“The Motivation” & “The 10,000 Hour Rule”

Language Arts 7—Kaye

**Whether you’re a writer or a skateboarder, if you want to be as good as you can be, you must take pride in your personal quest, remain committed and dedicated, and embrace mistakes. Through trial and error, we learn, and through reflection and repetition, we refine our approach—making the adjustments that eventually lead to success. World-class skateboarder Paul Rodriguez shares his view of personal drive and the quest for perfection in the Skate Documentary *The Motivation*: “The only way to progress and reach your potential is through internal self-imposed pressure.” I think of this pre-requisite tension often, as I struggle to craft and break stories to move an audience. Knowing what I want to do and accomplishing it (on the page or screen)—and whittling away at the gap that lies between—is part of that turmoil that drives me. When we can shape our artistic vision and express it into a product that impacts others, that’s power.**

To Do:

OBJECTIVE: Provide your summary/opinion of Gladwell’s chapter on “10,000 Hours” or “The Motivation” documentary WHILE at the same time identifying how it applies to you (and others universally). For example, I draw an analogy between skateboarding (subject of film) and writing (my passion).

1. As you conduct research (formal or casual), make note of subtopics, themes, or quotes that resonate and have power beyond this piece. This is where connections reside. Breaking down a larger volume of work and summarizing the key details/concepts is a critical skill for writers of all genres/mediums.

2. Identify the quote or excerpt from the primary source document that supports your summary/opinion.

3. Write a smooth transition that introduces the source and author/speaker.

4. Label the quote or excerpt with quotation marks (signify another’s words)

--direct quote (word-for word): needs to be cited IN QUOTES

--properly punctuate identifying speaker tag/label

5. Supplement the connection with additional (personal) commentary (CM).

6. Proofread and edit to ensure correct punctuation (and effective use of ROT).

**This assignment should be typed, printed, and brought to class tomorrow for review & feedback. Save polished draft to your computer (in case further revision is required).**