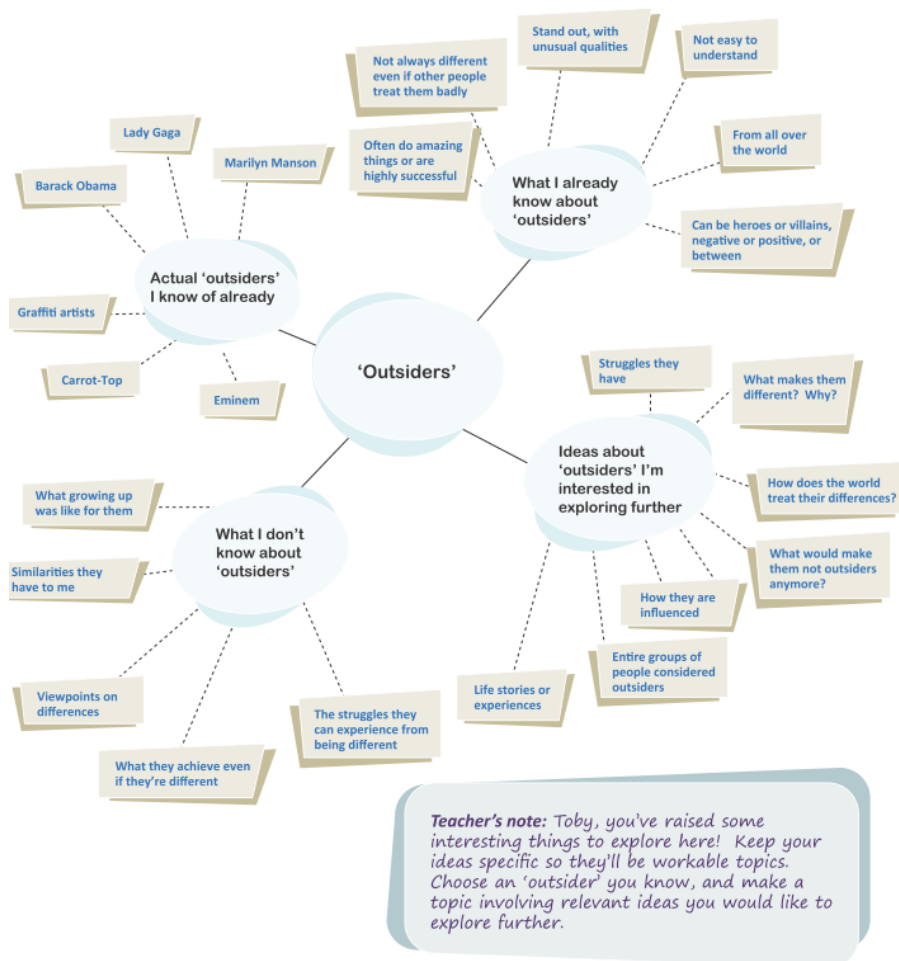


3.3 Investigating the Outsider

I. Brainstorming

After reading and viewing the texts provided, use this space to record your thoughts on your chosen outsider(s). You can create a mind map, an outline, or use a format of your choice.



II. Research

The outsider (or group of outsiders) I am exploring is/are ...

- Performers who are “different”

He or she is considered an outsider because ...

- I think some assumptions exist about musicians who are really out there with their style. Like they are weird, or looking for shock value. I think there must be more to it than that for some and I'm interested in looking into further.

This topic is significant to me because ...

- I listen to music that people sometimes give me a hard time for because of the musicians themselves being “shocking” or offensive, and I want to learn more about why these musicians make these choices. I'm always told I “shouldn't be listening” to the music I listen to, but I don't understand the “why” behind people saying that. It makes me kind of mad. A lot of people think they're trying to “corrupt” the kids of today or something or are evil, but I'm not sure if that's right.

Commented [1]: Teacher's comment: Toby, your topic is too general. Choose words that are more specific, such as "musicians attracting controversial attention". Accuracy will give a clearer path of exploration.

Commented [2]: Teacher comment: Be more specific. Can you mention any particular artists here?

Commented [3]: Teacher comment: What are some reasons people tell you this? Give some examples.

Commented [4]: Teacher comment: Why do you think they would want to “corrupt” the majority? What would be some good incentive” (hint: money ...)

Commented [5]: Teacher comment: That's a strong word. Does “evil” mean the same thing coming from every individual you encounter?

Commented [6]: Teacher comment: Your exploration of this topic's significance helped you specify your research topic, Toby. I look forward to an interesting presentation.

Depth Questions for Investigating your Chosen Outsider

Choose **four** of the following questions to help you investigate your topic.

