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English 101

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English Composition I

20 October 2019

Essay Response Log

The short story the Lottery was about a group of townspeople who basically had a draft to see who would get sacrificed. This tradition has been going on for several years one man even stated that it was his 77th time participating in the lottery. They drew the card and Tessie had the black spot on the card which meant she was getting sacrificed. She told her son to run back home to tell her husband the news. Mr. Summers the head of the town told the crowd to finish up quickly then moved Tessie near the stones. A couple questions I have about this story is why do the people of the town just agree on sacrificing someone? Also why doesn't the family really care that their mother and wife is about to get sacrificed? What also interested me is that the Old man states he's participated in the lottery 77 times. If you participated that many times why is that he never got chosen. Another question I have is does the head of the town put their names down in the box? If they didn't I don't really think that would be fair for everyone else. I also wonder do they really sacrifice the infants? In the story it said that Bill Hutchinson opened Baby Davids card and saw it was blank and everybody had a sigh of relief. That would've been cruel if they really stoned a child and your mother and father would participate in killing their own child. Those are my thoughts and input on the short story.

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English Composition I

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Response Log 2

Racial profiling is one of the main issues the black community is faced with. This is because people tend to have a negative view on African Americans because of the stereotypes society has created. According to society black people are loud, ghetto, violent, and uneducated; which makes them a “threat” to society. This passage goes back into history and talks about how society today is no different from society in the 1950s.

The author first began to talk about an innocent teenager named Emmett Till. Emmett was originally from Chicago, but came to visit family in Mississippi. While he was visiting, his life was cut short because he whistled at a white woman in a grocery store. Instead of the woman just brushing it off, she decides to get her husband and brother in law involved and they decide to kill Emmett Till. Not only did they just murder the innocent young man but they kidnapped him, beat him, fatally shot him and dumped his body in a river. The two men, along with the woman were found not guilty for this young man’s murder.

The author then talks about another innocent young man from Cleveland, named Tamir Rice. Tamir was only twelve years old when his life was cut short by a white police officer. Tamir was caught playing with a fake gun at a park, and for whatever reason someone decided to call the police on him. When the officer arrived, he decided to shoot the young man instead of

approaching him and talking about the extreme violence guns can cause. Even though this murder was caught on camera, he was also found not guilty.

Based on what I read, history repeated itself and African Americans are still looked at as a threat. I feel like both situations should have been handled differently instead of ending in violence and death. I do think because we are looked at as violent, both of those young men were murdered based on stereotypes and assumptions. From this passage I also gathered that the justice system is still unfair, because there was more than enough evidence to find those two men and the police officer guilty for murder. Since history still continues to repeat itself, I do think the justice system should be as fair as it claims to be.

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English 101

10 November 2019

Response Log 3

This story goes back in time when Europeans were taking over countries and imperializing them. The story focuses on one character (the main character) named Orwell, a European police officer who was imperializing Lower Burma. Although his title holds authority, he was bullied by the Burnese people. They bullied him because they hated the fact that he was a part of taking over their country. They also bullied him because they never took his authority seriously and viewed him as a weak man. Orwell was not just weak in the eyes of the Burnese people, he was also weak in the eyes of his own peers.

Eventually, Orwell proved everyone wrong by shooting an elephant. In the story elephants were known for being very dangerous because they would destroy communities and kill people. The reason why Orwell had to kill an elephant in this story was because the elephant killed a man, and Orwell's boss had ordered him to kill the elephant. Once Orwell was told to kill the elephant, he was under so much pressure because everyone wanted him to do it even though he didn't want to. Although he did not want to kill the elephant, he felt as though if he did not do it that he would be laughed at by his peers and the Burnese people. When Orwell realized that his reputation was on the line he killed the elephant, but felt bad about doing it afterwards.

Orwell going against his own morals shows the theme of this story, which is the fear of humiliation. Fear of humiliation is the theme because Orwell did not see the elephant as a threat when he went to go kill it. He felt as though he had no valid reason to kill it because the elephant was calm and it did not look like a threat. Although all those thoughts were running through his mind, he proceeded to kill the elephant because he felt pressured from the hundreds of Burnese people watching. Orwell knew if he did not pull the trigger that he would let everyone down, and that he would humiliate himself.

