/articles/news/lyrics/8539990/youngboy-never-broke-again-lonely-child-lyrics

On “lonely child” Youngboy wants people not to judge a person without knowing what that person has been through in life. The 20-year-old Louisiana rapper vulnerable bars speaks to how his fame has put him on this pedestal and he feels as if this pedestal has isolated him stripping him of his human status. In the song he talks about how he misses his grandmother who raised him and that miss all the friends he has lost to gang violence. He talks about his rise to fame how he grew up with nothing and was able to make a name for himself, but it was painted in a bad image people believed that he was this violent and heartless kid but. He wants people to know he has feelings and he has been through a lot of pain in his life he’s lost friends and has had people hurt him. Youngboy uses the pain of his losing friends and family to persuade his listeners that he is misunderstood and as an example of why you should never Judy a person without knowing what they have been through.

Polo G .“Finer thing” Die a Legend , Columbia Records, 2019 <https://pitchfork.com/features/rising/polo-g-interview/>

On “Finer things” Polo G wants listeners to not let their past define who they become. In the song he talks about what it was like being raised in the north side of Chicago. At a young age he had to hang around gang members and sell drugs to survive. He mentioned there was no heroes to look up to where he lived and how they look up to the villains. He talks about the pain he felt losing his friends to gang violence. He decided he was going to leave the streets and focus on music while in jail. He talks about how he was able to use the pain and struggles he faced and turned it into a passion to write music. He made a name for himself become a successful rapper and leave the things went through in the past. Polog use his experience in life form hustling in the streets to become a successful rapper as why to persuade readers his message to not let your past define you because he was able to become a better version of himself after leaving the streets.

Nas. “Hate Me Now” I Am, Columbia Records 1999 https://genius.com/Nas-hate-me-now-lyrics

On “hate me now “Nas wants the listeners to not let hate and criticism bring them down but use to make them stronger. In the song Nas recalls all the hate he received following his success in the rap industry. He talks about how people dislike him because he had flashy clothing and expensive jewelry he wore. He talks about how other rappers hated him because he was known to be one of the best rappers at his time. He states that he didn’t let this hate get to him, but it made him stronger. It motivated him to work harder and make more music earning him critically acclaimed titles and huge record sales. Nas used this hate and criticism to improve his career and make himself more successful. Nas persuade his listeners his message by stating an example in the song that he uses the hate in criticism and criticism to improve his career and help him achieve big record sales.

2Pac. “Keep Ya Head Up” Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z, Interscope Records, 1993 https://theundefeated.com/whhw/its-25-years-old-tupacs-keep-ya-head-up-is-hip-hops-definitive- ode-to-black-women/

On “Keep Ya Head Up “2Pac wants his listeners to respect women and embraced the strength and importance of women. In the song he talks about how women are so often stereotyped and scapegoated in hip-hop culture, but they are the ones who fuel man and make them a better person. He mentions how grateful he was for his mom and that he wouldn’t be where he is now if it was for her. Throughout the song he questions how people can hurt women and disrespect them when at least one point in their life they have been loved and taken care of by women. 2Pac states that his listeners should stand up for women and treat them well. He also wants to send a message to women to keep their heads up and keep thriving. 2Pac use the audience love for the women in their life to persuade his message

J. Cole “Love Yourz” 2014 Forest Hills Drive, Columbia Records 2014 https://spoonuniversity.com/healthier/j-cole-love-yourz-song-has-a-lesson-for-everyoe

In the song “Love Yourz” J. Cole delivers a powerful message that you should be grateful for the life you live. He explains in the song how he had once believed that being successful would bring happiness to his life but one he achieved it, he realized he had lost sight of the people and blessings he had around which was what brought happiness in his life. In the song the line “No such thing as a life that’s better than yours” repeats over and over to emphasize his message that how important it is to be aware of the blessings around you , no matter what you believe you are lacking. He talks about how there will always be things in others that you can compare yourself to and that can’t control what others have in their lives, but you can control how you view what you have. He wants his listeners to understand that money can’t bring happiness and to be grateful for the things in their lives Cole use of the hook “No such thing as a life that’s better than yours” helps persuade audience his message.

