

Jason Morales

CUNY of Technology

English 1121-Section E115

Prof. Schmerler

5/20/19

# FINAL PORTFOLIO

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## Unit 1

Page 1

*Dear Professor Schmerler:*

*I re-read the essay and I made massive corrections and I have plagiarized some details and I happened to read the article and completely understand how I did that. I have the idea stuff to my head and for some stupid reason I wrote the same thing instead of creating a new idea and I do sincerely apologize for doing that. I should have re-read the essay, I can call that a challenge for a lot of my essays that I don't re-read the essay and I can make plenty of errors along the way. This was definitely a wake-up call that I should be much more careful. I am very certain and proud of this new essay I wrote, I feel that it's even better than the first draft I did. Thank you again for your wisdom and helping me realize what I was doing in this essay.*

### LET FREEDOM RING

When I think about freedom for me, it is a natural and exclusive right which people have enjoyed and often abused. Freedom is not something that can be touched, seen, felt or reached. All this gives a vague idea about freedom. Can we define freedom? And do we really have it?

People all round the world with many backgrounds and/or cultures have different opinions, definitions and thoughts about the idea of freedom and what it means to them. Some people think freedom in political sense, others think about social freedom, and others talk about personal independence and religious freedom. But with all the different topics and opinions, one thing stands for sure, that everyone wants to be free in.

Freedom for many of us is the choice to live one's life to do what one wants, live where one wants, to eat what you want and learn what one's heart desires. Freedom is to pick and choose what religion to practice or who to marry or what college to go to. Clearly, freedom can apply to different aspects of life and is not an absolute term.

We have freedom to ensure honesty, self-awareness and respect and not just live free but for all societies define and practice freedom in their own respect. Different cultures around the world see their form freedom in their own light, and thus people living in different cultures around the world can enjoy freedom in ways that are appropriate and humanly correct.

Enjoying and practicing our freedom does not mean that we disregard the rights of others and live solely the way we feel right. We have to consider the rights and the feelings of people around us when living our freedom simple by respecting their rights. Similarly a free person does not have to fear or suffer discrimination when expressing their opinion, we all need to ensure that everyone feels safe and their feelings are not hurt. Societies which encourage freedom of opinion, thoughts, beliefs, expression, choice etc. are the ones where creative minds flourish and people are safe to express themselves.

Does freedom come with independence? I believe both freedom and independence is the same word because it's toward the same cause. I believe freedom gives us the right to appreciate the enchanted beauty of nature around us. A person who is worried and anxious cannot be free at mind and hence cannot enjoy the scenic beauty all around us, the magnificent beauties of the

nature, the incredible smells when walking thru a market place, or even enjoying the different types of music played around the world. Freedom is a state of your mind that implies that your mind and body is under no fear or compulsion of safety in life. I believe education or preaching does not make us free, yet it's a stepping stone to commencing to freedom, to achieve following an idea of a person or an example of a master is not a sign of freedom either. I believe freedom is the absence of any pressure from the social, political and religious environment that we live in and to able to do what we think is correct.

I feel that freedom has certainly no particular definition or absolute meaning, because for everyone it would mean something different and unique. I believe that freedom, if not properly viewed or have some constraints, can be very harmful as well. For a prisoner, being out of the prison means freedom, but for non-prisoners, freedom is something that a person is free to do while abiding by social customs and law of the country. No societies or countries can guarantee absolute freedom to everyone. I believe the reason being that it will be a complete chaos if we try understanding what everyone in other countries or societies believe what freedom means to them. Freedom itself is not an absolute right, and it too has some constraints. A freedom that poses threat to the society and the nation we live in is not freedom in real sense. We cannot kill people, violate laws, smuggle drugs or doing anything illegal to the society and call it freedom. But then if crime is not freedom are we really constricting people to live a certain way?

I believe that freedom should be part of our basic rights as people. Some freedom is specific to the age group that we fall into. A child shall be free to play, to be loved by parents

and family. This nurturing and bonding may be the idea of freedom to a child. Similarly to a teenager, freedom may be about hanging out with friends, enjoying group activities. The adults may enjoy social life, marriage and raising their children as part of their freedom. The elderly people may seek security of health and life, spend good time with grandchildren, involve in religious and social activities and believe that to be their freedom.

I truly believe freedom is far more than a concept. Deprivation of freedom itself can be harmful and toxic to people. So whatever freedom you have, try to make the most of it and enjoy that freedom. You never know when that freedom that you treasure and truly believe in might end or be changed and/or altered.

**Works Cited:**

1. [www.shareyour essays.com](http://www.shareyour essays.com) by: Pragati Ghosh.
2. [www.englishforums.com](http://www.englishforums.com) by anonymous.

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## Unit 2

Page 5

*Dear Professor Schmerler:*

*Out of all the units you have given us, I found Genre to be the most fun and exciting of them all. This unit had me thinking outside the box and think of "paralegalism" in a fun and cool way. The challenges I faced were extreme because I thought I would never put "Paralegalism" in a genre category nor I never thought I can think of it that way. I was and still am very proud of the work I did in this unit and this will stick with me for a very long time. The best part was the menu I created and how I was able to use knowledge that I know into a fun and humor-filled menu. Thank you again for this unit and to be able to share with you and my fellow peers.*

### Navigating Genres

1). This article (though somewhat old) mentions Facebook posts as a kind of genre. Can you briefly describe how comfortable you feel composing a piece of writing in this genre? Do you feel more comfortable than someone much older than you — your Grandmother, for instance? Why do you think this older person might not write as well in Facebook as you do? What are some of the mistakes they might make?

