**Research Assessment #3**

**Date:** September 21, 2018

**Subject:** Using Podcasts to Improve Narrative Writing

**MLA Citation:**

Qaddour, Kinana. “The Use of Podcasts to Enhance Narrative Writing Skills .” *English Teaching*

*Forum*, 2017.

**Assessment:**

For my third research assessment, I read an article about the use of podcasts to enhance narrative writing skills. Since I have decided to go in a more experimental direction for my original work, I wanted to read about a study that has to do with narrative, since that is basically the cleaned-up version of stream of consciousness. As a whole, the article describes that students typically have trouble describing personal experiences that will engage an audience, since narrative writing is so much different than expository or persuasive, for example. Podcasts like StoryCorps, however, create a model for students to follow, which helps them relax and write better. Reading about StoryCorps reminded me a lot of my sophomore year speech class, which surprisingly taught me more about writing than I ever expected. It was nice to hear that podcasts are a great way to improve narrative writing, especially since I have recently been working on my college essays, and keeping something like this in mind could help me get into my dream college!

This strategy, along with the other techniques I have learned through my previous research will make it much easier for me to complete my writing in and out of ISM, because I am gaining more confident with each bit of knowledge I gain. I love all the ideas I am gaining from each research paper I read, and all of the different platforms I am learning about. This research is becoming a key resource in improving my writing, which excites me because I cannot even imagine where I will be by the twentieth assessment! Moving back to the article, however, I like that it is separated into specific sections that define introductions to certain topics like podcasts, or the procedure to follow if using them to prompt students on narrative writing. It is very informative, and even though I do not have a class to administer this strategy on, I believe it will be extremely beneficial in my college applications, and could possibly add an element to my original work.

Something I do wonder is if just any podcast can be used to aid in narrative. StoryCorps is a great podcast to use, since it is basically an animated narrative (and who doesn’t love a cutely animated short film). NPR has many great podcasts to listen to, and one reason I find this article so striking is that NPR has been a huge part of my life since I was little, and I grew up listening to it while my dad drove me around. Many things are able to induce great ideas for writing, so maybe a different podcast could generate ideas for a poem, or song, or even a stream of consciousness? Even as I write this assessment I think listening to a podcast would be a great condition to write a stream of consciousness under, as I would love to see how it affects the natural chain of thought. Ultimately, I learned a lot of new things from yet another enlightening article. This year has truly come off to a great start, and I am looking forward to refining my original work through future research!