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English 101

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Response Log 4

The story “Mother Tongue” by Amy Tan is about Amy (the narrator) and her mother, who are both Asian Americans and have trouble speaking in proper English. Amy calls their improper English broken English because they do not properly say their sentences all the time. She starts talking about how her mother is really bad with speaking proper English causing people to either mistreat her or even look at her differently. Amy went into detail about how she would have to speak for her mom for important phone calls because of how bad her English was. Throughout the story, Amy also talks about how important she thinks it is to perfect her English because she does not want to end up like her mother and have people judge her. Amy being self conscious about how she speaks was one of the biggest challenges she faced throughout the entire story.

After I read this story I was not a huge fan of it because I did not understand why she was so insecure about the way she spoke. This is because I never really judge people (especially immigrants) because I know that they are still learning how to perfect their English. I also do not judge anyone’s broken English because I believe that the way a person speaks does not always define their intelligence. Although I was never too fond of this story, I do think that this story shed a lot of light on the challenges immigrants are faced with almost everyday. The story showed how their challenges can impact their confidence and opportunities because of how

quick people can judge them just by the way that they speak. This story made me wonder, if immigrants are often judged by the way that they speak, how often are they actually given fair chances?

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English Composition 101

9/20/2019

A Spooky Run

Sometimes funny moments can turn into dangerous ones . Have you ever done something but later on regretted it because it almost got you hurt? It was in 7th or 8th grade when I almost got myself hurt. At the moment everything was worth it but looking back at it , it was nowhere near worth it.

It was near the end of October, a Saturday night and my mom had just dropped me off at my middle school gym. I remember her telling me to stay out of trouble right when she dropped me off she also told me don't follow anybody. I said to her, "I won't do anything to embarrass you mom." While I get there a couple of my friends were already there so we were all just chilling. We all had a little extra money in our pockets so we all decided that we wanted to go to Burger King. The closest Burger King was about a 5 minute walk. We weren't supposed to leave the building but somehow someway we got a way out of the gym.

While we were on our way to the Burger King we seen a soccer game going on but we didn't think too much of it. We arrived at Burger and we all just went straight to the line and didn't waste anytime. Luckily it wasn't a long line. I ordered a Whopper meal and I just remember it tasting so good like it came from Heaven. We started eating our food it was about 4

or 5 of us together. When we finished eating we split up into 2 groups. I went with my friend and everyone else went together. Me and my friend Morgan left before everyone else and were walking back to the school. Well I thought we were walking back to the school but we went back to the girl's soccer game I was talking about earlier. The both of us decided to take a closer look at the game.

We walked to the field but stayed on the sidelines. While we were on the sideline he tapped me and dared me to take my shirt off and run on the field. So you know me at the time I didn't really care what other people were thinking about so I just did it. I took my shirt off and ran onto the field. The players were in disbelief that someone really ran onto the field with no shirt on. Stuff like that only happens in TV shows or movies. This is where we messed up. When I was done we left and I guess someone's Father or brother didn't really like what I did so they ran off their side of the bleachers and was running behind us. Something told me to look back, so I looked back and there he was behind me and he almost had a hold of me. He was talking to me while we both were running but I knew he wouldn't catch me. He was saying, "Don't run now" and "I'm going to make your little ass run all the way home." I was telling him, "It was just a joke" and "I'm Sorry." He didn't care to hear what I was saying. While I was running for my life it's like the forest was calling me to run into there. I didn't want to run back to the building because I knew I was going to get in trouble for leaving the building. So I told myself, "If I make it to the forest i'll be okay." That was the fastest I ever ran, I didn't even know I had all that speed in me. So I made it to the beginning of the trail and he stopped chasing me. I waited for him to start walking back to the game for me to start walking back to the gym.

My friend Morgan ran too because he didn't know who he was coming for so we met back up in the building. As soon as I entered the lobby you could tell I was running. I was sweating, I look scared and I ran out of breath. The Dean at the time basically interrogated me. She was asking me all these questions like who I was with and where was I at. I just told her that I was on the phone with my mom. Then she asked me, "Why does it look like you were running?" I said, "I wasn't running I was just talking really fast." I was hoping she didn't ask too much. So I walk into the gym and all eyes were on me. Some people were laughing and some were asking if I was okay. My friend who we split up with at the Burger King said they saw me running and said, "Damn that looks like Moussa."

The party finally ended and my ride arrived and asked me how'd my night go. I hesitated a little and told them everything went well. The moral of this story is no matter what you think is funny at the moment other people might not have the same sense of humor as you. You can definitely say that I learned my lesson.

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English Composition I

20 October 2019

King James the GOAT

LeBron Raymone James is a professional basketball player for the Los Angeles Lakers.

