Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Interview Writing Project*

***Choose your interviewee: September 6th***

***Interview Completed: September 11th***

***Rough Draft Due: September 16th***

***Final Draft: To be determined***

***Your Mission:***  *You are a reporter and writer of the “Person of the Week” column for your local newspaper. Each week you interview a person about an important event from their lifetime and how it affected them. This event could have personal importance to the interviewee (birthday, wedding, etc) or may have been a historic event (war, election, etc). The interviewee MUST be at least 10 years older than you. You will use the information from the interview to write a nonfiction newspaper “Person of the Week” report about their experience.*

Use the space here to brainstorm a list of people you could talk to.

***Part I. Preparation:*** *A good interview starts with good questions. We will be learning how to form good interview questions. You will need to brainstorm questions to ask your interviewee.*

***Part II. The Interview:*** *Set up a time and place for the interview where there won’t be too many distractions. Make sure the interviewee knows about the assignment ahead of time so that they can think about what they want to say. Listen carefully & take good notes during the interview using your question sheet. Your notes do not need to be in complete sentences. You may need to ask follow up questions to get more information for your report. Bring your notes to class.*

***Part III. Writing:*** *While writing your report, use the rubric on the back of this sheet to guide you. Remember to be descriptive about your interviewee’s story as well as their body language and tone of voice. Really TELL their story. This piece must be at least five paragraphs.*

Opening: Set the scene; describe where the interview is taking place; describe your relationship to or why you chose the interviewee, etc.

Middle (3 paragraphs): Write about the event as it was experienced by your interviewee. Tell both the facts of the event and how your interviewee felt.

Conclusion: Tell about how the event changed the life of your interviewee and perhaps how the event changed the world. Write about why this event was important to the interviewee or a lesson they learned from living through the event.

**Interview Questions:**

* What is your name and your relationship to me?
* What life changing event are you going to tell me about?
* Where did this event take place?
* When did this event take place?
* Why was this event important to you? Why was this event important to history?
* How did this event change your life?

Think up at least five more questions you could ask during your interview.

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2.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***\* Be careful to avoid questions that may be answered in one word***

***\* Don’t be afraid to ask follow up questions to get good, detailed information***

**Interview Writing Project Grading Rubric**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** Notes from the Interview & Rough Draft

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** Opening paragraph

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30 pts** Middle paragraphs

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** Closing paragraph

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** Quality of writing: descriptive, grade appropriate

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** Report includes at least three direct quotes and quotation marks are

used correctly

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** Use of proper grammar, spelling, & proofreading

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 pts** All deadlines were met for completing the paper

 **Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/100 pts**