Thierno Diallo

Professor Jewell

ENG 101

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*When I first started this assignment, I had a hard time choosing my topic after some research I decided to choose this topic because I was a part of the community it affected, and I had a lot of opinions on it. It was difficult to start but once I began the ideas came following on. While I was revising my Research and Audience assignment, I focused on how I framed my quotation I went back through my assignment and found my source and corrected how I quoted the information. I also provided some evidence for some of the facts that I had stated in my intro. I also made it clearer who my audience is*

Research and Audience Assignment

There has been an increase in violence in America. Mass shootings have become a common thing and government officials and politicians are blaming it on video games. According to “There Have Been More Mass Shootings than Days This Year.” by CBs” the number of mass shootings across the U.S. thus far in 2019 has outpaced the number of days this year, according to a gun violence research group. Before this year has even ended, 2019 has already had more mass shootings than any year since the research group started keeping track.” Video games are not a cause of violence in America. Throughout the years video games have become more and more popular. There billions of gamers around the world. Video games connect people from all around the world allowing them to meet new people and make new friends. The video game industry is growing industry making billions of dollars and opening many career opportunities for people all around the world. According to Business Insider “By 2022, experts forecast the gaming industry will produce $196 billion in revenue”. I have chosen to write a letter to both President Donald Trump and Parents of children speak to them about why video games aren’t a cause of violence in America.

Dear Donald Trump

Following the mass shootings that happened at Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio that claimed the lives of 31 people you addressed the public and suggested that video games where a cause of these violence. According to the NBC article “Fact check: Trump suggests video games to blame for mass shootings” In a speech you said “We must stop the glorification of violence in our society. This includes the gruesome and grisly video games that are now commonplace. It is too easy today for troubled youth to surround themselves with a culture that celebrates violence. We must stop or substantially reduce this, and it has to begin immediately, “. Before that you made a similar comment after the parkland shooting to Florida’s attorney general. In the Times article “Donald Trump Blames Video Games for School Shootings.” You said, “I’m hearing more and more people say the level of violence in video games is really shaping young people’s thoughts,”. These comments caused a big controversy between people who believe video games are a cause of violence and people who believe they aren’t and that your using it as a scapegoat instead of addressing what really is the cause of violence in America. This topic was trending for a couple of days and got many people talking and discussing the issue. Most people disagree with you, they don’t believe that video games are a cause of violence in America. Your comment angered many people in the gaming community. These people whose career and hobbies revolve around playing video games believe you are using their community as a scapegoat for the cause of these massacres. Many of these gamers were quick to point out that there are billions of gamers all around the world and that other countries aren’t facing the same problems America is. There are millions of gamers in America alone if gaming is a cause the cause of violence then there be way more violence in America then it already is. According to “Video Games Unlikely to Cause Real-World Violence, Experts Say.” by CNN it states “"basically, by keeping young males busy with things they like" -- whether it's playing sports, collecting stamps or playing first-person shooter video games -- "you keep them off the streets and out of trouble.". Video games can keep people occupied and return it would keep them out of trouble. A LA Times article states that research done in current time found that there is no evidence to link video games to real-world violence. Video games aren’t the cause of these massacres’ mental illness, bullying, abuse is just a couple that are the real cause of violence in America. Implementing restrictions on video games it will not stop the violence in America because video games aren’t the problem

Dear Parents

I know most of you have heard about the comments by politician and president trump blaming the violence in America on video games. I know most of you are worried that these comments and that video games might cause your children to become violent. I can assure you that video games are not a cause of violence in America. Countless researchers show that video games have no links to real life violence. Video games have opened many amazing opportunities for people. It has allowed billions of gamers for all parts of the world to connect and meet new people and make friends. It has allowed people to travel around the world and compete to huge amounts of money. It has opened careers for people earning them millions of dollars a year playing video games. Video games are a great way to relax after a hard day’s work. Research also shows their positive health effects contributed to gaming. According to a blog post by Art Bamford Ph.D. student in Media Studies “studies have shown that gaming can improve hand-eye coordination, complex problem solving, memory, and a young person’s ability to pay attention for longer periods of time”. He also states that video games also help foster friendship allowing people to open and talk to people. Video games have brought many people together and is not to blame for the increased violence in America.

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Thierno Diallo

Professor Jewell

ENG 1001

16 November 2019

*During this assignment I learned how to write a reflection on assignments which I haven’t done before. I wrote about what I learned and what my strongest skill in was when writing this. I also wrote about what I could do to improve my writing skills*

Reflection on Annotated bibliography

My Topic for the Annotated biography Assignment was hip-hop. While I was researching sources for this topic, I found many similarities between them. One of the similarities I found between the sources was that they were all through the artist’s perspective throughout the songs the rappers would use “I” and describe how he viewed and felt about different things and topics. Another similarity I found between the sources was that they all talk about their life before becoming rappers and what they went through to get to where they are today. Also, the sources talk about the street life and how it got them into making music. In all the sources the rappers deliver a message to their fans either to motivate them or give them a view into their lifestyle and challenges they face. Through this assignment I was able to learn how each rapper use life experiences and turn them into hit songs that deliver a message. What I would like to learn from this topic is how each rapper finds their different flow and style and how they are able to implement it into their music

Throughout this assignment I felt like had a difficult time finding the right sources I wanted annotated for my topic hip-hop after researching for a while I was able to find sources I was familiar with and it made it easier to annotated. I believed that my greatest strength when it comes to writing is being able to imagine through the writer or author perspective and understand what they are trying to say. I would like to continue to grow as a writer and be able to write more in detail explanations in my assignment by brainstorming ideas. I can achieve this by participating in writing more and expand my view my writing about different topics which will help strengthen my writing skills.

