ENGL 3570

Meme assignment

02/01/2023

Attached is a meme I’ve made about my personal experience during the COVID pandemic. It uses the popular “blinking guy” meme, a three paneled meme used to show the passage of time. In the first panel it shows the man with his eyes open, with text beside it saying, "We get an extra two weeks of spring break!” The second box shows the man with his eyes closed and a black box, indicating that his eyes are closed in a sort of “blink and you miss it” type of way. In the final panel the man is shown with his eyes back open and text that reads “Spending a year at home with my parents.” The purpose of this meme is to show how what started as an extended break quickly turned into the remainder of my year being cancelled, followed by an entire year of online schooling.

I was a freshman in college in 2019, so I was in the spring semester in March of 2020 when COVID started to get bad. I, like many other students, went home for spring break to see our friends and families from back home, not knowing what was to come. Several days into the break the university sent out a notification that the break would be extended for a further two weeks while they assessed what they would do about what was at the time, a new and unknown virus. At first everyone was excited, but as time pushed on and the university kept pushing the return date back, I grew a longing for going back.

 Once it was announced that the rest of the year would be canceled, I got a job working as a CAN, a certificate I had received while in high school. Health care workers were in high demand and finding a job was extremely easy in a time where so many lost theirs. It was a privilege being able to support myself, but I missed school and the freedom it offered me. I missed my friends I had made in Greenville, I missed going to class, and most of all I missed the freedom that I once had. I couldn’t wait to move out of my parent’s house yet again and go back to my exciting college life.

 Once school resumed online it was definitely hard to transition to online learning, and I often felt as if I was teaching myself rather than being taught. COVID flipped the whole world on its head, and I think being a student at the time was a unique experience that not many got to have. There was so much struggling for so many people and it is not something we will soon forget.

