

#### Writing Prompt 4: The American Man/Woman, Age XX

Today, inspired by Susan Orlean's essay, "The American Man, Age 10," you are going to interview a classmate. You will be writing a short profile of your classmate, which should be mostly in third person. (That is, Colin Duffy thinks his mother is the most beautiful woman in the world. He . . . ) You can inject yourself, as Susan Orlean does, but try to see the world through your classmate's eyes.

You can either tell one turning point story, in a vivid scene, from your classmate's life, or jump around in time and place. The only rule is that you have to make this person come alive on the page through vivid storytelling and through the energy and quirkiness of your voice. Don't be corny or cliché here. Make the typical seem unique, and the odd seem oddly universal.