

Pop Culture Journey Map (Collaboratively Option – Co-Journey)

Due: September 23

Weight: 20%

In this assignment I'm asking you to consider your pop culture journey via a journey map! In short, this journey map should show your history and relationship with pop culture through various stages of your life (or whatever other method you want to organize it!). Ask yourself, **what** pop culture things (movies, shows, music, toys) impacted you the most through your life? And **why**? And **when**?

Make a map highlighting at least 5 different things, and write a short paragraph for each explaining why it was impactful for you (each paragraph should be around 150-200 words). Please use the first person "I". Examples (and time to start drafting) will be given in class.

In each short paragraph try to give an impression of "what" it is, "why" it was impactful to you, and "when" that was the case. Feel welcome to connect it to ideas, mention if it still impacts you now, or other interesting connection.

Organizationally you want to flow between the points. You can to the map chronologically, or thematically, or impactfully, but show the journey!

Please cite anything that might need citing (this includes music, tv shows, etc. It might be difficult to cite a toy, but I'll be lenient here!). Other sources are NOT necessary. One of the goals of this assignment is to express your voice and connections to pop culture. You're welcome to use other sources, but do it sparingly and make sure your voice is the core.

In-document images/music/etc are welcome (if not encouraged!).

Minimum 5 things, 750 words, 1 journey map.

NOTE: You can take a more creative approach as well. If you want to make a video it should be 4-6 minutes and make sure to submit a transcript. You can make an infographic, a playlist, whatever. The options are endless! We can chat further about other creative options in completing this assignment. – You can also do this collaboratively with someone else (compare and contrast, juxtaposition : this would increase the word count to 1300-1500 words + : if you're interested in this reach out to me.

Generative AI: Please don't use generative AI. That includes using it to "improve" your writing. I put improve in quotations because really what it does is make it sound weird. I am very much interested in seeing your voice stand out (not to mention AI-use for this assignment would constitute as academic dishonestyyy).

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	80-100 Great!	70-80 Good!	60-70 Could use Improvement!	50-60 Could use (more) Improvement!
Content: 10/20	At least 5 things are highlighted. The questions: What? Why? When? Are all answered and fleshed out. Your voice is at the forefront.	Only 4-5 things are mentioned. What? Why? When? May be answered, but without much depth. Good use of voice.	Less than 3 things. Missing an aspect of “what, why, when” or it’s answered at the surface-level. Minimal voice usage.	Less than 3 things. Gives a facile explanation. Lacks impact.
Organization 5/20	Proper flow of a Journey map (has a beginning, middle or end; or flow between points; or some other thematic. The paragraphs are well-written (focused on the subject). If tangents are taken, they fit into the larger idea of the Map.	Some flow, but occasionally feels choppy. Has a thematic but either isn’t fully laid out, or the writing isn’t committed to it. Good paragraphs, but may need reworking.	Choppy style. Has a organization that lacks direction. Messy paragraphs	Directionless. No connections being made between things. No flow.
Stylistics and Grammar 5/20	750 words (or at most 850 words) Proper citations Little to no typos/grammatical errors (unless it fits what you’re going for!)	A bit under word count (25ish words). Ok citations. Minor errors	Very under word count. Lots of errors. Could use another draft! Zero citations	Less than 500 words total. Zero citations. Needs some. Substantial errors throughout grammatical support.