LeBron was drafted into the NBA straight out of high school and was taken with the #1 pick overall with his hometown team the Cleveland Cavaliers. He's a 15x NBA All-Star, a 3x NBA Champion, 6x All-NBA defensive team member, 3x All-Star game Most Valuable Player (MVP), a 4x league MVP, 15x All-NBA team member, 2003-04 All Rookie first team member, 3x Finals MVP, he won the NBA scoring title in 2007-08 and won Rookie of the Year award for the 2003-04 season. His career averages are 27.2 points per game (PPG), 7.2 assists per game (APG) and 7.4 rebounds per game (RPG). These are just some of the statistical reasons why he is considered the Greatest of all Time (GOAT). LeBron also opened a public school worth \$8 million for at risk students in the Akron, Ohio area. The students there get free bikes, free meals and college tuition paid for. This is how he is considered the GOAT off the court.

Some people might consider Michael Jordan or Kobe being the GOAT but LeBron has a total of 32,543 points for his career while Michael has 32,292 total points. He is exactly 1,100

points away from passing Kobe for 3rd All-Time. LeBron is also the only person in NBA history to be Top 10 all-time in Points & Assist (8,662). Although he is entering his 17th season some people called his latest season a down year for him when he averaged 27.4 PPG , 8.5 RPG & 8.3 APG. In one of his MVP seasons he averaged 26.8 PPG , 8 RPG & 7.3 APG. When comparing these two seasons one might question how his latest season was his down year when he put up better numbers than in his MVP season. Despite the fact that he only has 3 NBA Championships he appeared in 9 NBA Finals and went 8 straight times from the 2010 season to the 2018 season. He holds one of the highest streaks of making it to the NBA finals. In the 2018 NBA Playoffs he had one of the most remarkable runs while doing it all by himself. He averaged 34 PPG, 9 APG & 8.8 RPG while leading his team to the NBA Finals where they lost to the Golden State Warriors 4 man all-star team.

Off the court LeBron gives back to his hometown with every chance he gets. “When I graduated from St. Vincent - St. Mary high school in Akron, Ohio in 2003, I PROMISED to never forget where I came from”(James 1). LeBron pledged \$1 million to help renovate his alma mater’s gym where he grew up playing. With that money he also purchased new jerseys for all sports teams to wear with LeBron James’ logo on them. With the I Promise School LeBron plans to invest in children’s lives in the Akron area. He also built the I Promise Institute on the University of Akron campus where he looks to not only help kids get to college but also to graduate college.

The students at the I Promise School has shown extraordinary results. Third graders went from the first percentile to the 18th percentile in Math while fourth graders went from the second percentile to the 30th percentile in Math. 90% of students who started the school year at least one

year behind grade level met or exceeded their expected growth in math and reading. All of this could not have happened though without LeBron James.

To conclude LeBron has done much on the court as he did off the court. He believed in himself when no one else did and he believed in the at risk kids when nobody else did. That is why LeBron James is considered the Greatest of all Time.

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English Composition

11/04/19

Saving Money 101

Are you bad at saving money? Do you sometimes wish you had a little extra spending money in your pocket? Well according to CNBC 65% of Americans save little to no money. There's a bunch of ways you could save money. You could open up a savings account, you could go out less during the week, eat at home or simply even sell any items that aren't getting put to use anymore. Do you want to be apart of the 65% of people who don't save money or the 35% that do save money? The choice is yours.

The first step on how to manage your budget is to recognize that you do have a spending problem. Most people can't recognize that they have a spending problem and some people get paid weekly so they have a thought in their head that they get paid every Friday so why look back. If you can acknowledge that you have a problem then you can stop the problem a little earlier than later. Remember it all starts with no one else but you.

The second step in managing ones budget is to open up a savings account. Some banks give you an option if you would want to transfer funds from your checking account to your savings account every month. Also you must remember to never spend the money in your savings account and only spend the money in your checking account. The money in your savings

account is of course only for emergencies. By opening up a savings account you also have an opportunity in making more money. The money in your savings account earns interest which means the money you leave in the savings account the banks pays you for it. The bank also loan out money to people and charge an interest rate on the loan than what they pay you for your account. Something to remember with a savings account is that your money will always be in your account, the bank pays you back. They just loan it out so they have a chance to make money.

