# Notes From the Field & The 1619 Project

Interdisciplinary Unit English Daily Slides Week 5



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#### Workshop: Transcribing Your Oral History

Workshop: Gist Statement and Detail Selection

Workshop: Monologue Writing

Workshop: Monologue Writing and Peer Review

Workshop: Monologue Revision

Workshop: Rationale Preparation

Workshop: Rationale Writing

Monologue Performances and Final Discussion

# Workshop: Transcribing Your Oral History

### How to transcribe? (Here's a helpful guide document)

- 1. Listen to the full recording all the way through uninterrupted
- 2. Select the proper tools (Notebook vs. paper and pencil, headphones, your recording)
- 3. Write a first draft
- 4. Use shortcuts/abbreviations
- 5. Proofread your draft for spelling/formatting errors



### Properly formatted transcript sample

Michael Smith: Welcome back, Lincoln. This is the third part of our interview, and I would like to get you through these as efficiently as possible as I know you have another interview later in the day.

Laura Baker: Thank you. I would greatly appreciate that.

MS: It states on your resume that you use to work for JKL Company, in the sales department. What did you do there?

LB: Yes. I worked as a Sales Manager there for two years. I increased sales from \$500-000 to \$1 million over the course of those two years.

MS: So you increased sales there by \$500,000 in only two years?

LB: Yes, and I'm very proud of that.

**Notice** - Abbreviations of names after they are first stated - New line for each change in who is speaking - Spelling and grammar that reflects the conversation

### **Components of Summative**

#### A rationale (Criterion A, Evaluating):

Explain how you conducted your oral history and how you developed that into a monologue. Explain the policy
or inequity that you focused on for your oral history, and why. Then explain which elements of dramatic
monologue you want to emphasize, and then explain how you did that. You will have an outline to help you with
this process.

#### An oral history and monologue (Criterion B, Synthesizing)

- The oral history
- The dramatic monologue will take the oral history as a draft. You will then take the elements of dramatic monologue (diction, characterization, dialogue, perspective, and imagery) to turn

#### A reflection (Criterion C, Reflecting)

- This reflection will use the framework of a Personal Project reflection to determine what students learned from this project as an interdisciplinary endeavor and what students can take away moving forward. The journal entries from English will be a core part of this work, which will be finished after the oral histories are complete.

## What is in the monologue?

- Stage directions showing what the speaker looks like, their attitude, where they are
- An inequity, inequality, or some reference to a violation of a right granted by an amendment
- A story with a beginning, middle, and end
- Devices of dialect, imagery, perspective, characterization, diction, punctuation, and point of view
- There is reflection/restoration in the narrative

# Formative 6: Adapting your Transcript into a Monologue

\*Keep the *words* of the oral history intact to **honor your subject** 

\*Look for the **restorative story** (acknowledgement of harm but also empowerment through truth and/or validation.)

- Use the following literary concepts honor your subject's story
  - **Diction:** Dialect words with strong connotation, denotation
  - **Imagery**: Specific details that describe the sensory experience
  - **Perspective:** Specific details that establish beliefs or values
  - Characterization: Stage Directions that establish direct or indirect

Review some of the monologues that we read over the course of this unit.

# Feeling Stuck Working with Your Oral History?

- Write some follow-up questions to ask your interviewee add to the end of your transcript.
- You can tell them that as you've started crafting your monologue you've realized that you need a little more material.
- Ask them "tell me about a time when you or someone you know..."
- Ask them "Can you paint a picture of this moment. What did it smell like, feel like, sound like?"
- Have you come to terms with this experience? Have you healed from it? Is it something you are still navigating? \*Note these questions will help you incorporate a few lines linking to your interviewee's restorative narrative.



# Workshop: Gist Statement and Detail Selection

### Gist Statement - What are we talking about?

- Listen to your entire interview
- Determine at its core, what was the story or topic?
  - Family?
  - Work?
  - Love?
  - Strife?
- In a sentence, sum up the story/message of the interview and keep it in mind as you are tackling your monologue adaptation
- Think of the gist as the "core" or "root" of the narrative



# Details...Where do I find them? What am I looking for?

- Remember, you are keeping as much of the language of your oral history as possible and adding only what is absolutely necessary to clarify the narrative/message
- Highlight details in your transcript that
  - Tell a story
  - Give information/help you visualize
  - Show the speaker's perspective
  - Show the speaker's speech (dialect)



Butler: What did you do during the week for recreation or fun? Mrs. Royster: Nothing but just play.

