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UNIT II--Mid Semester--GENRE

Saturn

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SECTION 1: MY EXTENDED DIARY EXCERPT

March 23rd

7:30 AM: As another week begins, the time at which I wake up is one of the few things that's remained consistent since the beginning of the semester. Like usual, I find myself checking my phone for the first few minutes before I begin preparing for my English class and awaiting this week's assignment to be posted. After all, English is the only class of mine that doesn't involve online streaming through blackboard or Zoom. For me, this means additional time to shower and as per my mom's advice, to drink hot water with lemon as a detox. Feeling refreshed, I'm now ready for the day's tasks.

10:00 AM: My math class began with a rather rough start, with my microphone not working for attendance and later ended off just as smoothly with our professor informing us of a quiz next Monday after our lengthy lecture on polynomials binomials. Needless to say, I was excited at that news.

6:00 PM: In the time in between and until dinner, I started on my homework assignments for math and later left to purchase groceries (milk, eggs, lettuce and the such) for my family. Due to barber shops being closed, I gave myself a haircut and surprisingly, it looks decent if I say so myself. However, that doesn't mean that I'd prefer the current circumstances over the normal. I suppose very few would.

March 24th

7:30 AM: Once again, I woke up fairly early although this time with a different motive in mind. While I still checked my phone, I exchanged a portion of that time in favor of

cleaning my car with my younger brother. Honestly, he was there for encouragement rather than assistance and to me that was more than enough.

12:00 PM: After a late breakfast with my family, I was looking forward to my lab class being live streamed by one of my professors today and as expected, it didn't disappoint. Surely, it's different than performing them myself but it remains just as fascinating to observe and later analyze the results in our lab reports. There's usually never a concrete conclusion and with various possible outcomes, it only grows more interesting.

5:00PM: Today my sister took the responsibility of making the family's meals and I couldn't complain when she set the dinner table for cheeseburgers and homemade fries. As if it couldn't get any better, she brought out a delicious strawberry cake, it really helped me push through writing a lab report and my other homework assignments.

March 26th

7:30 AM: With the sun beaming brightly, I had a feeling it was going to be a good day as I forced myself out of bed and downstairs to have breakfast. Today, I found oatmeal more appealing as I mixed in strawberries and some tiny blueberries and planned out my day. It's been a while since I've been outside, and the weather only served as a greater reason to do so. It seems that many others felt the same as I spotted a family walking along the block (all six feet apart).

12:00PM: After my math class' livestreamed lesson, I drove to grab coffee via the Dunkin Donut since all starbucks are closed and grabbed an iced latte before heading to a local park. I sat down on a nearby bench and observed things I'd never noticed

before despite having been there numerous times. It's surprising how much we miss when we're invested in our busy lives even when it's right in front of us. It was its tranquility that rooted me in place, long after I finished my coffee and started on my way back home.

6:00 PM: The week's work is now weighing down on me as Friday feels closer than ever and I want nothing more than the weekend to come. With being limited in social interactions, it's been difficult to remain in touch with many of my friends. Despite it being the era of communication, social media doesn't compare to in-person interactions and their importance in our character development. It seems that this rate, all that's increasing is my screen time (and exponentially too). I know that this alternative interaction will eventually become second nature and seem nothing out of the ordinary to me. Until then, each day brings new challenges.

March 28th

12:30 pm: Waking up rather late, eating breakfast in the afternoon, refreshing mail inboxes every few hours, strolling in the backyard, only to return to a Netflix series—that has been my Quarantine routine. "How are you?" they ask me and although I want to say "Locked inside," I respond with a "I'm good" anyway. This pandemic has its flaws as everything does, which doesn't come as a surprise. The daily news blares aloud the number of cases that are drastically increasing with people losing their lives along with their loved ones. During times like these, it's difficult to appreciate what we have and overlook the negativity surrounding us. More time with family is being spent, with there being several reports of less pollution in the air. As I carry on with

my day, almost halfway through it already, I think it's important to acknowledge these things as well.

