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4/25/14

### Human?

What makes us human? Through my paper I will be looking at if someone's origins are what make us human. Like for example if because we are born human does that mean we are always human and if other's opinions play a role in that? I will be using numerous references from our readings to determine just that.

I will use the monster in *Frankenstein* as a reference as someone who didn't start out human, but through his life experiences ended up being very human. I will be referencing his journey and the points in his life when he showed human qualities.

*Blade Runner* is another reference. I will be using the replicants who are human biologically, but were treated as drones by the populace. I will be referencing the treatment and general view people had towards replicants. I will also analyze the fear of the replicants gaining emotions that normal people had and what that signified.

Dr. Manhattan from the *Watchmen* will also be referenced. I will use him as a reference as someone who started out human, but then due to his accident he became something that was more than human and less at the same time. By the end of the comic Dr. Manhattan wouldn't have even fit in the broadest of definitions of human.

Connor Brummett  
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April 26, 2014

We as citizens need to protest the way big companies produce our foods, and show how it is morally wrong for them to produce a poison that contributes greatly to obesity. Many believe that the big food corporations that supply the nation with manufactured/ processed foods are contributing to health problems and obesity. Us as a nation can do one of two things we could protest the way that they produce our food and the healthiness of the food; this protest would certainly cause the big businesses in America to change their processing habits. We could also make the decision and listen to "How Junk Food Can End Obesity" which in a way glorifies what we consider "Junk Food"; this article states that junk food contains some ingredients that provide nutrition all the while containing the similar amounts of fat, protein, and sodium as organic foods that we consider healthy.

Just like Rage Against the Machine protests government corruption in their song "Sleep Now In the Fire", we as a society could make the decision to protest against the way Big Companies produce food. Any form of protest would be used to demand healthier foods for our country. Healthier foods for our country lead to a healthier country as a whole. This protest doesn't have to be as direct and demeaning as Rage Against the Machine was with their protest song, but we can demand healthier foods in a more subtle way; such as boycotting fast food, or perhaps taking it up with government officials demanding a bill to be passed that requires the production of healthier foods in a healthier way.

As a society we could also choose to walk a different path than protesting; we could use the information presented in the article "How Junk Food Can End Obesity" and go about life as we are currently. This article presents information that shows the difference between what we consider "junk" and what we consider "healthy"; the article states things that are the contradictory of what our media portrays as healthy. The article often references the Whole Foods market chain several times stating that the media glorifies these organic whole foods but if one looks at the nutrition label it is found that these whole foods have just as much if not more of substances like fat and sodium.

Marco Ortega  
4/26/14  
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### Final EQ Paper Abstract

Throughout elementary and high school, we were told to read various works, (*Catcher and the Rye, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Fahrenheit 451*, etc.) and were told that "this is what this symbolizes and this is what this means." We were continually told that there was only one interpretation and that if you thought different, you were wrong. My question is, is there always only one interpretation of works (such as novels, poems, songs, or movies) that the author was trying to communicate, or are there some room for interpretation?

I plan on implementing the following works:

-*Gilgamesh*. With this I was planning on reflecting on big aspects of the plot that we tended to focus on in class. After deciding on which parts I wanted to consider, I was going to read the first section of the book by the author which talks about various characteristics of the book and how each of these things have to do with his study of Mesopotamia.

-*The Daodejing of Laozi*. I was going to take a very similar approach with this work. I was going to read a couple of the chapters once more and then read the introduction by the author, Phillip Ivanhoe who studied the work extensively, and see what the differences in interpretation come out to be.

-*Blade Runner*. The central question of *Blade Runner* I was planning on discussing was whether Rick Deckard was a human or replicant in the film, a debate that has been going since the film's release.

Connor Stumm  
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25 April 2014

### Abstract

My paper's theme is pretty vague, but it gives room for multiple sources and perspectives, which will help in writing it. The theme is the size of the State or ruling body in a given situation and how much power they're given. The issue within the theme that I plan to *critically* discuss is when that power becomes too great and why believing in the *individual* is the better option. The three works I plan to discuss and develop different viewing angles to evaluate my theme are:

#### -**Watchmen**

Using "Watchmen," I plan to not only speak on the context of the story (Cold War/Nuclear Weapons) and its relevance to my theme, but also to support my claim regarding the individual. For that, I'll most definitely be analyzing Rorschach's general badassery and his absolute anti-corruption attitude.

#### -**Food, Inc.**

For this source, I needed to clarify the difference between the "State" and "a ruling body." This source sheds light on how there are a few big companies that control the food industry, and I plan to use facts from the movie (that I double check to be true) to argue against their control and why the individual, in this case small farmers/organic food markets are better suited to feed America.

#### -**Trial and Death of Socrates**

This source will be used mainly to support the "individual" portion of my claim. I will talk about how the government and societal norms of the time period prevented Socrates from advancing the knowledge he had already come upon.

Holten Warriner

### Life is Predestined

A substantial part of our discussions this semester has been related to fate. My paper will discuss how life is predestined and how life is not predestined. The three sources I will use will be:

Watchmen: I could use Doctor Manhattan as an example of life being predestined.

There are plenty of passages from the book that I can use to support the idea of life being predestined. I can also expand on why knowing ones fate can have negative consequences.

The Other Wes Moore: I thought that I could use both Wes Moore's for both sides of my idea. The main (author) Wes Moore, I would use that life is not predestined and ones life can be changed. Then the other Wes Moore could be used to show how no matter what (mainly Tony's wise words of wisdom getting arrested) ones life is determined.

Macbeth: I will be able to use the Witches and there knowledge of Macbeth becoming king. I can show how knowing ones fate can lead to negative outcomes.

The reason I will expand on life being predestined is because my opinion on either side is uncertain. There are sometime I believe there is such a thing as fate, but probably just as equally I believe that each of our life's are not predetermined. I will be able to expand both sides equally. After picking my three sources, it will be in my best interest to concluded with life maybe predetermined, but there is no way of telling.