**What is it About 20-Somethings?**

**By Robin Marantz Henig**

***The New York Times***

***Respond to these questions before reading article.***

1. What is your definition of an adult? Are there certain characteristics/ traits/ actions/ milestones that distinguishes an adult from an adolescent or child?
2. Using your definition of an adult, at what age do you believe you will achieve adulthood? How will you be able to achieve this?

***Respond to these questions while reading article.***

1. What percentage of Americans that move back home? Why do you believe so many of these individuals are forced to move back home?
2. What are the five milestones that “transition” and individual into adulthood according to sociologists? Do you agree with this list? If there was one more milestone you could add to this list, what would that milestone be?
3. List some factors that are contributing to this delay into early adulthood for many?
4. What is this human development stage that psychologist and sociologist are identify? What are some of it’s characteristics?
5. Use the internet to research the current stages in psychological development according to psychologist Erik Erikson. List each of the stages and then describe each in detail.
6. Describe the emerging adulthood according to psychologist Jeffrey Jensen Arnett. What lead him to this creation of this new period of psychological development?
7. How does your biology contribute to the changes that are taking place within individuals during their early 20’s?
8. How do cultural expectations today contribute to the “changing timetable for adulthood?” Give specifics from the article? Additionally list one that is not listed in the article that you believe contributes to changing timetable.
9. What is the “20-Something Manifesto?” What are some of the things that resonate with you as you are a few years away from your 20’s?
10. According to Arnett, many parents help kids financially long past their time they should be expected to. Do you believe that parents that this contributes to kids not developing into responsible adults? Moreover, does this hinder the development of individuals into adulthood?
11. What percentage of income to parents provide their children 18-21? How does this provide kids from wealthier parents an advantage over kids with parents with children on the lower end of end of the economic ladder?
12. Network on Transitions to Adulthood issued a report about young people stating that they need more support in 1999. What are some of these support systems that could be offered to help this age range out?
13. What are your thoughts on the Yellowbrick program? Why this program somewhat of a paradox?
14. Where does professor Arnett stand on theis debate on how to handle these 20-Somethings? What is your take on the situation? Give specifics in the article to back up your agrugment.

***Respond to these questions while reading article.***

1. ***Develop 8 questions and interview parents/ guardians about the expectations for yourself into early adulthood.***

***What should the role of parents look like once kids graduate from high school. Should parents help out financially? Provide housing? Offer advice? Offer Comfort? Friendship?***

***2. Write a two-three page summary of your interview and thoughts on the article. You may include your opinion of the article and any questions that were posed to you above. Also, include in the article where you see yourself in you 20-somethings and the role that your parents play within your development of an adult.***