Butler: Did you play close to where you lived?

Mrs. Royster: Yeah. Children played together from house to house, you know, like that.

Butler: You were very close with your family? You were the oldest child?

Mrs. Royster: Yeah, I was. Yes.

Butler: Did this cause you to have extra responsibilities?

Mrs. Royster: Yes, it did, because I was the oldest. Yes, indeed.

Butler: What did you have to do? Did you have to more or less take care of the children while

your parents worked?

Mrs. Royster: That's right. Take care of the children best I could for a little girl growing up.

Let me see, I – [indiscernible] and two younger ones. I took care of all of them.

Butler: You say that you took care of who? I didn't hear you, Ms. Royster.

Mrs. Royster: I took care of my oldest brother. He – well, Momma had to go out to work, you

know. Because he was the oldest son he thought he was the boss, but she said  $\rm I-so$  he had to

help me, you know. He had to help. He wasn't much help because he was a boy.

Butler: So he didn't help much?

### Let's talk it through

Mrs. Royster: No. Butler: Were you responsible for doing household chores? Mrs. Royster: Yeah. Yes, indeed. Yes indeed, rocking the baby in the old-fashioned cradle Butler: You had to take care of the babies? Mrs. Royster: Yeah. Butler: As they grew up? Mrs. Royster: As they grew up. Butler: And the boy - the oldest boy, what was his name, Ms. Royster? Mrs. Royster: [Harley] Carrington. Butler: He wasn't much help, huh? What was he doing? Mrs. Royster: No, he wasn't much help, either. He liked bossing. Butler: What was he doing? Mrs. Royster: Playing. Butler: Playing? Mrs. Royster: Yeah. Just playing, uh huh. He called me this morning. Butler: Last time we talked you told me about some parties that you had gone to. Some parties that you had. Right. Mrs. Royster: Uh huh. Well, it really wasn't much like you call them parties now.

# Transcribe your oral history and write your monologue

**Transcript** should look like this (3-5 min is sufficient)

JT: Tell me more about that experience.BT: Well, um...it's difficult for me to talk about.JT: I'm listening.BT: ...So, I was minding my own business when I heard a knock on the door...

**Monologue** should look like (300-500 words is sufficient):

Well, um...it's difficult for me to talk about...I was minding my own business when I heard a knock on the door...

# Workshop: Monologue Writing

### What is a model for your monologue?

#### James Baldwin's monologue is the closest in length at around 380 words.

#### "Walk on a Leaf"

(This material comes from a seven-hour conversation that Mr. Baldwin had with Dr. Mead. It was both recorded and published as a book. Only Mr. Baldwin is performed for the purposes of this play. Musician is onstage and playing music as Baldwin speaks.)

(*To the musician.*) If I may interrupt you for a moment. Luckily, I'm not fifteen, but if I were, how in the world would I find any respect for human life, or any sense of history? And history is a concept that exists in almost nobody's mind. (*To the musician.*) Go on, go on. According to the West, I have no history. I've had to wrest my identity out of the jaws of the West. What I'm trying to say is that if I were young, I would find myself with no models. And that's a very crucial situation. Because what we've done, the world we created. If I were fifteen, I would feel hopeless, too. So you see what we gotta try to, what we gotta try to face...

I read a little book called *The Way It Spozed to Be*. And it was poetry and things written by little black children, Mexican, Puerto Rican children. Land of the free, home of the brave. And the teacher had made a compilation of the poems these kids wrote. And he respected them. And he dealt with them as if they were—as a fact, all children are. As a fact, all human beings are...some kind of a miracle! And so something wonderful happened.

And so for me, that very tiny book, it's only thirty pages long, one boy wrote a poem. Sixteen years old, he was in prison. It ended, four lines I never will forget: "Walk on water / Walk on a leaf / Hardest of all / Is walk in grief."

So what I'm trying to get at, I hope, is that there is a tremendous national global moral waste. And the question is: How can it be arrested?

70

That's an enormous question. Look. You and I, we've become whatever we become. The curtain will come down eventually. But what should we do about the children? We are responsible, in so far as we're responsible for anything at all, we are responsible for the future of this world.

# What do you already know about writing a monologue?

This section starts at 9:40.

#### Section to edit into a monologue as practice:

Butler: What did you do during the week for recreation or fun?

Mrs. Royster: Nothing but just play.

Butler: Did you play close to where you lived?

