Punk and the Making of Self Assignment — Zine Page 4: Interview a Classmate

Partner up with a classmate. Interview each other and record the audio (smartphones have user-friendly software for this; you can also use Audacity at http://audacity.sourceforge.net or any other method you like).

WHEN YOU ARE INTERVIEWING:

Begin with the question "What makes you most unlike your parent(s)?" Let your partner speak and listen carefully. From the most interesting part of her answer, continue the conversation by asking a follow-up question. Continue the conversation for eight minutes, asking interesting questions responsively, letting the interview go where it naturally leads. Feel free to venture into experiences, philosophy, hypothetical situations, but always be respectful. Afterwards, transcribe and punctuate the interview. (You may omit disfluencies and fillers such as "uh," "like," and "um.") Give your interview a title that indicates its content in a way both compelling to a reader and respectful to your partner.

WHEN YOU ARE BEING INTERVIEWED:

Be unafraid to share. Talking about oneself is important in 1.) getting to know other people, 2.) putting your ideas, experiences, and identities into words, and 3.) communicating the value of those ideas, experiences, and identities. It's almost certainly a safe and wise choice to be honest in what you say, but if it seems like a good idea for whatever reason, you have unconditional permission in this assignment to play a role of yourself, to embellish, to posture, experiment, or lie. If you prefer not to answer any particular question that your partner asks, simply say so and move on. You will not be graded on your answers.

You will be graded out of 3 points on the insight and attentive responsiveness of your interview questions.