**Introduction**

**Background and Need**

With the increasing reliance on technology and its influence in their lives, students’ needs in the classroom have changed. As teachers, we must meet the demands of preparing students for the world beyond the classroom. Those students whose motivation is derived from a successful grade, will automatically strive to complete the best answer. However, it is my intention that I create a classroom where their engagement is a natural outcome of curiosity. Conversely, those students who lack motivation and, as a result, stronger engagement, would also be influenced and moved by their curiosity.

Currently, my two eighth grade Accelerated Language Arts classes are comprised of 71 students whose CST scores are considered above average. However, their individual motivation varies from grade-based to natural curiosity to complete apathy. As I finish my fourteenth year of teaching, I have come to realize that I need to provide a richer and different engaging environment where the focus is on meeting the students where their natural curiosity lies; this includes a more inquiry-based approach to presenting the units and also includes using their form of exploration: use of technology.

Until the last few years, Napa Valley Unified School District, while under Program Improvement, drastically curtailed lessons that did not reflect a direct approach to teaching the grade-level standards. However, as our district and Silverado Middle School move toward a Project Based Learning model, the opportunity for addressing the standard in a varied format has become a possibility once again.

It is my intention to address both the District’s vision and student-interest, by adding a more technology-infused curriculum. This will also fulfill the District’s vision of providing 21st Century Skills to our students. I am well aware that although students can navigate technological resources, they still don’t necessarily have the expertise in using these resources properly or for using them in an academic manner.

**Statement of the Problem**

Students need a different approach to beginning a unit that includes a much more interactive lesson. Furthermore, they need guidance in using technology in an academic manner. How does a teacher provide opportunities for authentic inquiry? How can I integrate multimedia resources into the classroom unit to provide for a more engaging unit?

**Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study is to measure student engagement when infusing /tech infused lesson…various technologies into a unit on, “The Diary of Anne Frank” and theme. I will explore the effects of student engagement, performance and students’ perceived difficulty. I will specifically use a Webquest and blog during the unit.

**Research Questions**

**Research Question 1.** What is the effect of using technology on student engagement during a unit on “Anne Frank”?

**Research Question 2.** What is the effect of using technology on student performance on a unit on “Anne Frank”?

**Research Question 3.** What are the effects of students’ perceptions of the rigor of a unit?

**Review of the Literature**

**Introduction**

Text starts here (Why would you bother doing this research? What’s the need?)

**Theme 1: as heading \*\*\*\***

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**Theme 2**

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**Theme 3**

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**Summary**

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**Research Methods**

**Project Introduction**

I plan to use observational and survey research. I’ll use the observational research approach throughout the unit and conduct surveys regarding student-motivation after each new approach is practiced. Since I’ll be using this same approach with all my classes, I’ll use a preexperimental design since there will be only one observation group. I will also observe time-on-task and number of behavior corrections.

**Materials list**

Computer or Smart phones

**Data Analysis Plan**

I will collect the data and analyze the results of student surveys based on the traditional introduction to a lesson versus the new technique. I will also analyze the observations of students on task and the number of behavior corrections between the traditional approach and the new strategies.

**Findings and Implications**

**Findings**

**Research Question 1.** Text starts here

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**Research Question 2.** Text starts here

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**Research Question 3.** Text starts here

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**Implications**

**References**

**Appendix put surveys you use**

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