

QUESTION: How has YouTube and other internet resources changed the way we, as a society, learn new things?

ACADEMIC SUBJECTS INVOLVED: Engineering (Industrial, Fluid Mechanics, Machinery)
Entrepreneurship, Computer Sciences

1025 Julie Ct
Concord, CA 94518

January 28, 2020

Topic Approval Committee
Northgate High School
425 Castle Rock Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Dear Sir or Madam:

In my Research Paper, I hope to answer the question: How has YouTube and other internet resources changed the way we, as a society, learn new things? Ever since I was in elementary and junior high, as almost all kids my age, I looked up to high schoolers. However, I mostly paid attention to what I believed was the ability to pick whatever classes you wanted. Most of all I was excited about the prospect of getting to work on a car of my own. Fast forward to high school and Senior year and to my major disappointment, they got rid of the class. This led to me going online and researching simple concepts and the functions of my hobbies. I later realized the potential of the internet and it became a norm to complement my school notes with online videos. The idea of getting to use Senior Project as a way for me to finally get into my hobby and learn a useful life skill seemed too good to pass up. In addition, there is currently a lack of resources available for younger people or people with less resources and a shop so I want to use the project as a way to share my experience and help others in my situation.

The Experiential Project I have chosen is to buy a cheap car (still a good platform in “running” condition) and use whatever online resources I can to turn it into a track-able and street legal fun driver (this will involve a lot of planning and forethought depending on difficulty as I progress). I will also be documenting and making videos oriented towards people my age or people with less resources. The end goal is to go from a cheap, mostly junk car, to one I can take to Sonoma Raceway or drive to school. The community connection I will most likely use will be knowledge and direction from local mechanics and part suppliers. My mentor could also be one of these people or a family friend who has a degree from UTI and specializes in BMW.

This will be challenging for me for many reasons. The most obvious, which is the nature of the project, is the fact that I do not really have much prior knowledge or abilities besides a few minor projects here and there relating to it. In addition, sourcing the parts and tools necessary will also be difficult. I do have more tools than average due to my dad being a contractor which should help. Lastly, it will be difficult because I am somewhat at the mercy of online content and that all depends on what car I decide to buy and what specific information is provided. At the end of my project, my Digital Portfolio will detail the entire experience: the research conducted, the project experience, and my volunteer commitment. I will also obviously have a complete car, built out to my content and pictures and videos detailing the process from beginning to end. In addition, I will also carry the knowledge of what I learned from the project and hopefully be able to use it in my future beneficially.

I hope this meets with your approval.

Sincerely,

Garrett Smith
English Teacher: Mrs. Jenkins, Pd. 2

APPROVAL:

Question: Yes _____ No _____

Project: Yes _____ No _____

Community Svce.: Yes _____ No _____

Academic Relevance: Yes _____ No _____

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Teacher comments/suggestions: _____

Parent signature: _____

Topic Approval Committee: Approved _____ Not Approved _____