**Directions and Template for Annotated Interview Transcript**

**ENG 1272: Analytical Writing**

**Fall 2020**

**Assignment: The easiest way to compile the information from your actual interview is to do a simple transcription; You will also “annotate” your transcript by summarizing some of the interview Q&A into a contextualizing narrative style introduction.**

**Due: In Blackboard Week 12 Discussion Board on Thursday, 11/5, before midnight.**

**\*\*\***

Parker Bates

ENG 1272: Analytical Writing

Interview Transcript

October 17, 2019

Interview with Jack Phlipot

Conducted at the Snyder Academic Center Cafe

4:15 P.M.

10/17/2019

**Engineering Writing Expectations: An Interview with Jack Phlipot**

Jack Phlipot is an Indiana Tech professor who you can tell is dedicated to student success. I met him in the Snyder Academic Center Café. He greeted me with a smile, and he was enthusiastic as he described his duties as a professor in the Engineering department and the Biomedical Engineering advisor.

Professor Phlipot was able to describe many writing conventions and genres to help me with my research. The most interesting engineering genres that he mentioned were instructional sheets, how-to’s, SOPs, which are standard operation procedures, communications feature pieces, cost sheets, and production description pieces. He also referred me to several academic journals and organizations to find examples of writing that occurs in the field of engineering including *IEEE, ASME, ASE* journals, ASES, SBE, and various student organizations.

Me: “Thank you for taking time out of your schedule to meet with me. To start, can you begin by stating your first and last name and spelling them for me?”

Jack: “It’s not a problem. My name is Jack Phlipot spelled J-A-C-K P-H-L-I-P-O-T. The ‘I” comes before the ‘l’ and it’s NOT pronounce “Fill-pot”, it’s ‘flip-oh’”.

Me: “Okay thank you, I’ll be sure to remember that. First off, can you just briefly describe some of what you do or teach here at Indiana Tech and some prior experiences you have?”

Jack: “I am a professor in the Engineering department. I am the Biomedical Engineering advisor but I also teach some lower level introduction engineering courses as well. I have past experiences at several places. I’ve worked for medical companies, some automotive companies, and some odds and ends jobs here and there. The experience that would probably make the most sense to you would be my time at GM. I was head designer on several projects for them and was head of the project. I created, revised, and approved drawings for projects and allowed for them to be put into production or into vehicles”.

Me: “Wow, that’s a lot. I’m sure that was a great experience to be able to do. Now, in your classes that you teach that require writing, what citation style do you teach and or expect from your students?”

Jack: “It varies. Each specific field of engineering uses a format or style but the most popular, or so I believe because that’s what I teach, are I-triple-E, which is mainly for industrial, electrical, and energy engineers and somewhat mechanical. Mechanical engineers use mainly MLA format for their pieces which is the common style that can be used in most classes writing, but what I teach mostly is APA style because that is aimed more towards the medical fields, and since I am the Biomedical Engineering advisor, that’s what we use mostly”.

Me: “Thank you. Now aside from the style of writing, what does a piece of writing in the field look like?”

Jack: “Again, there are several different types specific to each field of engineering. There are instructional sheets, how-to’s, SOPs, which are standard operation procedures, communications feature pieces, cost sheets, and production description pieces. All are specific to different fields, but for ME’s, most are either instructional sheets, or SOPs. They basically are just instruction manuals for how things are supposed to be produced. They can also be a study that you or a team had to create on a part or a project.

Me: “Well, they sound like a lot of fun to make! \*both laugh\* My next questions were supposed to be what the purpose of writing was and what kind of writing would we use most but you pretty much covered all of that! So, we’ll move to my next one, in your own experience what was it like writing your first piece in the field like?”

Jack: “Back then, we didn’t have near the access to technology like you guys do. I had to use a typewriter, do you even know what that is? But, I had to be extremely careful and do A LOT of planning to know what I wanted to write. My inspection sheets that I made, I reviewed them several times to make sue everything was the way that I wanted it. I also had to understand that I was speaking to different audiences sometimes and was not able to use field-specific jargon sometimes. But, when push came to shove, my writings were good and I was able to utilize all the things that were wanted in the papers”.

Me: “I cannot even imagine writing on a typewriter, that’s something right there. When new students come into your courses, what do you expect out of their writings?”

Jack: “Obviously I expect them to stay along the guidelines of whatever style they’re writing in and what type of piece they are writing. I also expect them to write with correct grammar and be clean and organized. An unorganized paper can make it very difficult for designers or producers to figure out what you want. Students should be able to finish a thought. Sometimes when I’m reading papers they just abandon a thought or don’t explain something very well which reflects in their grade. They should be able to use correct terminology and make their paper look good with each section broke up with a heading and explanation and things of that sort”.

Me: “It sounds a lot like what many other professors say \*both laugh\*. What are some good places that you recommend to get a good look at what the writings look like? Like some journals or peer-reviewed articles”.

Jack: “There are several national organizations that are good places to look for example like the I-triple-E I mentioned earlier. There’s also ASME, ASE journals, ASES, SBE, and student organizations as well. I’m glad that you said peer-review articles because those are generally the best ones to look at because they have to be so thoroughly reviewed and researched to even be published so you know those are the most credible ones to go to”.

Me: “I’ll be sure to give a couple of those a look! Again, thank you for your time, I really appreciate it and I got some really good information from you. Thank you”.

Jack: “No problem, if there is anything else you need to know, don’t be afraid to ask! Have a good day”.