***Your assignment is to write an interview narrative based on an interview you conduct with an adult who has some post-high-school education or training. Your goal is to effectively express the voice of the interviewee while showing how the experiences contributed to his or her coming of age.***

***You may use the interview we did in class with Ms. Pimenta, but students who do not conduct an outside interview will not be eligible for an A grade.***

Use this writer’s checklist as you organize, develop, and annotate your interview narrative.

**While writing, be sure to:**

▢ Describe **one or more** learning experiences that influenced the interviewee’s coming of age.

▢ Use examples of character description and develop the character’s unique perspective.

▢ Transform your interview notes into a well-organized story that has a clear beginning, middle, and end.

▢ Use transition words and phrases to show connections and improve the flow of your paragraphs.

▢ Use a consistent point of view (3rd person narrator).

▢ Write **at least four** paragraphs.

▢ Use interesting details and **at least six** direct quotations that express the interviewee’s personality.

▢ Use correct spelling, punctuation and capitalization, and follow all basic grammar rules.

▢ Use the Google Doc Spelling Tool and carefully proofread your finished narrative several times.

**Before turning in your final printed essay, make the following Annotations:**

▢ Highlight **direct quotations** in yellow.

▢ Highlight **imagery/character description** in green.

▢ Highlight **coming-of-age events/details** in pink.

▢ Label the **point of view** (1st person or 3rd person) and circle key POV words.

▢ Label **transitions** (individual words and phrases).

***SAMPLE OUTLINE AND QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:***

Your name

Interview Narrative

Class period

Today’s date

**Title (No, this cannot simply be the name of your person)**

**Paragraph 1 / Introduction**

* **What does your person look like? How does he/she act during the interview? If you know them well, how do they behave on a normal, everyday basis?** (Use lots of imagery to describe the person’s appearance/body language and the setting.)
* **Who is this person? How do you know him or her? What should the reader know about the person to be able to really understand him or her?** (Perhaps include biographical information—things like age and interests and family life and jobs, etc—to help the reader get to know the person.)
* **Why is this person interesting and worth knowing about?** (Give the reader some sort of focus for the essay. What is most important to know about this person?)

**Body / Middle paragraphs**

* **What experiences has this person had in life that have helped him or her come of age? Was it college? Military service? A failure? Marriage? Family?** (Focus on a few life-changing, coming-of-age moments that shaped the person.)
* **What specifically did the person say that helps show his or her voice?** (Use interesting direct quotations to express the person’s unique voice/personality.)
* **How did the person actually say the quotes you included?** (Provide speaker tags that clarify the manner in which the person answered your question.)
* **What else should we know about the interviewee?** (Weave relevant facts and descriptions throughout the narrative to further develop the interviewee’s personality.)
* **Why should the reader care about your person as a maturing human being?** (Include details about how the interviewee’s stories affected YOU, the writer.)

**Conclusion paragraph**

* **Why should we as readers care about the person and his or her experiences?** (Remind the reader why this person is interesting.)
* **What makes this person worth learning about?** (Remind the reader about some of the interviewee’s more significant accomplishments or ideas.)
* **Are there any life lesson(s) or themes we can learn from the person? How might those lessons might be useful for younger people?** (Share something you learned in the interview that might be useful for anyone to think about or to learn from.)