I post to Facebook almost every day and I am very comfortable doing so. I also write blogs, comments very regularly and also post photos. I wouldn't say that I feel more comfortable than someone older than me, as I encounter many

people much older than me on FB all the time. The older they are the wiser and mature they are. I think more older people should join Facebook and start sharing their wisdom.

2) Dirk gives a few examples of titles in The Onion (a newspaper that was founded in 1988 at a college, btw). What was your favorite title?

My favorite title from the examples that Dirk gave from the list of titles from The Onion is: "Don't Run Away; I'm Not the Flesh-Eating Kind of Zombie".

3) On page 258, Dirk describes the rules we carry around in our head before we start writing in a particular genre. What are some of the rules you carry around in your head? Is there a particular genre in which you struggle to write? I would struggle a lot with commas and periods. I try not to make the sentences too long as well. Commas are meant to be used to fragment run-on sentences and/or to give readers a chance to think about the paragraph..

I find that I am having a tough time starting my essays on my law papers. I tend to write and state all facts and opinions of the courts and the papers are meant to be written by stating the facts straight to the point.

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## Unit 3

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*Dear Professor Schmerler:*

*This is my work using inquiry to research a various challenges that paralegals face in our positions. The pros and cons and/or advantages and disadvantages paralegals face in various of law firms throughout New York. I am very proud of the fact I thought about this type of inquiry towards my professional because it gives a certain type of insight that paralegals quite often don't bother to see or think about. I feel this information can be useful not only for paralegals but for anyone with a professional career. The best route to overcome these challenges is to raise awareness throughout all paralegal networks to be aware of these pro and cons and to never be afraid to voice your opinion.*

### PARALEGALISM

The kind of audience that my genre would attract is people with interest of becoming a paralegal, legal assistants or paralegals themselves and attorneys who have to manage staff. The purpose of this writing is to address the importance of paralegals in their respective fields whether its Civil Litigation, Family Law, Will Trusts and Estates, Criminal Law, etc. to be able to have meaningful work and a respective salary and to be assured that they are treated fairly. To establish a paralegal decree to some sort that would be honored throughout the law firms.

I feel that it is important to open up further discussion and analysis toward the Pro and Cons of Paralegals, I have realized that law firms must followed some kind of uniformed code when it comes to managing paralegals in their offices. I believe the position should challenge paralegal to use their knowledge and experience to order to better serve the clients and the law firm. The position of Paralegal should be a position that allows the paralegal to use what they



learned over the years, of course with supervision of the attorney, so their work can be meaningful.

Such discussion would bring the following potential benefits which paralegals would appreciate more their work. There would be more paralegals actually interested in their work and productivity of documents would increase. Sometimes a simple "thank you" and "great job" can go a long way in appreciating the work the paralegal does for the attorney and also for the law firm. Menial tasks assignments should be distributive evenly among the staff and not only have the paralegals do that type of work but perhaps the file clerk or the receptionist can actually preform these types of easy assignments, thus freeing the paralegals to work on their more meaningful pleadings, motions, trial preparations and medical record production. Activities should be held to help destress paralegals in their firms, perhaps lunch outings and/or happy hour can help boost morality within the firm and help bridge everyone together in a social environment. Work hours should be regulated and firms should be more "family friendly" and its all about timing certain work and deadlines should be considered to be done earlier than usually to avoid late night work nights.

The awareness is important for everyone because each office no matter its law or not can use these examples and apply it to their businesses and offices. It's important that employees feel that they are considered an asset in their office and their work and support is crucial for the survival of the business and that they are appreciated with both the bosses and the clients.

List of relevant sources:

- 1) Becoming a Paralegal: Pros and Cons  
<https://blog.udemy.com/becoming-a-paralegal/>
- 2) Advantages and Disadvantages of being a Paralegal  
<http://www.paralegalalliance.com/advantages-and-disadvantages-pf-being-a-paralegal>
- 3) Pros and Cons of Being a Paralegal/Paralegal vs Lawyer/Is Paralegal Right for Me  
<https://www.realmrecruit.com/blog-news/blog/view/100/working-as-a-paralegal>

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## Unit 4

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### Multi-Modal Project

*Dear Professor Schmerler:*

*This project was a challenge to me in many levels. I am not too "tech-savy" when it comes to videos and youtube and all those new and exciting things kids do in today's world. I decided to have my co-worker Stephanie Lizma interview me via my phone which has a video taking feature and I will discuss the pros and cons of "paralegalism" and shed some thought and light with my inquiry search I have done in this area of Genre I have selected. I had problems upload the vieo into Open Lab so I copied it and burned it on a CD and attached it herein. I know that will be many other paralegals in the future and this inquiry might be helpful to them when they start planning to go onto interviews with law firms in the city.*

*Thank you again for your patience and understanding, I wish I had more teachers like you when I was in High school, life would have been much easier and I would have gotten courage to attend college at a younger age.*