

## Grade 9 Unit 1 EA 1 Writing an Interview Narrative

Score: Proficient

Jose Sanchez, also known as Joe. Joe is thirty-nine and for his age he is very fit. He always has this big smile on his face that can just brighten your day but you see at times he can look very scary. Joe has several tattoos on his arms, many judge him because of that. They assume he is a bad person but really he's a sweet person. I've interviewed Joe because I think he is very inspirational and a very talkative person. My dad has experienced a lot while he was in the military.

At the age of seventeen, my dad went to the military for the very first time. He didn't stay for too long, after four years he left the military. Joe had a friend named Jack. Jack convince my dad to go meet an army recruiter. After that he went and signed up for the military because he thought it sounded interesting. The military was not how he expected it to be. He said "I was shocked once I got to the military because I honestly thought it was going be like the commercials. Blowing up things, jumping out of planes." He was disappointed after a few minutes but then the yelling made him focus more. It also motivated him to get his job done.

In the military, Jose has experienced so many things whether it was positive or negative. One positive thing was getting recognized as the best runner in the platoon. At this point he started getting emotional, mostly because he starting to remember the negativity, you can see it on his face once he started thinking about it. His facial expression changed. Seeing the death of a friend killed him inside, to where he started crying. He stated "It doesn't relive me, no matter how old or how positive I am that part of my life is never going to be erased." It was awful he said with his watered eyes. You look at this buff guy and you see how small he looks now, the pain within his eyes. His eyes are filled with tears by now and he had to stop talking to take a deep breath. He continues with "Many members that were in my platoon turned to drugs and alcohol. I am one of the fortunate ones."

Joe is no longer crying anymore in fact he's laughing. "This is why I don't like talking about this." To this day he isn't the man that he was when he first arrived to the military. Joe mixed all of his experience into a everyday lifestyle to help him become the man, the daddy, husband he is now. My dads words are being spoken with passion. He said " I don't regret going to the military. Till this day I use what I learn in the military. I adapted some of the training into what is now a workout class. My workout class (warrior workout) is not as aggressive but with the same intentions, to become a warrior (solider)." If he hadn't went to the military his life wouldn't involve any physical activity. He would be taking the path of his family, diabetes runs in the family. He didn't want that so he change for the better not only for him but for his family as well. What he is today is a warrior, a warrior that helps others become a warrior.

Score: Proficient

Annotation:

This Proficient exemplar shows an understanding of the structure of an interview narrative and provides an adequate description of the interviewee through description, details, and embedded quotations that present the subject's voice. The essay provides vivid descriptions of the interviewee's emotional reactions: "His eyes are filled with tears by now and he had to stop talking to take a deep breath." This comment and others create a good sense of the subject of the interview. Purposeful quoting such as, "I don't regret going to the military," also illustrates character and presents the subject's distinct point of view. The exemplar maintains a mostly consistent focus on the subject's point of view, though switching among first, second, and third point of view creates some narrative confusion. Despite obvious lapses in sentence structure, the writing demonstrates a general command of sentence structure and conventions and a need for careful proofreading.