**Part 2: Biographical Analysis**

For homework, you will compose a **biographical analysis** (~3 pages) of key life experiences and cultural education for a person who belongs to a culture you believe to be different from your own. Choose a person other than a close friend or family member and interview them to learn about their life. This may be an acquaintance, but it should not be someone you already know very closely.

In your paper’s introduction, you should identify right away how your interviewee differs from you culturally. Culture can be defined broadly to include gender, ethnicity, language, social class, sexual orientation, religious tradition, etc. Try to find someone as culturally different from you as you can. You will want someone with *at least two* big differences from you (age, gender, race or ethnicity, socioeconomic status, religion, etc.). The greater the contrast the more likely you will hear rich stories of culture that you can draw from in Part 3.

Again, as you did in the “A paper,” you may include experiences related to family, education, religion, recreation, achievements, and setbacks. Also, the paper should analyze the same three aspects of the other person’s life: 1) inherited or environmental influences, 2) the impact of personal choices, and 3) the person’s life trajectory at this point.

The biography should tell the story of the individual you interviewed from their perspective, NOT yours. This doesn’t mean that you write it in the first person; it just means that you should not make comparisons to your life in this paper—that is the next assignment. Just as you told *your* story in the first paper, you tell *their* story for them in this paper.

**Due: Tuesday, December 9**

Example of Paper Introduction

Biography of Mando Miles

I chose to interview my neighbor, Mando Miles. I picked Mando because I knew that he was several decades older than me and of a different gender. I also knew that he was of a visibly Latino genetic background and had grown up in Hawaii. Our interview revealed that he had been born in Texas, adopted as a young child, and raised in a large blended family. As an adult, he served in the military and worked for thirty years as a coal miner. Each of these aspects of Mando’s life experience gave him a background quite different from my own.

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|  | **Superior: 20-19** | **Good: 18-16** | **Developing: 15-14** | **Not Yet: 13-10** |
| **Ideas** | Your paper demonstrates an unusual depth of understanding into how another person’s life experiences have shaped his or her perspective. | Your paper is focused on showing how key experiences from another person’s life have shaped the person’s perspective. | Your paper addresses another person’s life experiences but does not show how they shaped perspective. | Your paper does not address the assignment. |
| **Organization** | You demonstrate control and sophistication in organizing ideas, so that, paragraph by paragraph, distinct ideas build off one another. Your paragraphs transition smoothly. | Your paper has clear introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs. Each body paragraph is topically distinct. | Your paper exhibits rudimentary organization, but it is at times random or disjointed. | The paper lacks organization and cohesion. |
| **Development** | You develop your ideas thoroughly, presenting abundant, convincing evidence from a life of how key experiences have shaped another’s perspective. | You provide adequate examples and details from another’s life to support your analysis of his or her perspective. | Your paper provides some examples, but they are either not sufficient or you do not show how they relate to your analysis of perspective. | You do not develop the ideas you present. |
| **Presentation** | Your paper is free of grammar and convention errors. You demonstrate control and sophistication in making linguistic and stylistic choices. | Your writing is generally smooth and free of grammar or convention errors. | There are occasional distractions because of convention errors or awkward language use. | Error-ridden language often distracts from your point. |