Mrs. Royster: Yeah. Children played together from house to house, you know

Butler: You were very close with your family? You were the oldest child?

Mrs. Royster: Yeah, I was. Yes.

Butler: Did this cause you to have extra responsibilities?

Mrs. Royster: Yes, it did, because I was the oldest. Yes, indeed.

Butler: What did you have to do? Did you have to more or less take care of the your parents worked?

Mrs. Royster: That's right. Take care of the children best I could for a little g Let me see, I - [indiscernible] and two younger ones. I took care of all of the Butler: You sav that vou took care of who? I didn't hear vou. Ms. Rovster.

Yeah. Children played together from house to house, you know, like that. Yeah.Nothing but just play.Take care of the children best I could for a little girl growing up.because I was the oldest Yeah, I was. Yes indeed, rocking the baby in the old-fashioned cradle.Yeah. I took care of my oldest brother. Momma had to go out to work, you Know.[Harley] Carrington He wasn't much help. He liked Playing.Because he was the oldest son he thought he was the boss, but she said I – so he had to

help me, you know. He had to help. He wasn't much help because he was a boy. Yes He called me this morning.

# What are the steps?

- 1) Interview
- 2) Transcribe
- 3) Draft
- 4) Revise
- 5) Edit

### How will I be evaluated?

Key points:

- Purposefully think about diction, characterization, perspective, and imagery as you choose parts of your transcript to include in your monologue. In the Rationale, you will explain these choices.
- Purposefully ensure that your monologue touches on issues you discussed in Government, including the amendments.

My 4th amendment was forcefully broken. They came into the house searched the house to look for someone that did not live there...okay they knocked on the door ...after 'bout not even 5 min before somebody even can't answer they bust through the door and came in and was like we the police I felt violated......(look like she was about to cry)

I was angry very upset-----i was hurt because they actually try to take the kids---they just want to try to take the kids and send them to social service i mean the child child service(**started reflecting,she took more longer thinking here on out**) .they didn't realize I mean I don't know when they realize they had the wrong house all I know is they came in they was asking for this person sat everybody down--was going through everybody room the drawers and dresses everything like that asking about um...who that person is told everybody to pull out their ids they checked everybody identification to make sure they were who they said they were but everybody--(**stutters more**)but they still lock all of us up even though they knew they didn't have the right person(**looking at the ceiling**)well they really didn't mess nothing up like downstairs in the living room but they did mess up....the the bedrooms they took all the clothes I don't really know they were looking for cause they did this to looking for I don't even know they were looking for(**she look more confused**) they posed to be looking for a person I guess they was doing their job but at the same time they didn't do too much of that they should have done more research to figure out were they at the right house.

## What if my interviewee didn't give me enough material?

- Write some more questions you can ask them.
- Write some follow-up questions to ask your interviewee and add to the end of your transcript.
- You can tell them that as you've started crafting your monologue you've realized that you need a little more material.
- Ask them "tell me about a time when you or someone you know..."

Where are you in the process?

# I have transcribed my interview.

I have an oral history but it's not transcribed.

Ensure you are using diction, imagery, characterization, and perspective as you craft your monologue. Drafting Your Monologue [.pdf] [.docx]

Follow these instructions to transcribe at least 3-4 minutes of your interview. How To Create An Oral History Transcript [.pdf] [.docx] I have not done my oral history.

Finish your questions and schedule your interview. Oral History Project Plan [.pdf] [.docx]

Complete Formative #6 to get ahead.

# Workshop: Monologue Writing and Peer Review

If you **DO** have your monologue draft, find a partner for

peer review and read their monologue.

If you **DO NOT** have your monologue draft, **work on your monologue**.

#### SILENT:

Read and take notes: 3 minutes

Swap and answer questions about your peer's monologue: 3 minutes

#### TALKING:

Swap back, ask questions, and set a goal in the box at the bottom: 3 minutes

Is the monologue just the words of the interviewee?	Is the monologue 300-400 words?	Is the monologue separated into paragraphs?
Yes.	No. It's 1200 words.	Yes. •

**Based on this feedback, I need to:** 

I need to cut down my monologue. I need to ask some additional questions or add some other parts of my transcript.



