

Technology Interview

What We're Doing

We encounter technology every day. We interact with it, we use it, and we spurn it. However, often we engaged technology in the most simplistic of ways. This lack of criticalness can be detrimental to our understanding of the various affordances and constraints technology places on us. Moreover, technology is a culturally and socially inherent thing. How we use, experience, and view technology is informed by both the culture in which the technology arose and the culture in which we are using it.

This assignment will help us work through a critical view of technology, how technology has evolved, and how we use technology to carry on our every day lives. The types of technology we are going to interview need to be physical technologies. Meaning, they need to be physical items that exist independent of the Internet.

Technology Examples

Here is a list of example of technologies for this project:

cellphone	microwave	rocket/missile
smartphone	refrigerator	radar
laptop computer	book	vehicle
desktop computer	paper	surge protector
television	writing instruments	printing
DVD player	light bulb	bicycle
VCR player	clock	wheel

As you see, the gamut of technologies is great, and these examples are available for you to consider. Of course, you are not beholden to them, and you are welcome to select a technology on your own.

Three Parts of the Project

This project can be broken-up into three distinct parts: interview questions, the interview write-up, and project reflection.

Interview Questions: You will need to formulate ten interview questions. These questions need to range from history to main use to dreams. For example: Can you tell me about your creator? Who was your most celebrated user? What would you like to evolve into?

You will use your ten questions to interrogate the technology you have chosen in both critical and, hopefully, illuminating ways.

Interview Write-Up: After you complete the interview, you will need to write-up your experience. You will need to weave the answers to your questions into a

coherent and cogent text about your technology. Based on the interview answers, you can use this project to speculate about the future of your technology. In addition, you will be expected to draw on popular media and scholarly sources to reveal your technology to your audience.

Reflection: The last part of this project is a reflection. You will need to write a short reflection about this project. You will be expected to discuss your experience with this assignment, what your thoughts are its implementation, and what you learned by engaging with your technology as both an interviewer and user.

Details

The general requirements of this writing project include the following:

- Length: 1500 to 2000 words
- Format: 12 point font size, double-space sentencing, and an appropriate font (e.g. Calibri, Arial, Cambria, etc). Do not use Times New Roman or Comic Sans.
- File Naming: You should name your file clearly: for example, "kays1301interviewproject.doc." This will help you and me keep your work organized.
- Organization: Reflection→Write-Up→Interview Questions. This organization will help me work through your work. One document should be submitted with all your work.

Evaluation Criteria

- Does your writing project use coherent language and flow smoothly?
- Does your writing project reflect careful thought and planning?
- Does your writing project include details? Do those details clearly and cogently support your project?
- Does your writing project clearly refer to and stem from the interview you conducted? Do you discuss that content in the context through which it arose?
- Does the tone of your writing project and style employed fit your audience?
- Does your writing project adhere to standard written English?
- Does your writing project have a proper Works Cited page and integrate in-text citations correctly in MLA style?

Onward!