Other assignments have asked you to apply genre frameworks to media artifacts and their design, as well as your own experiences with the Internet (or its lack). This assignment has you focus on other media consumers, and the ways that they think about their relationship with the media. For this assignment, you’ll need to draw from the interviews that you and your classmates conducted and posted online. You’ll need to choose a particular larger question to write about, and draw from the results of all available interviews to draft your paper, which should be at least 10 pages in length.

**Drawing from the interview transcripts as well as our class readings (at least three) and outside sources (another three), you should analyze how individuals answered particular questions, and what themes emerge from their varied responses.** Your overarching question should not be phrased as a yes/no question (too easy) or a ‘why’ question (impossible) to answer. Please come talk with me or Flourish if you are having trouble deciding on a question. Be sure to address the following in your paper:

- Be sure to indicate exactly what your research question is. If we can’t figure it out, you’ll drop a full letter grade. Also, why did you choose this question? What is so interesting about this question to you?
- Tell us how many interviews you drew from, and what the distinguishing elements of those interviews were (all college students; older users; dedicated game players, etc).
- Give some context for the question you want to explore. Why does this interest you, and why do you think it’s important?
- To answer your question, you’ll need to review the interview transcripts several times, at least. Highlight interesting answers or key phrases that individuals offer that seem relevant to your question. Consult the class readings to gain more insights, such as Gitlin’s piece on how we are awash in information and media, with little opportunity to break free of it. Did individuals give the answers you would expect, or did some (or more) differ in interesting ways? Were there surprising answers? Particularly eloquent ones? Sometimes if an answer indicated hesitancy, that might also be an important thing to discuss.
- In writing your paper, use a variety of quotes from individuals to make your points. The more you can convince the reader that your analysis is correct via use of evidence, the better. Likewise, if there are outside sources of information that validate your claims, bring those in as well—for example the Pew Internet Project offers useful statistics on internet use and how individuals use various elements of the Internet. The more details you can give, the stronger your argument and paper will be.
- Make sure to wrap up your paper. Did you find what you expected to find, or did your analysis surprise you? What further questions does your analysis raise?
Nut & Bolts:

- The paper should be at least ten pages in length (approximately 2500 words)
- Use a 12-point font; double-spacing, and 8.5 x 11 inch formatting with normal margins
- Give the paper a title
- Insert page numbers
- Indicate your section
- Include a reference list of all sources consulted, in MLA or APA style (failure to do so will result in failure of the paper)
- Please proofread, both using spell checker and your own eyes. Also check for awkward phrasings and vague allusions. Be clear and concise. Omit needless words!
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