#### SILENT:

Read and take notes during: 3 minutes Swap and answer questions about your peer's monologue: 3 minutes

#### TALKING:

Swap back, ask questions, and set a goal in the box at the bottom: 3 minutes

Does the monologue contain a personal story?	Does the monologue engage with inequity?	Does the monologue contain elements of a restorative narrative? (Does it 1) acknowledge
Yes, it tells the story of a woman in prison trying to turn her life around.	Yes, it engages with educational inequity.	harm?, 2) explore difficult emotional terrain? 3) focus on growth and renewal) Yes

**Based on this feedback, I need to:** I'm all set with this round.

### Content

#### SILENT:

Read and take notes: 3 minutes Swap and answer questions about your peer's monologue: 3 minutes **TALKING**:

Swap back, ask questions, and set a goal in the box at the bottom: 3 minutes

Does the monologue purposefully use diction (word choice)?	Does the monologue purposefully use imagery (language that appeals to our senses)?	Does the monologue purposefully use characterization (speech, actions, thoughts, effects on others, looks	Does the monologue purposefully use perspective (one's outlook or lens based on their experiences and
Yes, the use of italics shows the speaker's emphasis.	Yes, "She'll jump on me, roll around on the floor, make me play with her" (visual and tactile) -Could be more imagery	that reveal personality)? Yes, especially through her speech and actions	values)? Yes, we can see the way Dodson's experience gave her the outlook on education she has.

**Based on this feedback, I need to:** 

No need to add anything here. Maybe some more imagery if it's in the transcript.

# Next Steps

- Use your feedback from class to revise your monologue.
- Complete Formative 6.

# Workshop: Monologue Revision

### What do I need for class today?

- Today we will do self-review instead of peer review. You will evaluate your own beginning, middle, and end and revise to improve them.
- If you have not written your monologue, you will not be able to do today's lesson.
  - Priority 1 Write your monologue.
  - Priority 2 Write your journal entries.
  - Priority 3 Complete Formative #6.

# Beginning

Write the first line of the monologue here: My-m-my parents did many jobs, with no education they just didum cleaning basically, working on the farm, and so you didn't have much money coming in.	Does the first line draw you in?	Is there a different line or part of the monologue that might be a more powerful opening? I couldn't even go outside after dark.
Based on this feedback, I need to: I need to move some things around so that I can start with "I couldn't even go outside after dark."		

### Middle

Is the monologue broken up into paragraphs that make sense?	Is there anything you would take out? Why?	Is there anything you would reorder? Why?	
Yes. The first paragraph is an overview of her upbringing. The second is more analytical and elaborates on her upbringing.	No.	Not really - just the opening.	
Based on this feedback, I need to:			

### End

Write the last line of the	Does the last line linger and	Is there a different line or
monologue here.	leave an impression on you?	part of the monologue that
We didn't bother and try to	Yes. It gets at the heart of the	might be a more powerful
change things.	monologue meaning.	ending?
Based on this feedback, I need to:		

# Next Steps

- Finish revising your monologue
- Finish Journals 1-5

# Workshop: Rationale Preparation

Summative Part II: Rationale

Purpose: to explain to the teacher how you used your oral history to tell a story in monologue form.

You are:

- 1. Explaining your creative process
- 2. Explaining how your finished product relates to a topic raised in government

7-8	The student: • fully analyses by explaining disciplinary knowledge • fully evaluates by explaining the strengths and limitations of interdisciplinary perspectives.		makes significant and insightful connection to subjects raised in government makes significant reference to selecting details from interview or transcript make significant reference to creative process or literary devices, specifically referencing at least three literary devices with clear evidence from the monologue
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#### Rationale Requirements

- How did you address a topic from the 1619 project and/or Bill of Rights?
  1 paragraph
- What details did you select from your transcript to create your monologue? How did you integrate the idea of restorative narrative?
  - 1 to 2 paragraphs
- How did you use tools such as diction, characterization, imagery, perspective, punctuation and point of view? Cite at least 3 creative decisions that you made in your adoption, referring specifically to both the literary device and the language in your monologue.

• 1 to 2 paragraphs



# Think of the Rationale as you justifying and explaining what you did in your adaptation!

- How did you use tools such as diction, characterization, imagery, perspective, punctuation and point of view?
  - Did you include stage directions? How?
    Why?
  - Did you include italics? How? Why?
  - Did you include first person point of view? How? Why?
- You are spelling out how you transformed your oral history into a monologue as well as how the monologue relates to what you learned in government class



#### Literary Device Review

#### **Diction = subject's word choice.**

This could include repeated words, catch phrases and filler words like "uhh" and "umm"

Characterization = how the author reveals the character's personality. (Direct/ Indirect) What sentences can you include that will get me an understanding of who this person is. Example : "I would never treat another person as badly as they did. Just because they are different doesn't mean they are less than human." ←-This line would be indirect characterization that shows that my subject is compassionate, empathetic, righteous etc.

