Informal Essay Outline and Visual Essay

**Name(s):**

**Presentation Due Date:**

**TASK:**

* With a partner, reflect on what you consider to be an experience all young people should have and argue three lessons that can be learned from that experience.
* Write an essay outline to organize your argument
* Construct a sequence of images and text as a visual essay that explores your lessons.

**WHAT IS A VISUAL ESSAY?**

* A visual essay is a unique, experimental, experiential and expressive way of *constructing* and *presenting* insight in a visual manner. The visual essay is a visual end product that encapsulates traditional research/ideas.
* The visual essay, boosted by new media technologies is a vehicle for voicing and visualising all sorts of personal reflections, new ideas, arguments, experiences, etc.
* Authors may choose to steer the receiver in a specific direction by furnishing a clear verbal context for the interpretation of the visual parts, or alternatively, a more reciprocal relation between text and image.

Source: <http://www.socresonline.org.uk/17/1/1.html>

\*\*\*Working with the experience you have chosen, you and your partner should develop an argument for your visual essay. In other words, your argument will state that through the experience one can learn three things…  
Your argument requires supporting ideas (examples, quotes, anecdotes, etc.). The composition of the argument and outline must be completed before you choose images to construct your argument.

**PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:   
  
1. Written component:**

* Complete detailed essay outline on handout provided or neatly typed.
* MLA work cited page

**2. Visual component:**

* Minimum 10 images arranged in a sequence, with captions or comments.
* Remember that you are trying to “write” with these images—your visual essay should have a beginning, middle, and end. The first few images should set up your argument in the clearest way possible, the middle images provide supporting details, and the final images offer a conclusion.
* You may add up to 50 words of text per image. You can add the text as a comment underneath the image or as a note on the image itself to highlight a particular detail. Text and image must be in unity with one another. The interaction between image and text should encourage the viewer to think about how image and text relate to one another (**should not just be a description**).
* Write, incorporate, and highlight a minimum of three well-crafted literary devices to enhance visuals
* You may re-size or edit your images with image editing software. If you completely distort an image, you need to explain why you chose to do so in your project statement.
* You must cite your images in proper MLA format on a separate work cited page.

Example:

Last Name, First Name. *Photograph Title*. Year Created. Museum/Collection Name, City.*Website*

*Title*. Medium. Date Accessed.

**CREATING A MEDIA TEXT:**

How you introduce your ideas to the audience is crucial for success on this task. **Remember**: This is not supposed to be a visual display, but a visual argument. Your end product should be a multimedia project which incorporates visuals and text, (sound is optional) in a highly structured way to showcase your topic and argument.

### **Visual Essay Tools You May Use**

To make a presentation of your visual essay more eye-catching, creative, interesting and efficient, you should use the following helpful editing and presentation tools:

* Adobe Flash
* Adobe InDesign
* Photoshop
* Audacity
* Prezi Presentation Software
* Windows Movie Maker
* Imovie (Mac)

**EVALUATION:** please see next page for rubric

**ESSAY OUTLINE**

Group Members:

Use the outline provided to organize your argument. Be sure to read the instructions/prompts carefully. Ensure you use complete sentences for your hook, thesis, topic sentences, and transition/conclusion sentences; clear point form is fine for supporting sentences.

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| Topic: |

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| --- |
| Thesis: (Topic + Attitude) |

1. INTRODUCTION: Hook, Main points, Thesis

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IDEAS FOR INTRODUCTION VISUAL COMPONENT:

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1. BODY PARAGRAPH #1: Topic Sentence (1st main point + thesis), Point + Proof + Explanation (support), Transition/Conclusion:

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IDEAS FOR BODY PARAGRAPH #1 VISUAL COMPONENT:

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1. BODY PARAGRAPH #2: Topic Sentence (2nd main point + thesis), Point + Proof + Explanation (support), Transition/Conclusion:

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IDEAS FOR BODY PARAGRAPH #2 VISUAL COMPONENT:

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1. BODY PARAGRAPH #3: Topic Sentence (3rd main point + thesis), Point + Proof + Explanation (support), Transition/Conclusion:

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IDEAS FOR BODY PARAGRAPH #3 VISUAL COMPONENT:

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1. CONCLUSION: Restate Thesis, summarize Main Points, Final Statement (reflection of Hook)

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IDEAS FOR CONCLUSION VISUAL COMPONENT:

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