

Tanner Jules Gordon
SBS 3201
T-Shirt Final Essay

In the process of making this shirt, there were several different ways I thought to approach designing it. Instead of drawing directly onto the shirt, I decided it would be best to put on my designs with a much more controlled approach. I first drew the design on the front of the shirt to express my personality in reflection to dress and society. The signature that is on top of the number 22 on the back of the shirt is also handwritten by me. In order to get these designs onto the shirt I used a heat press to cut it out onto heat transfer vinyl fabric. The vinyl fabric was used specifically to help stay on the shirt. In order to help keep it in place I used a heat press which applied extreme pressure and heat to apply the vinyl fabric.

The image that is seen on the front of the shirt may seem like just random scribbles at first glance but it is actually a depiction of how I feel. The image is supposed to represent how I feel as an overthinker and what feels is going on in my head. Often times I find myself repeatedly thinking about the same things or worrying about things that are out of my control. Even when it comes to simple decision-making, I sometimes find myself overthinking small and irrelevant things. This image is a depiction of how my head sometimes feels when all of the thoughts I have suddenly begun to overflow and get scrambled.

The next thing of significance that I applied to my shirt is a quote that reads "Why fit in when you were born to stand out". I chose to put this quote on the shirt because it is a great way to explain how everyone is unique. In society, I feel like oftentimes we feel like our objective is to fit in with everyone else when it should really be to stand out. When I was younger I feel like I was very susceptible to the idea of conforming to what society wants me to be or do. It was not until I was older when I realized that we are our own people and it is natural to be different and unlike others.

The number 22 on the back has come to be my favorite number and holds different areas of significance. Throughout my life, I feel like I have seen the number show up repeatedly and begin to hold meaning to me. I was born on the 22nd and I have heard that the number 22 is seen as a sign of good luck and positive things to come. The signature that is on top of the 22 is my handwritten signature which I felt was a necessary addition to the shirt. While working on the t-shirt it felt like a piece of art that I was working on. The signature is used to show completion and that this work is one of a kind done by me.

Front of T-shirt



Back of T-shirt



Tanner Smith

**"Why Fit In
When You Were
Born To Stand Out"**