

## **PERIOD 3 DISCUSSION**

**What are Prince EA's claims in this piece, "Can We AutoCorrect Humanity?"**

### **CLAIMS:**

Prince EA believes that facebook is an "anti-social network" because it's less face-to-face interaction, but more on a screen—talking with computers, not people

Touchscreens make us lose touch with what's going on around us

We're all connected, but not connected on a deeper, realistic level

Prince EA emphasizes that people are becoming hypocritical

Prince EA asserts that our current world is a "pageantry of vanity" —we care about the number of followers or "likes," and that determines our self-worth

People are "speaking" in acronyms instead of real conversations

Our attention spans are shortening

### **RHETORIC:**

**What stylistic choices (audio or visual or verbal) most helped to convey Prince EA's messages?**

Images of people at a table texting

At the end, there was a "battery dying" sound

Setting – a beach (can hear waves, nature; people go there to spend a single day; people rarely use phones there because of the water and sand; often connotes calm or thoughtfulness; phones can be destroyed there; might not have signal)

Rhythm to the words themselves; some rhymed – matched with cadence of images

Images of the two guys ignoring their dogs – "unconditional love" of dogs

Uses puns and plays-on-words – "touch screens make us lose touch," "anti-social network"

Important words received emphasis

Symbolism of "signal" and "connection"

Jargon – texting jargon and terms to show ridiculousness (smh, tbt, omg)

## **PERIOD 4 DISCUSSION**

### **CLAIMS:**

Technology makes us apathetic and antisocial

Technology lowers our attention spans

We measure our self-worth in “likes” and “followers”

The “pageantry of vanity” and societal pressures, which can lower self-esteem

People have huge “friend lists” but are “friendless” and lonely

Makes more people selfish “I’s” but not “us” and “we”

Technology makes us lose touch with others whom we care about and who care about us

We spoil good moments by recording them instead of being in the moment

### **RHETORIC:**

What stylistic choices does Prince EA make in this piece, and what techniques does he use to convey these messages?

Different parts of words/important words are stressed

Setting: beach (pretty, connected to nature, nature and technology contrast; far away from technology--most people don't bring phones out as much at beach because sand and water are harmful to electronics; aimed at coastal audiences; waves create a rhythm, peaceful sounds)

Irony - used texting jargon (smh, omg) to criticize the web; speech bubbles showing the disconnect

Images: dogs - unconditional love, “man’s best friend” ; couples - real-life to show the disconnect in relationships that technology creates

Poetic - rhyme, alliteration, repetition