- In which environment is your subject located (in society, in the world)?
 - What makes your subject an outsider in his or her environment (school, work, personal life)?
- What are five key identifying qualities of your outsider? (Remember to strive for accuracy and avoid listing an assumption as a trait.)
- Who is a famous example of this kind of outsider? What sets him or her apart?
- How was your outsider regarded in the past compared to how he or she is regarded now?
- What kinds of literature, music, politics, fashion, or art are associated with this idea of an outsider? Provide details.
- How does age, gender, sex, sexuality, or cultural identity affect this kind of outsider?
- Is this idea of outsider a self-imposed status or a status imposed by others?

- If it is self-imposed, what might an individual choose to live on the margins?
- If it is imposed by other, what effects does this outsider experience as a result?

h. What are common stereotypes (if any) made about this outsider? (Investigate a few, and provide information about how these stereotypes are inaccurate or unfair.)

Your Four Depth Question Charts

- Write down the four depth questions you have chosen to explore in the chart below.
- In "What I Know Now", answer your questions based on the knowledge you currently have. The only source you need to refer to here is your head!
- In the "My Research" column, write down your notes from your research. Try to find at least three points that answer your depth question. You may paraphrase (i.e. rewrite what you find in your own words) or use direct quotations (but be sure to use quotation marks).
- Write down your sources in the final column. Provide the URL if you used a website and use the proper formatting for other sources.

Depth Question #1:
<p><i>In which environment is your subject located (in society, in the world)?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What makes your subject an outsider in his or her environment (school, work, personal life)?</i>
What I Know Now:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Lots of musicians are considered outsiders in society or even within the music industry (Marilyn Manson, Lady Gaga, Eminem, and lots of others).</i> - <i>These musicians are different from other artists and from mainstream culture</i> - <i>They get a bad rap</i>
My Research Notes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Their behaviour, lifestyle, presence, fashion choices, social issues they bring up, opinions, language (swearing or suggestive content) make them different sometimes.</i> - <i>Some people don't like their ideas or their performances or sometimes how they treat other people or lifestyle choices in their lyrics (disrespectful).</i>

- A lot of times, they rip on mainstream society.

Commented [7]: Teacher comment: Do you mean they criticize mainstream society? Clarify.

Source(s):

- Post, Austin. "The Five Most Controversial Artists of all Time." Yahoo Contributor Network. March 13, 2016. <<http://voices.yahoo.com/the-five-most-controversial-musicians-6058688.html?cat=33>>
- Wikipedia. "Marilyn Manson." March 13, 2016. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn_Manson>
- Wikipedia. "Lady Gaga." March 13, 2016. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Gaga>
- Billboard. "Eminem." 2012 Rovi Corporation. March 13, 2016. <http://www.billboard.com/artist/eminem/315925#/artist/eminem/bio/315925>
- Wikipedia. "Eminem." March 13, 2016. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eminem>>

Commented [8]: Teacher comment: A lot of Wikipedia is used here. Be careful to check at least three listed references on each Wikipedia page to ensure the article is accurate and current.

Depth Question #2:

Who is a famous example of this kind of outsider? What sets him or her apart?

What I Know Now:

- Singers like Eminem or Marilyn Manson - banned from performing in certain places and been banned from publication or the radio for some lyrics they wrote or behaviour on stage or bad language.
- They get a bad rep from the media and some religious organizations and from parents of kids (receive threats, harassment, had violent acts perpetrated against them)
- Personal issues get blown out of proportion to make them look bad by the media - affects fanbase, success and role in music industry
- Hold opinions that the majority of people don't share or like

My Research Notes:

- Marilyn Manson is a "shock rocker"
- Uses his music to show people the bad parts of mainstream culture or society's behaviour (e.g. society keeping mental illness a secret)
- People don't like being told their beliefs or behaviours are bad to live by, and don't like that kids can listen to his music
- Eminem was once seen as an outsider because Caucasian males are not usually rapper in the music industry
- Lady Gaga - also a LGBT (Lesbians/Gays/Bisexual/Transsexual) advocate; not everyone likes or agrees with this point of view in our world and it gives her negative attention sometimes
- Sticking up for the "underdog" or a minority seems like it can set people apart

Commented [9]: Teacher comment: Great job on the references, Toby! You didn't have to use more than one source for each question, but having more doesn't hurt!