3:00 pm: My friend Yousef called me a little while ago to keep me up to date on how he's been doing in the time we haven't seen each other. Remaining in touch with my friends has been difficult despite the many times we share connections through social media. It seems like this time has taken a toll on everyone and we are coping in different ways. I miss hanging out with him and afterall, he gifted me his Air Pod Pros not too long ago. He has never used them before and they came with a really cool case too! Now, as I use them in my time off, I remember him the most.



April 1st:

10:00 AM: Today is April Fools day and despite the gloominess due to this global pandemic, i had something in mind to tell my little brother. I told him that all New York City students are being required to repeat their current grade next year and to

my surprise, he was actually excited. After all, being in fifth grade, he didn't want to lose his friends once they moved to middle school. In a way, I understood why he felt that way—that's how I felt during my senior year of high school.

4:00 PM: I realized that my brother turns 11 on the 30th of this month and decided to order him a Playstation 4 as a birthday present. With difficult times, he's been understanding and I think he deserves at least that much (especially on his special day). It'd be beneficial for us both, as we both like to game together.

5:00 PM: I went to go buy some groceries from the supermarket once again, just for simple necessities such as water, milk and bread. The lines there were hectic and with social distancing measures, it took nearly two times longer that it'd take on any other day. However, I believe the shoppers were all cautious and respectful to each other as each person was a few feet apart from each other. For that, I'm beyond thankful.

10:00 PM: I turn on the Netflix series that I've been watching lately called "Money Heist" as I prepare to go to bed. As part of my skincare routine, I use a night serum from "Estee Lauder ". Although it serves more as a moisturizer than treatment, I've been using it for two weeks now and assure that it doesn't disappoint.

SECTION 2: REFLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF DIARY READING

ANNE FRANK REFLECTION SHEET

The Diary of Anne Frank was a classic book that I first saw in my freshman year of high school. Anne Frank was a little youngster who had experienced enough distress from the holocaust, yet by one way or another she wouldn't allow the Nazis to win. I believe it's astounding she figured out how to compose so well with all the things going on around her. I think the diary of Anne Frank inspired many journalists to pursue their career due to the pain she went through and the ability to overcome them. She also inspired movie directors, an example would be a movie called "The Freedom Writers" it is based on a true story about these kids who were involved in gang violence that did not do well in school, however once the teacher showed them the diary of Anne Frank the students were inspired to write and publish their own writings.

I really do not know how she learned to write so well, she had amazing talent. Her descriptions were so in depth and her way of expressing herself was excellent. One example is when she describes a building that she sees "I will describe the building: there is a large warehouse on the ground floor which is used as a store. The front door to the house is next to the warehouse door, and inside the front door is a second doorway which leads to a staircase. There is another door at the top of the stairs with a frosted glass window in it, which has 'office' written in black across it." This shows how she successfully creates an image in a reader's head when reading her diary. All in all, I really liked her diary and I would recommend this to people who love to write journeys.

SECTION 3: REFLECTION ON UNIT II AND GRADE

UNIT II Reflection

This unit has been a bit strange, with the whole pandemic and switching to online classes it's been difficult to adapt to this new environment of studying. After all it was the right thing to do. One main struggle in this unit was that I had to write from my own home. It was really hard to focus and keep up with the attention that the government has given us and do school work at the same time. However it was not that difficult because the assignments that were assigned to us were not that difficult including writing short daily diaries, a reflection on a diary of our choice and a meeting with our professor via zoom. This unit surprised me because it was unexpected to transit from a normal day going to a classroom to learning from home via online classes.

As for the things I enjoyed in this unit, I loved writing diaries not only did it kill time during this boredom but I think it will be fun to look back at how and what I did in my house during the pandemic. I also liked reading other classmate diars and seeing what they have been up to and how each of them is coping. Before online classes i would mostly finish my english assignments in a quiet place on campus like the library, now i learned to adapt writing in my house. Reading other classmates' work taught me to be more creative with my own work. Before, I would worry that my writing wouldn't be as good as other students, now that I read their work it showed me that everyone has their own unique style of writing. I would give myself an A- on this unit. I uploaded my week 1 and week 2 diarys, a reflection on Anne Frank and I

did my mid semester Unit II review. I feel like it's a fair grade because i've turned in every assignment on open lab on time, however due to technical issues i faced during my zoom meeting i deserve the minus.