Andres Lopez

English 110

11/16/23

Professor: Katch

Cover Letter:

During phase 3, I learned when it comes to writing an essay prompt, there would always be mistakes that are part of a process. Those mistakes are going to help me get better at what I'm writing since most of the time, I write words and then I lose the purpose of my writing. The intended audience for this are people who have accents. The most meaningful insights I discovered about this phase is that in order to have a good paper, there needs to make mistakes in order to make sure there are no errors in the essay. A concept that has impacted my reading is finding the main idea to a text that I had read so I can have the knowledge that I need to write about it. The concept has impacted my writing is grammar because throughout my times writing papers from Middle School- High School, there have been multiple times where the teachers gives me errors in my spelling because I didn;t use the correct word correctly and now that College is here, there have been times where I noticed few error in my grammar and that makes me feel excellent about my grammar. The way that Phase 3 assignment helped me in some way is by giving me ideas that I had heard before but I don't remember. An example is on November

9, 2023 at 9:56AM, we had to write a statement about if Uniforms are somewhat good or bad. Because of that question, I was able to think of some cons and pros about my topic that I'm writing about.

Around the planet Earth, there are a lot of countries who speak the same language but have a different accent to it. There are also countries that don't speak the same language and when they do, they sometimes encounter an accent to it. Having a certain accent may come depending on what age you were when you learned the language. The age affects your accent because the people who learn a new language late, they would have a hard time with pronouncing certain words.

The article "Factors affecting strength of perceived foreign accent in a second language" by (Flege et al), summarizes a research experiment on people in the age range of 2-23 years old and they discovered that the younger the Italian Subjects were when they learned the english language, the less of a foreign accent they had when they spoke english. On the contrary, if the subjects learned the language when they were older, such as 19 or 21, they have a more prominent foreign language when they speak english. The article represents the topic about does your age affect your accent since it was based on people moving to Canada from Italy and seeing who had an accent.

Because of your age, your voice would get deeper since the accent is a big part of the sound in the voice. In the text "Accent, Language, and Race: 4–6-Year-Old Children's Inferences Differ by Speaker Cue" by (Ori Friedman and Katherine O. White), Both authors explained that kids from age 4-6 were used in an experiment because of their background. Kids from ages 4-5 use a speaker's foreign accent while 6 year olds do not. After the experiment, it was revealed that there was a difference in accent when using speaker cue. This article reflects the topic of does your age affect your accent because as time goes on, your voice would begin to change leading to how you would pronounce words and because of that, your accent reflects how those words would be pronounced depending on the language you're speaking in.



The age that you are affects your accent since at a younger age, there is a more chance of being able to learn a new language and being comfortable speaking in that language while at an older age, learning a new language would result in an accent due to the sound of the voice. In the text "Foreign Accents Revisited: The English Pronunciation of Russian Immigrants\*" by (Irene Thompson), Thompson discussed about 36 Native speakers from Russia and during the experiment, they were given prose passages. Prose passage is given sentences and paragraphs that don't use structure. The 36 Native speakers from Russia also read sentences in English and also filed out questions that are related to background. This article written by Irene Thompson reflects my topic about does your age affects your accent because the accent those Native Russian speakers that are fluent in English, they don't have an accent when it comes to speaking English but the results of the studied showed that the people who came into the United States of America who are from ages 4-10 years old, were judge to have a slight foreign accent (Thompson).

Having an accent depends on the age you are since as you grow older, it would become harder to pronounce certain words in a language that you are learning. In the text "At What Age Does Our Ability to Learn a New Language Like a Native Speaker Disappear?" by (Dana G. Smith), Dana G. Smith wrote an article demonstrating when is the time for learning a new language being difficult. Dana G. Smith explained that the best age to learn a language is before the age of 10 years old to become fluent in it. This

article was written by Dana G. Smith reflects on the topic of whether your language affects your accent because as time goes on, the later you learn a language, the more difficult it would be to spell and pronounce words and with having a hard time pronouncing words, the more of an accent would develop.

Depending on your age, it may be easy to learn a new language but for some people, the age can affect the ability to be fluent in a language that the person wants to achieve in. In a article called "Why It's So Hard to Learn Another Language After Childhood" by JAMIE DUCHARME, publish in the Journal Cognition, Jamie Ducharme made a report about after age 10, it's almost impossible due to language skill issues although due to a study that was done by Joshia Hartshorne (a professor at Boston College), made a study saying that if a person start learning a new language when that person is a few years after the age of 10, those people would be able to be excellent at the language but would not be so fluent in it. According to this article, the article connects to my topic of if your age affects your accent since, Jamie Ducharme pointed out at what age it may be difficult for someone to be able to have a native accent rather than a foreign accent.

## Source:

• Pubs.Aip.Org,

pubs.aip.org/asa/jasa/article-abstract/97/5/3125/846952/Factors-affecting-s

- trength-of-perceived-foreign?redirectedFrom=fulltext. Accessed 4 Dec. 2023.
- Accent, Language, and Race: 4–6-Year-Old Children's Inferences Differ by Speaker Cue.
- Foreign Accents Revisited: The English ... Wiley Online Library, onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1467-1770.1991.tb00683.x. Accessed 5 Dec. 2023.
- Smith, Dana G. "At What Age Does Our Ability to Learn a New Language like a Native Speaker Disappear?" Scientific American, 17 May 2018,
  - www.scientificamerican.com/article/at-what-age-does-our-ability-to-learn-a-new-language-like-a-native-speaker-disappear/.
- Ducharme, Jamie. "Why It's So Hard to Learn Another Language after Childhood." *Time*, Time, 2 May 2018, time.com/5261446/language-critical-period-age/.
- https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSj8DgeHmcVZ
  4vp3evem2C6pX0jlM27Kx-4oA&usqp=CAU