**Generational Links: An Exploration of Social & Systemic
Injustice and Community Narratives in Baltimore and Beyond**
Unit by Baltimore City College High School,
part of the 2021 cohort of *The 1619 Project* Education Network

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Formative 6: Adapting Your Oral History Into a Monologue

Directions: Using details from your oral history interview, write a story from your interviewee's perspective.

Part I: Select a Portion of Your Interview to Transcribe

1. Choose **a particular story or conflict** from your intereviewee's responses that you want to emphasize. Write at least 150 words from your interview that captures this story or conflict in the space below.

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Part II: Adapt the Interview into a Monologue

1. Edit, adapt, rearrange or delete parts of the selected portion of your interview to create a compelling **beginning, middle, and end.** While you cannot change your interviewee's sentiments, you can change the **order** of their word or the **amount** of what they said to create a more concise and powerful piece. Your story must be no more than 3 single spaced pages. Think of this process as refining your interview to reveal the true shape or spine of the story.
    a. Identify any patterns in the **diction** that you want to emphasize.
    b. **Highlight the parts of the interview you want to keep**.
    c. Decide what story you are telling. **What societal inequity does this respond to**?
    d. Remember that you will have to **delete parts of the interview that are critical to the story you are telling, especially the interview questions**.
    e. Edit, delete, and adapt parts of the selected portions of your interview to emphasize elements of dramatic monologue **(diction, imagery, point of view, perspective, and characterization).**

Aim for a 100-200 word monologue in this first draft. Your final monologue must be no more than 300-400 words. Remember, people usually speak at about 100 words per minute, so you are aiming for a runtime of 3-5 minutes.

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