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How the Design For My Website Came to Life!

I admit when I was first introduced to the idea of "repurposing" the pervious writing assignments I had mixed emotions. I didn't really know what she meant by repurposing. I honestly assumed she met write over and honestly I was feeling overwhelmed. I attributed the definition of repurposing to be like rewriting. And I didn't feel too excited about the prospect of having to write it over. Then when I heard the actual definition I was actually intrigued. I loved the creativity of it all. I am a creative, artistic person so I love anything that has to do with design. But I was also still overwhelmed. Because I didn't really have experience with creating my own "website". I was kind of dreading the idea of having to break my essay and seeing which parts to put in my essay cause honestly, I thought everything I wrote was of equal importance. And also I didn't really know how I was going to use Google Slides to mimic a website. Powerpoint designing and I do not mix at all.

The mode of repurposing began to "gel" and began to take concrete form in my mind when I start writing an outline for it. I didn't really know if I was gonna keep all the ideas I wrote down (and I ended up not) and honestly I was mostly trying to figure out what I was going to transfer from my essay to my "website". I wrote down ideas for what photos I was gonna put in but didn't really sketch out the design of it. I also was in the outline focusing on making sure I highlighted all of my points (like I was forming a guideline to look at when constructing my

website) and making sure I didn't put any unnecessary info in. It wasn't until I actually opened google slides and started putting my information did everything for the design really take form. And re-reading parts of my essay and figuring out the positioning of the words helped me decide on what photos to use. I also researched the designs of my favorite websites like Tumblr and my favorite influencer websites like Eddy Elize's, a fashion-oriented Youtuber, but I couldn't really get inspired due to me getting overwhelmed with how much work mimicking hers would be.

My initial plans for the website didn't come to fruition until I was putting the information in from my essay. I started focusing on the "homepage" of my "website". I admit I didn't get satisfied with the homepage of my website right away. First I was going to just have pictures and no words then I decided to make it look as if I was scrolling through an article online and the homepage and other pages on the website look like a screenshot of some pages on a website. For example like you were scrolling down an article and every slide was a screenshot of the article. Then whatever tab you went to it would have that same concept. Additionally, I decided to make it look like a website by having the tabs or the links to other pages on the website on the side. Moreover, I from then based on the content decided to make my background for the website black. I wanted black to embody the mystery feel of my topic and what I was writing like I was uncovering some dark truths about the Hip Hop World which is misogyny. I wanted it to look like an expose article. I decided to lay things i.e. photos out as if I was per se a detective or a spy gathering information on a board in my room or office. I decided to choose fonts and colors that evoke a feeling of that in me. For example, the font I chose for the headlines and menu of my

website was called "Special Elite". I chose that one because the font kind of looked to me like writing that would be used to display classified information on a computer in a spy show, by a detective in an investigation or even on the headline of a newspaper exposing the secrets of something. I used photos from online and used Photoshop to make the photos look like polaroids so it would look as if I took those photos myself investigating and gathering evidence to suppose my cause/case. I then used another specific font to create a look as if I wrote in marker little notes about the "evidence" I gathered. I wanted to add in gifs too since I love them. Additionally, I decided to write on the side little quotes derived from my essay. I didn't have to alter much as I worked on the project. I just had to position the words and pictures to make it look appealing and align with the slides before it. Also, I deleted some gifs due to it not working when I downloaded my website to send it in and made the captions of the pics and the pics themselves more aligned to the content. The peer reviews didn't really change anything for me because no one had a problem with my work and they liked it. I also put all my creative power and spent a lot of time on the first draft to make it look up to my "perfection" standards meanwhile making sure I didn't drive myself crazy overthinking anything.

Overall, I learned a lot from working on this project. I actually think I maybe have a knack for creating PowerPoints and maybe graphic design. I also learned that maybe sometimes I'm a bit too much of a perfectionist and need to let go sometimes and stop overanalyzing everything. I ended up actually ended up being my hardest critic and spent unnecessary time fixing things that were fine. If I had the chance to do this all over again I would have added a pic of myself in it or make a page about my life and my music choices to make the readers of the

website feel more connected and empathetic to my cause. Set more of an impersonal vibe instead of having the readers feel like they are reading another boring article fill of loads of information written by a (not that this is a bad thing) a strong-minded and opinionated feminist. I want them to know that I actually have a broad education concerning Hip Hop music and I'm not some triggered outsider pointing fingers and such. Additionally, I would have added a page about the female rappers of today fighting against the stigma to not maybe make the website all sad and deary pointing out all these bad stuff without acknowledging the future and the positives.