

CONVENTIONS 4 (Set 3)

Analysis: Lit - Oscar Wao

There is one spelling error in the paper (“mare”). Because present/past tense errors must be captured in style, they do not count here. Comma errors prevent this paper from scoring higher than a four.

Some examples:

- Oscar is finally not a virgin, he finally came of age. --> *comma splice*
- As Oscar was growing up he went through many stages. --> *comma needed after introductory phrase*
- He went from being cute and getting all the girls, to having pimples on his face. --> *comma not needed*
- Although at this age Oscar didn't need to understand how he feels about girls.--> *comma needed after introductory phrase*
- As Junot Diaz shows Oscar is doing a lot of reflecting and trying to understand why everything happened the way it did. --> *comma needed after introductory phrase*

Essay: Lit - Oscar Wao

PBA #1 Question –

How does Junot Diaz' emphasis on the importance of connecting with others influence Oscar Wao's coming of age?

PBA#1

Oscar is finally not a virgin, he finally came of age. In *The Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* Junot Diaz shows Oscar coming of age. As Oscar was growing up he went through many stages. He went from being cute and getting all the girls, to having pimples on his face. Oscar came of age because of the experiences he faced and the challenges he overcame.

When Oscar was younger, he had all the girls. Although at this age Oscar didn't need to understand how he feels about girls. There was one break up that made him realize that he has feelings and it hurts when you lose something that is important to you. As Junot Diaz shows Oscar is doing a lot of reflecting and trying to understand why everything happened the way it did. Moreover, Oscar was a player so he couldn't let this affect him.

Nevertheless, Oscar was now a teenager. He only had two friends that didn't have much in common with him. At this stage nobody really wanted to talk to him. As said in the book, "Oscar was a poor excuse for a Dominican boy." At this point since nobody really associated themselves with him, he got fat. Since Oscar was so to himself, he went unnoticeable. Oscar was coming of age because he found things that were more important to him. He, at this point decided to take a different path in life.

Oscar was now an adult; he knew what he wanted and how he was going to get it. Meeting someone that understood him, and liked him for him was going to be a good relationship. Going to college, Oscar met a girl named Ybon. Ybon made Oscar experience life. At this point Oscar started to reflect and think of what he could have done to make his life better. College was the breaking point for Oscar; he had more independence and freedom. He wasn't trapped in a shell anymore; he started making decisions on his own. He realized he can make his life anything that he wanted it to be. Everything that Oscar experienced at this time showed him growing up and coming of age.

In conclusion, in *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* Junot Diaz shows Oscar coming of age. All the experiences that he faced taught him new things. This made him realize his life is in his hands. He had total control and that's what he had to learn.