

Matthew Valerio

Schmerler

ENG E115

5/19/19

Final Portfolio

Unit 1

Unit 1 was a particularly difficult section as I had to write in ways that I have never done before. The constraints given to made it extremely difficult to formulate sentences. This was done to intentionally take us out of our comfort zones. In my opinion It worked very well as I was forced to use vocabulary that I normally don't use. I had learned a few new synonyms as the words I wanted to use weren't allowed due to the constraints.

What I enjoyed most of this unit was the "Freedom" essay. This essay although based on a excerpt from Malcolm X. Let us discuss what freedom meant to us. Having experienced many things that changed the way I saw life and this world we live in let me give example of what freedom is to me. Also how our minds are ultimately what decide what we think is possible.

Unit 2

Unit 2 was a fairly interesting unit as it required us to do things that we have previously never did in an english class. During this unit we had to take note of the different sounds we hear throughout the day. Whether it be at school or during our commute we soon

realized that the world is full of many different and interesting sounds. We also discussed genre and figured out that many different things can be considered a genre.

As we were instructed to leave the class one day and walk about. I grouped up with some of my fellow classmates. That day we went to the lunch room and sat with a group of people playing card games. I observed the language they used and wrote down a few quotes that I believed were extremely relatable. Along with this I made note of the different sounds I heard. Such as the squeaking of chairs, the sounds cards make when slammed on a table, and the combined noise produced by young people who are all actively engaged in a activity.

Unit 3

Unit 3 was fairly interesting as it involved researching a topic that we were passionate about. As the project was based on the skill that we mentioned in unit 2. It was fairly easy to come up with a topic that was of interest. Fortunately for me my topic involved something I did practically my entire life.

The skill that I listed was video games as I have been surrounded by them since the age of 4. One thing that always comes to mind when people think of violent video games is the effect that it has on people. More specifically do violent video games make people become violent. Surprisingly the answer is different compared to who you ask. Many people of a conservative mindset believe these games are what's causing the moral decline in society. After doing some research I discovered that there seems to be no proof of this. With studies conducted showing that there was seemingly no link between violent video games and violent behavior.

Unit 4

Unit 4 I enjoyed immensely as it was based on a digital format. Which allowed me to use my computer skills to do this assignment. Since it was based on the previous unit I was able to take my research to the online world of gaming. I produced something that I am somewhat happy with. Although somewhat unconventional I was able to get the opinions of like minded people.

For this unit I played an online Role Playing Game known as Arma 3. This game is essentially trying to simulate real life as it copies many of the aspects of the real world. For example this game allows you to acquire a drivers license, commit crimes such as murder, animal poaching, drug trafficking, and even bank robberies. In this imaginary world I conducted Interviews with anyone I met on the streets. Including a player whose role was to be a police officer. I asked all of the players the same question "Do you think violent video games contribute to real world violence." Surprisingly they all gave a very similar answer. They all agreed that these games had in no way made them more violent and gave very compelling reasons on why these games are completely harmless and in no way corrupt the mind.

Here is a link to the video

https://youtu.be/qJQN_QP_ILo

Notes:

Unfortunately I accidentally recorded the first two interviews in a weird resolution.

Therefor I couldn't maximize the video on the screen. I hope you enjoy what I produced.