Source(s):
<p>DeCurtis, Anthony. "Marilyn Manson: The Beliefnet Interview." Beliefnet © 1999. May 13, 2012. <http://www.beliefnet.com/Entertainment/Music/2001/05/Manson-Interview.aspx?p=1></p> <p>Wikipedia. "Lady Gaga." May 13, 2011. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Gaga></p> <p>Billboard. "Eminem." 2012 Rovi Corporation. May 13, 2011 <http://www.billboard.com/artist/eminem/315925#/artist/eminem/bio/315925></p>

Depth Question #3:
How was your outsider regarded in the past compared to how he or she is regarded now?
What I Know Now:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some were people like Elvis Presley, Jim Morrison, John Lennon, Jimi Hendrix, Steppenwolf, or other protesting the Vietnam War. - Saying the Vietnam War was bad was not good when the war started, and it wasn't good to say anything bad about soldiers going there.
My Research Notes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Musicians singing out it made people realize it was a bad idea to support the soldiers being there, which made the government (of the US) look really bad. - In 1953, an organization sent this message about Elvis to the FBI saying, "Presley is a definite danger to the security of the United States ... [His] actions and motions were such as to rouse the sexual passions of teenaged youth ... After the show, more than 1. 000 teenagers tried to gang into Presley's room at the auditorium." - Back then an outsider in music was way more tame than now. - Elvis got in trouble for attention fans gave him, and for the way he acted onstage. People hadn't seen that kind of mob behaviour in fans before him, so it freaked them out. - Making the mainstream nervous - linked to whether a musician will be an 'outsider' or not? - Elvis' dancing caused all the commotion. He didn't swear, say bad things about

Commented [10]: Teacher comment: Because you are making a comparison, use "than: not "then" (such as "May fish is bigger than your fish"). "Then" is better used to indicate a passage of time (such as "When we finish dinner then we will eat dessert").

Commented [11]: Teacher comment: Very interesting, Toby!

common beliefs or society and was not political. Eminem makes Elvis look like a total angel!

Source(s):

Wikipedia. "Elvis Presley." May 14, 2012. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elvis_Presley#Commercial_breakout_and_controversy_.281956.E2.80.9358.29

Wilson, J.W. "Vietnam Era Anti-War Music." Home, May 14, 2012. Vietnam Veterans Against the War, 2006. <http://www.jwsrockgarden.com/jw02vvaw.htm>

Depth Question #4:

What are common stereotypes (if any) made about this outsider?

What I Know Now:

- People think that the "stage" version of a musician and his real personality are the same thing but I don't think that is true
- The way the musicians dress and present themselves really affects how they are perceived (Marilyn Manson is Goth so people assume he is bad; Eminem is a rapper so he must be violent)

My Research Notes:

- People think Marilyn Manson a bad dude with bad intentions towards fans, but it was said, "his philosophy has far more to do with the radical individualism of Nietzsche [philosopher] or Ayn Rand [author]." (Anthony DeCurtis, page 4)
- He said once, "I'm not simply out to shock people. I like to make people think. Since I chose the forum of rock music, people like to pass it off as simple, dumb, and childish, meant to trick teenagers into spending all their money on my records. But that's never why I got into it... I got into it to say what was on my mind, and I'm fortunate enough that people are listening." (Anthony DeCurtis, page 4)
- People also think Marshall Mathers (Eminem) is violent and offensive and doesn't like gay people AND that he wants other people to be like him, BUT in an interview he said he is graphic in lyrics because he isn't afraid to say what most other people stop themselves from saying or bringing up in conversation (Solomon, Deborah). He ends up giving attention to issues that might not normally get attention or talked about
- These interviews made me think about what these artists show as "fake" and "real". Their fans and people that don't like them might get the "fake" mixed up with what is real. The fake stuff is the stage stuff and not really who they are. Some people might think who they are on stage is the same person they are off the stage.

Commented [12]: Teacher comment: Wow, Toby! Very thought-provoking!

Source(s):

DeCurtis, Anthony. "Marilyn Manson: The Beliefnet Interview." Beliefnet © 1999. May 14, 2012.
<"http://www.beliefnet.com/Entertainment/Music/2001/05/Manson-Interview.aspx?p=1">

Solomon, Deborah. "The Real Marshall Mathers," The New York Times, June 16, 2010. May 14, 2012.
<"http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/20/magazine/20fob-q4-t.html?_r=1">

III. Putting it All Together

Toby's 3.3 Investigating the Outsider: Presentation

Presentation of My Idea of an Outsider

Toby, it's great!
The goal behind presenting information such as this is to integrate all the key concepts learned about 'outsiders' and focus them on one area of your research. You form a discussion here, so it is realistic that other information is included. How you organize and communicate the information is important.

A note from Toby: I chose to talk more about what the experience of being an 'outsider' in the music industry is like. I think this uses what I got from my whole research. I hope that's okay.

In music industry there are all kinds of artists. Some just want money, and the way they make money is by selling mainstream. Some other artists have a better idea as musicians though, like a statement or belief they want to show to the world. It's easy to get totally lost in the mainstream music though, so I think some artists cause trouble to get their message across. Marilyn Manson, Eminem and Lady Gaga are just a few examples of good artists who are 'outsiders' in a way, because no one did what they done before. The three of them in all their shocking ways get the same job done. It took me a bit of researching for sure, but I saw they are all critical of mainstream society somehow. They sing about problems in everyday politics and religions and our treatment of other people and "mainstream" behaviour. They don't attack good things, but they may take something good and make it look terrible or shocking to make people look closer, or give a second more critical thought.

