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Miller G

### Title

For many people in today's world there is this connection to the television and how we spend our time at the end of the day. Whether it being something that involves a show that your family watches together or just having something on like background noise while everyone is at the table, most people have the television on at some point during their afternoon. For some people like Michael Pollan, there was a connection with cooking shows and how his mother and him bonded during his childhood. He then realized that there was a shift in how those shows he watched which were about food and cooking from being instructional to more showing you people eating really good food. There is definitely a difference between all the cooking shows that he had as a child and the shows now with people like Gordon Ramsay, however that may not be as bad as Pollan makes it out to be. People nowadays are very busy and sometimes a dinner needs to be quicker so people can get things they need to done. If you work a 9-5 job, then most of your day is gone when you get home and then taking the time to prepare a meal can be time consuming too. From my thoughts on what I think is my favorite food and why to what other people say is their favorite food and why, I do not believe that there is any reason to be scared about the direction that food is taking. Food and meals in general are not moving in a bad direction like Pollan says, and it is simply moving in a direction that makes it easier to live in today's world.

In today's world, everything is based on time. And a lot of the time, you just do not seem to have enough of it, whether it be homework or housework or just that you have too many

**Commented [MC1]:** Who is Pollan? We have read his article so we know who he is, but not all readers have. I like how you introduce him, but make sure you reference the article and why what Pollan says matters?

**Commented [MC2]:** Reference article before this point

**Commented [MC3]:** Is this needed as background in the intro, or is this its own point/idea? I can see why it relevant, but discussing the working mindset of today in it's own paragraph and how society has adapted to this change is a good point to have, instead of briefly mentioning it in the intro

**Commented [MC4]:** I LOVE THIS! I would try to clean up the wording though. I would rearrange the sentences kind of to make an even stronger thesis. I would start with "I do not believe...food is taking" as one sentence. Then your final sentence and end that with based on "my thoughts...food and why". Also that section is repetitive so either shorted it or change up the words.

hobbies. Whatever it is, we put aside our free time outside of the workplace to do things related to work because that is how it goes when people have short deadlines for either projects or homework or job related work. Not everyone can sit down to prepare a meal for an hour or two and then clean up after eating to then expect to have a lot of free time to do what they want with that time. Pollan complains about how there is so much use of a microwave today and how that takes away from a meal, but that may not be the case. For me, I picked my mom's lasagna for my favorite meal, but not because of the fact that I enjoy the lasagna part of the meal. When my mom makes and she sees me enjoy it, it makes her very happy because of the amount of time it takes to make it. If I had to say which meal I enjoy the most taste wise, it would probably be lobster, but for me a favorite meal is not something that tastes the best, but the meal that creates the best setting to enjoy a meal.

Now, maybe the preparation step in a meal is the part that really makes a meal good for someone because they feel good when their food tastes good and gives them a sense of accomplishment, and watching those shows that Pollan watched with his mother while she made the meals was that for them, however nowadays there are recipes that you can follow online in much less time than an hour and with internet access and other pieces of technology, it is quicker and easier to make food now. Stores also sell more items that shorten the time it takes to make food, much like sausages or other meat products that do not need to be made yourself or where you have to take the time to go to the butchers to buy a piece of meat. For many people nowadays this is a great help because it's less work and they are able to still enjoy a good meal and then be able to relax. When we look at the fact that this is easier than watching for an hour long episode and trying to keep up with it, the television shows that Pollan seems so critical of, it is actually moving in a better direction simply because you can see new types of food from

**Commented [MC5]:** Can you quote Pollan on this or find something where he is upset with the number of those who use of technology for all of their meals

**Commented [MC6]:** Are we allowed to use our own essay as a source? You probably can but idk. To be safe I would still include 2 others from our class. Also where is this coming from? Make sure you reference your fav meal essay and I would replace the last part of this sentence with a quote

**Commented [MC7]:** ??? maybe "it and"

**Commented [MC8]:** Your ideas shift in this paragraph, but in a good way. I like how you inserted yourself in it, but after finish relating the lasagna to the idea of time in modern society, or have it be it's own paragraph so you can talk about only this

**Commented [MC9]:** Have you found any evidence of this in other people's meal essays? If not I would try to quote Pollan in the beginning so the reader understands why Pollan does not like or prefers Julia Child to online recipes or premade food in the stores.

**Commented [MC10]:** See if you can find an essay with a foreign food or something

around the world or country depending on what you are watching and then you can look up online how to make it and then you are able to go back to that page to keep trying that recipe or just be able to make it at your own pace unlike the television shows that Pollan watched.

**Commented [MC11]:** Closing letter

Hi Rob,

I really like your perspective on this topic and where your essay is going. The biggest thing I think you need to work on is incorporating outside sources. You mention Pollan a lot, but you do not have any specific quotes from his article, and you also need to mention he wrote an article on this in the intro. Going off of that, make sure you do not assume the reader is familiar with Pollan and his stance, try to include quotes on his opinion so you can counter them and the reader can see the direct relationship. Not just Pollan though, you have areas where you have laid nice foundation to put a fav meal essay quote in and they are not there. One of the requirements for the paper is using other individuals meal essays, so make sure you include those and not just your fav meal essay. Overall I am very impressed, keep it up!