Another tip on saving money is when you get paid split up the whole paycheck in two's. Make one portion of the money that you save and make the other portion of the money that you can spend. For example if your paycheck is \$1,000 and you want to spend 60% of the check and save 40% you would spend \$600 and save \$400. If you keep doing that your money will keep piling up and you save up over \$1,000. For this method you don't need a savings account you could do this from your checking account if you can handle it.

Finally, the last step on managing your budget is to set short-term and long-term goals for yourself. For example set a short-term goal you want to achieve in 1-3 years and set a long-term goal you want to achieve in 4 or more years. Some examples of short-term goals are vacations, down payments for a car or presents or gifts. Some examples of long-term goals are retirement plans, your children's education or buying a house. These are just goals and not everyone accomplishes their goals but when you do you will feel good. Even if you decide not to accomplish the short or long-term, you will still have a lot of money left over from just saving.

Of course, managing your budget will not happen overnight it is going to take some time. But if you decide to take all of these steps into consideration you should be on the right track and should have a lot of money saved up.

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English Composition 1

11/27/2019

Music is vocal or instrumental sounds (or both) combined in such a way to produce beauty of form, harmony, and expressions of emotion. In many cultures, music plays an important part of people's lives as it is played at religious rituals, rites of passages, social activities, and cultural activities. The four genres of music being talked about today is Hip-Hop, R&B, Country and Reggae.

Hip-Hop originated in South Bronx, New York in the late 1970's by Clive Campbell a native from Jamaica. Hip-Hop has many subgenres. Some examples are Alternative Hip-Hop, Battle Rap, East Coast Hip-Hop, Gangsta Rap, West Coast Hip-Hop, Trap Music and many more. African Americans make up majority of Hip-Hop listeners with 40 percent which doubles the population of Caucasian listeners per capita. The most well-known Hip-Hop artist of all time could range from Jay-Z, Dr. Dre, Kanye West, Tupac, The Notorious B.I.G, 50 Cent and many more. Popular songs from the Hip-Hop genre include *Dear Mama* by Tupac, *Nuthin' but a G*

Thang by Dr. Dre, *99 Problems* by Jay-Z, *Many Men* by 50 Cent, *Juicy* by The Notorious B.I.G and *Heartless* by Kanye West.

R&B started in African American communities in the 1940's by Jerry Wexler a native from the Bronx. R&B has subgenres but not as much as HipHop. The subgenre of R&B include Disco, Adult Contemporary R&B, Motown, New Jack Swing, Soul and more. African Americans make up 53 percent of listeners while Caucasian make up 32 percent while Hispanics make up 15% of listeners. R&B has a lot of popular artists ranging from Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Marvin Gaye, Alicia Keys, Janet Jackson, Arethra Franklin and much more. Popular songs from the artists named are *Superstition* by Stevie Wonder, *Billie Jean* by Michael Jackson, *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* by Marvin Gaye, *Girl on Fire* by Alicia Keys, *That's the Way Love Goes* by Janet Jackson and *I Never Loved A Man* by Arethra Franklin.

Country music arised in southern United States by Jimmy Rodgers a Mississippi native. Country music has subgenres but not as many as HipHop and R&B. The subgenres include Country Gospel, Honky Tonk, Urban Cowboy, Bluegrass, Americana and a couple more. Caucasian makes up 54 percent of listeners while Hispanics make up 38 percent of listeners and African Americans make up 8 percent of listeners. Some notorious Country music artists are Billy Ray Cyrus, George Strait, Carrie Underwood, Johnny Cash, and Dolly Parton. Some popular songs from the artists include *Achy Breaky Heart* by Billy Ray Cyrus, *I Cross My Heart* by George Strait, *Jesus Take the Wheel* by Carrie Underwood, *Hurt* by Johnny Cash and *9-5* by Dolly Parton.

Reggae music commenced in Jamaica by Bob Marley. Reggae has several subgenres including Mento, Ska, Rocksteady, Dancehall, Dub, Rockers and many more. A large majority

of Reggae listeners are mostly African Americans. Some popular Reggae artists are Bob Marley, Buju Banton, Alpha Blondy, Ziggy Marley, Luciano and many more. Some popular songs from the artist above are *Three Little Birds* by Bob Marley, *True to Myself* by Ziggy Marley, *Sweet Fanta Diallo* by Alpha Blondy, *Boom Bye Eye* by Buju Banton and *Lord Give Me Strength* by Luciano.

These four Genres are all examples of Classification and Division. There are many different music genres that can be classified by history, subgenre, listeners, popular artists and song examples.