**Primary Research Field Visit/ Interview: Tips and Clarifications**

**What to Include**:

* All reports should include some **relevant details about the site** you visit and some interesting, relevant information (quoted and paraphrased) from **at least one person** who knows something about the site—either someone using the site (e.g. customers at a food truck or farmers’ market) or someone more involved (the food truck owner would be best, or a volunteer at Veggielution, or the manager of an independent coffee shop). Also include a brief statement of **what you wanted to find out** (in the opening) and a brief statement of **what you learned** from this should be included (at the end)—something about our contemporary food system. It would be great if you could relate it to something we have read, too.
* **Bring a “souvenir” back**, either a photo or two that you took on the site, or a menu, brochure, or something else given out only at that site. Ideally, you can paste the photo into your paper. If it’s a menu, staple it to the paper.

**Organization, Citing, Format**:

* You can organize it fairly simply, maybe with a brief **introductory paragraph**, then a paragraph or two that **describe the site**, and then a few paragraphs of **quoted/paraphrased information** from the person or people that you interview, either separately or incorporated into the site description section(s). (See below for one model.)
* I do want **complete sentences**, not raw notes, and all **quotes/paraphrases should be attributed properly** in informal “newspaper” style, like most of the essays we’ve been reading in your text. (See the other handout on the site, “Sample Interview Transcript,” for more about that.)
* **Format:** Don’t worry about a works cited page (we’ll get to that in the researched argument), but do have a title and left-justified heading in MLA style.

**Sample Introduction, Rough Outline, Conclusion:** This is entirely invented to match the sample Interview Transcript (also posted on the site), but if I were a student, maybe I’d write something like this. Note: the Roman numeral sections of the rough outline would be paragraph blocks (probably 2-3 paragraphs).

**Intro**: Intrigued by the footage of school gardens in the *Seeds, Hope and Concrete* video we saw in class, I decided to visit a local school garden and interview a teacher who works with child gardeners. I found a listing for a garden like this in East Oakland, Stonehurst Elementary School. I visited on a Thursday so I could see the “California Thursdays” program in action. This is when the cafeteria serves food raised locally, including some of the school garden’s produce. I got to visit both the garden and the cafeteria, and I interviewed both Heather Frambach, whose online description of the program led me to the school, and some of the kids who were involved, and one cafeteria worker.

II. Site description: the Garden

* What it looked like.
* Comments from people I talked to there.

III. Site Description: The Cafeteria

* What it looked like.
* Comments from people I talked to there.

IV. Summary of what I learned: This concluding paragraph would include some analysis of the project and, if possible, something that links this project with something we have been discussing in class. It might be evaluative (Does it look like a good program?) or analytical (What does this suggest about the relationship between school curriculum and children’s health and happiness?) Or you could include both analysis and evaluation.

# The blog I got this idea from (note the audience is specified right in the subheading):

# [California Farm to School Network](http://www.cafarmtoschool.org/)

**Linking farmers, schools, distributors, youth, and allies across California!**

Menu

<http://new.cafarmtoschool.org/gardentocafeteria>