An issue of past tense occurs here. Do you mean "no one has done what they have before"? In reference to what? Making trouble, or making music?

To reduce the number of "ands" in a sentence with a series, use commas: (... politics, ... behaviour).

Use an apostrophe for the contraction of "it is" (it's). "Its" is a possessive pronoun.

This is tricky, because not all "trouble" is a choice an artist makes consciously. This is where that idea of being "gimmicky" might come in.

This is a good attempt at transitioning, but use something less wordy such as "When researching, I saw..."

Interesting! This could be why people are quick to judge "shock rockers"! Maybe they are too aggressive or "in your face" about their criticism. Do they have to be that way about serious issues? What do you think?

"Untalked" is not a word. What about "quiet" or "hidden"?

Marilyn Manson did this for mental illness, to make people realize it was a very untalked about thing in our society (talking about depression, suicide, etc.). Even when parents got mad about his music, they also started talking about the issues it brought up. I also learned that some (not all)

Good observation! Why is it important that more people start talking about these issues?

Use "they're" here (contraction for 'they are'). "Their" is a possessive pronoun ("It is their car, not your car.")







"shock rockers" are critical thinkers and rebels. Ppl don't like being told that their wrong or acting badly or making mistakes. Some people in the mainstream don't like it when they're caught or exposed for bad behaviour either. A good example of this is when Eminem talks about an old president in "Mosh", with the line "let him go, fight his own war, Let him impress daddy that way, No more blood for oil, we got our own battles to fight on our own soil." Not all people agree, but it is interesting to think about. I don't like Marilyn Manson or Lady Gaga as much as my girlfriend does, but I will give them props, because they still made me look at things in a different way, or at least think about what they were saying. Marshall Mathers is totally awesome though, for sure. Sometimes that seems that's what we have to do sometimes: take a closer look.

What might be a less wordy transition here? What about "I realized" or "furthermore"?

Too funny! You've approached this assignment with a good mix of humour, neutrality, and respect, Toby. Nice work!

This really summarizes your idea, Toby, but the previous sentence doesn't flow or connect to it. Add a sentence to connect the two or re-order the last few sentences.

Toby's 3.3 Investigating the Outsider

Value	Planning	Research	Presentation
 Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide a thorough mind map with precise details about chosen literature and visuals. <input type="checkbox"/> You identify clearly the significance of your topic and specific focus for your research.	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide significant resources with information about your topic. <input type="checkbox"/> You paraphrase information skillfully. <input type="checkbox"/> You document sources thoroughly and accurately.	<input type="checkbox"/> You present thoughtful ideas about the outsider skillfully. <input type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are unified engagingly. <input type="checkbox"/> You demonstrate impressive understanding of and respect towards outsiders.
 Proficient	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You provide an informative mind map with sufficient details about chosen literature and visuals. <input type="checkbox"/> You identify the significance of your topic and a sensible focus for your research.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You provide appropriate resources with information about your topic. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You paraphrase information clearly. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You document most sources accurately.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You present clear ideas about the outsider effectively. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are unified effectively. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You demonstrate appropriate understanding of and respect towards outsiders.
 Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide a basic mind map with details about chosen literature and visuals. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You identify a general focus for your research.	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide sufficient resources with information about your topic. <input type="checkbox"/> You paraphrase information adequately. <input type="checkbox"/> You document sources with minor errors.	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide a general idea about the outsider clearly. <input type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are unified adequately. <input type="checkbox"/> You demonstrate basic understanding of and respect towards outsiders.
 Limited	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide an incomplete mind map with few details about chosen literature and visuals. <input type="checkbox"/> You identify a vague or confusing focus for your research.	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide insufficient or irrelevant resources with information about your topic. <input type="checkbox"/> You paraphrase information inadequately. <input type="checkbox"/> You document sources with inaccurately.	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide a vague or undeveloped idea about the outsider. <input type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are disorganized or confusing. <input type="checkbox"/> You demonstrate confused or vague understanding of and little respect towards outsiders.
 Resubmission Needed	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement and resubmission of your work.		
TOTAL: 41/55 = 75%	7/10	18/25	16/20
 Assessment	<p>Areas of strength: Toby, the observations made throughout your research were perceptive and contributed to a meaningful discussion and presentation about 'outsiders' in music for the last portion of the assignment. You approached this assignment in a very open-minded and respectful way.</p> <p>Might I suggest . . . Your mind map was very basic and led to a more general topic for the assignment. This worked, but it made more work than necessary. 'Narrowing the scope' of a topic means to make it more specific. For example, if I use "birds" in an Internet search, I would be given millions of results. If I use "peregrine falcon breeding habits", the number of references would be much smaller. This is an example of "narrowing the scope". Being more specific with research topics shortens research work.</p>		