Thierno Diallo

Professor Jewell

ENG 1001

*For class we had we had a free writing assignment where we had to write a letter to someone we know and a celebrity asking for money I chose to write a letter to my mother and will smith asking for $100 I had an easier time writing this assignment because we had practiced writing many different assignments already.*

*Dear Mom*

Hi mom I was wondering if you could give me $100 to buy some supplies for school. These supplies are important, and I need them for class. I know might not have a lot of money put if you could find a way to give this money, I would be very grateful. I will do some chores around the house to pay you back. Thank you

Love Thierno

Dear Will Smith

Hi, my name is Thierno Diallo I’m a big fan of your movies and tv shows. I am growing up watching your show the fresh prince of bel-air I also loved your movie men in black it’s one of my favorites. I know you might get a lot of people asking you for money, but I could really use $100 to buy some supplies for school. I’m a college student with no money I could really use your help. Thank you

Sincerely your biggest Fan

Thierno Diallo

Professor Jewell

ENG 1001

14 December 2019

Dear Professor Jewell

Throughout the course this semester I believe that I have grown as a writer, reader. I have completed many unit assignments and in class free writing assignment that have helped me improve my writing and reading skills. I learned how to write a rhetorical analysis, write annotated bibliography and reflections. I have also learned how to do research an audience stance on certain topic and how to properly cite a source. We have read many pieces of writing such as “Mother Tongue” By Amy Tan and “Only Daughter” by Sandra Cisneros and has helped me become a better reader. I believe I can use all these skills I have learned to further improve my writing and reading and help me in my other English class I’m going to take. Our first unit assignment was Literacy Narrative I had a hard time writing this assignment I didn’t know what to write about in the I end up not writing it. I have read my classmates assignments and “Literacy Narrative” By Kiki Petrorosino it helped me understand how to write this assignment and now with everything I have learned through the course of this class if I was asked to write another literacy narrative I would be able to write it really well. The second unit assignment we wrote an annotated bibliography on a topic of our choice I chose hip-hop. This was why favorite assignment out of all the other. In class we practice writing a rhetorical analysis to help us with our Annotated bibliography assignment. We also had class decision where I learned about Ethos, Pathos and Logos that are modes of persuasion which we used in both the rhetorical and annotated biography assignments. When I began writing this assignment, I chose songs from my favorite artists and identified the message they were trying to persuade their audience I analysis the songs. During my revision I read your comment on what I could do to improve the assignment and went back to each source and explained what detail each artist used to persuade their audience their message. After that we had to write a reflection this piece really showed my growth as a writer because this was my first time writing a reflection, so I didn’t how to write it the class decision help me understand how to start it. I began by writing about what I went through while writing the annotated bibliography and ended it with what I have learned from the assignment which was how each rapper use life experiences and turn them into hit songs that deliver a message. We also did many free writing assignments in class that have helped improved my writing one of them was as an assignment where we had to write a letter to someone we know and a celebrity asking for money. This assignment also really showed my growth as a writer. I chose to write a letter to my mom and will smith asking for $100 for school supplies at that point we had already written many assignments and had a bunch of decision on to improve our assignments that I was able to easily able to write this letter without begin stuck on how to start the assignment. Our final assignment for the semester was researcher and audience assignment where we had to choose a topic that we had to either persuade or inform two different audience about. In class we practice doing this by choosing communities we identified with and tried to inform them or persuade them on the topic of our choice. I chose the video game community and tried to inform them why video games aren’t a cause of violence in America. This in class practice really helped me write the assignment. For the assignment I chose the same topic I did in class and wrote a letter to parents and president trump informing them why gaming isn’t a cause of violence in America. I stated facts and statistics that help me persuade my audience like how video games help people socialize and improve problem solving skills. When writing the assignment, I didn’t cite all my facts with sources I also didn’t properly use the right formatting for quotation. After reading your comments on how I could improve this assignment I went back and revised it. I went back and citied all my facts with the right sources and use Purdue Owl to learn how to properly cite facts and use quotations. I have come a long from the beginning of the semesters. At first, I was able to write the literacy narrative assignment now I can able rhetorical analysis and write an annotated bibliography and reflection as well as a research and audience assignment. I hope to use these skills I have earned through this semester to improve academically.