Imagery = Language that appeals to the readers'/listeners' senses (smell, touch, taste, sight, hearing, movement, or emotions) Example: "When I saw the cops' flashing lights, a pit opened up in my stomach" (visual and organic imagery)



#### Literary Device Review Pt. 2

**Perspective : one's outlook or lens, usually based on their experiences, values/beliefs, and aspects of identity**. Example: "It was in that moment that I knew that I truly believed that all people deserved to feel heard and seen."

#### **Punctuation :**

-If you want to show a <u>pause</u> in their speech, use an ellipsis, example: I wish...I wish I'd stood up for myself.
 -If <u>someone cuts themselves off</u>, use an em dash, two dashes together, example: I thought that--that- -If you want to show <u>emphasis</u> in someone's speech, use italics, example: It was like <u>whoa</u>, really?
 -For stage directions, use <u>parentheses or square brackets</u>, example: [sighs] or (sighs)

**Point of view: First person point of view.** This mean you are using words like "I" "my" etc. You are becoming the person you are interviewing and writing a monologue as if they were telling it again. This time without the interview structure.

Example : "I remember this moment like it was yesterday..."

#### Independently read, annotate, and analyze Monologue #1

Directions: The following monologues were written by your peers based on their oral

histories. As you read each monologue, annotate for:

- Diction (D), characterization (C), imagery (I), and perspective (P)
- Restorative elements [harm done but an emphasis on resilience and growth] (R)
  - Social inequity, amendment violations, or other concepts from Government (G)

After you read, analyze the interdisciplinary ideas and concepts and the disciplinary

skills.

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#### With a partner, read, annotate, and analyze Monologue #2

**Directions**: The following monologues were written by your peers based on their oral

histories. As you read each monologue, annotate for:

- Diction (D), characterization (C), imagery (I), and perspective (P)
- Restorative elements [harm done but an emphasis on resilience and growth] (R)
  - Social inequity, amendment violations, or other concepts from Government (G)

After you read, analyze the interdisciplinary ideas and concepts and the disciplinary

skills.

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#### Monologue #3

Directions: The following monologues were written by your peers based on their oral

histories. As you read each monologue, annotate for:

- Diction (D), characterization (C), imagery (I), and perspective (P)
- Restorative elements [harm done but an emphasis on resilience and growth] (R)
  - Social inequity, amendment violations, or other concepts from Government (G)

After you read, analyze the interdisciplinary ideas and concepts and the disciplinary

skills.

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Write a question you want to ask your peers about these monologues. You could ask a

question about their topics, restorative elements, or their use of any of the literary

devices we've studied.

Example: Which monologue do you think has the most memorable characterization?

Next Steps

• Begin Writing Your Rationale

#### Workshop: Rationale Writing

#### Finish your Rationale

- Do you answer all three questions?
- Do you cite evidence from your monologue and/or oral history?
- Is each paragraph 5-10 sentences long?
- Have you proofread your rationale?



#### Edit

Read back over your writing. Ask, "Does this look right, sound right, and make sense?" Consider trading with a peer, especially if written conventions (grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc.) are not a strength. Proofread for:

- Spelling
- Punctuation (especially periods and commas)
- You have the choice of editing the grammar of your speaker or leaving it in because it reveals dialect/diction and characterization. However, you should definitely edit the grammar in the stage directions and in your Rationale.
  - Look out for subject-verb agreement (she laugh she laughs)
- Capitalization (especially the word "I" [always capitalized] and proper nouns e.g. <u>Baltimore, Maryland, the First Amendment</u>).
- Paragraph style (an indent = 5 spaces if your "tab" button isn't working)

### Monologue Performances & Final Discussion

## Taking the Stage!

Here is your invitation to perform your monologue for your peers to honor all of your hard work and your interview

subject.

Monologues are meant to be heard and shared! Challenge yourself!

## CHALLENGE ACCEPTED



#### **Final Discussion**

• What did you learn throughout the course of this unit?



- What was the experience of an interdisciplinary unity like?
- What was something you found particularly interesting this unit? Particularly challenging?
- Final thoughts or reflections on *The 1619 Project*, your monologues, or *Notes from the Field*?