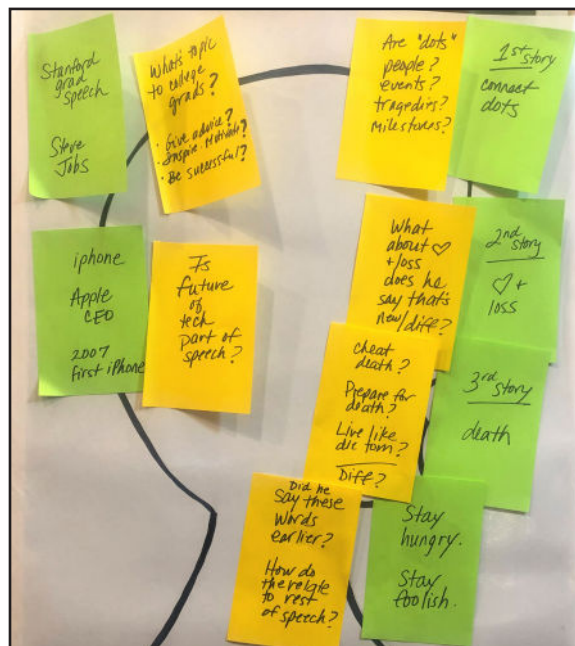


Famous Speeches: Steve Jobs' Stanford University Commencement Speech



In this January 9, 2007, photo, Apple CEO Steve Jobs holds up an Apple iPhone at the MacWorld Conference in San Francisco, California. This was the day that the first iPhone was unveiled. AP



Did real mom live to see it?
Did she know he dropped out?

Editor's Note: Steve Jobs (1955-2011) was the co-founder, chairman and CEO of Apple Inc., and a successful and charismatic entrepreneur, inventor and designer. In addition, Jobs was a pioneer of the personal computer revolution and co-founder and chief executive of Pixar Animation Studios, which made the animated movies "Toy Story" and "Finding Nemo." In his 2005 commencement address at Stanford University in California, Jobs offered his insight into how to lead a successful life.

Topic

I am honored to be with you today at your commencement from one of the finest universities in the world. I never graduated from college. Truth be told, this is the closest I've ever gotten to a college graduation. Today I want to tell you three stories from my life. That's it. No big deal. Just three stories.

Is he always so humble/simple?
ordinary

Why?
How so successful?

The first story is about connecting the dots.

I dropped out of Reed College after the first six months, but then stayed around as a drop-in for another 18 months or so before I really quit. So why did I drop out?

Did go - didn't finish

It started before I was born. My biological mother was a young, unwed college graduate student, and she decided to put me up for adoption. She felt very strongly that I should be adopted by college graduates, so everything was all set for me to be adopted at birth by a lawyer and his wife. Except that when I popped out, they decided at the last minute that they really wanted a girl. So my parents, who were on a waiting list, got a call in the middle of the night asking: "We have an unexpected baby boy; do you want him?" They said, "Of course." My biological mother later found out that my mother had never graduated from college and that my father had never graduated from high school. She refused to sign the final adoption papers. She only relented a few months later when my parents promised that I would someday go to college.

And 17 years later I did go to college. But I naively chose a college that

was almost as expensive as Stanford, and all of my working-class parents' savings were being spent on my college tuition. After six months, I couldn't see the value in it. I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life and no idea how college was going to help me figure it out. And here I was spending all of the money my parents had saved their entire life. So I decided to drop out and trust that it would all work out OK. It was pretty scary at the time, but looking back, it was one of the best decisions I ever made. The minute I dropped out I could stop taking the required classes that didn't interest me and begin dropping in on the ones that looked interesting.

It wasn't all romantic. I didn't have a dorm room, so I slept on the floor in friends' rooms, I returned Coke bottles for the 5 cent deposits to buy food with, and I would walk the seven miles across town every Sunday night to get one good meal a week at the Hare Krishna temple. I loved it. And much of what I stumbled into by following my curiosity and intuition turned out to be priceless later on. Let me give you one example:

Reed College at that time offered perhaps the best calligraphy instruction in the country. Throughout the campus, every poster, every label on every drawer was beautifully hand calligraphed. Because I had dropped out and didn't have to take the normal classes, I decided to take a calligraphy class to learn how to do this. I learned about serif and san serif typefaces, about varying the amount of space between different letter combinations, about what makes great typography great. It was beautiful, historical, artistically subtle in a way that science can't capture, and I found it fascinating.

None of this had even a hope of any practical application in my life. But 10 years later, when we were designing the first Macintosh computer, it all came back to me. And we designed it all into the Mac. It was the first computer with beautiful typog-

raphy. If I had never dropped in on that single course in college, the Mac would have never had multiple typefaces or proportionally spaced fonts. And since Windows just copied the Mac, it's likely that no personal computer would have them. If I had never dropped out, I would have never dropped in on this calligraphy class, and personal computers might not have the wonderful typography that they do. Of course, it was impossible to connect the dots looking forward when I was in college. But it was very, very clear looking backwards 10 years later.

Again, you can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something — your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down, and it has made all the difference in my life.

My second story is about love and loss.

I was lucky — I found what I loved to do early in life. Woz and I started Apple in my parents' garage when I was 20. We worked hard, and in 10 years Apple had grown from just the two of us in a garage into a \$2 billion company with over 4,000 employees. We had just released our finest creation — the Macintosh — a year earlier, and I had just turned 30. And then I got fired. How can you get fired from a company you started? Well, as Apple grew, we hired someone who I thought was very talented to run the company with me, and for the first year or so things went well. But then our visions of the future began to diverge and eventually we had a falling out. When we did, our Board of Directors sided with him. So at 30 I was out. And very publicly out. What had been the focus of my entire adult life was gone, and it was devastating.

I really didn't know what to do for a few months. I felt that I had let the previous generation of entrepreneurs down — that

So, too expensive?

Too expensive for not being helpful!

What classes?

Is he more into art?

How know?

Is he telling these grad their degree isn't valuable?

dots = choices

Not people, but career

what were issues?

How overcome?

→ Type design knowledge ⇒ computer fonts

What did he do wrong?

I had dropped the baton as it was being passed to me. I met with David Packard and Bob Noyce and tried to apologize for screwing up so badly. I was a very public failure, and I even thought about running away from the valley. But something slowly began to dawn on me — I still loved what I did. The turn of events at Apple had not changed that one bit. I had been rejected, but I was still in love. And so I decided to start over.

married? How wife feel about being #2?

I didn't see it then, but it turned out that getting fired from Apple was the best thing that could have ever happened to me. The heaviness of being successful was replaced by the lightness of being a beginner again, less sure about everything. It freed me to enter one of the most creative periods of my life.

During the next five years, I started a company named NeXT, another company named Pixar, and fell in love with an amazing woman who would become my wife. Pixar went on to create the world's first computer-animated feature film, Toy Story, and is now the most successful animation studio in the world. In a remarkable turn of events, Apple bought NeXT, I returned to Apple, and the technology we developed at NeXT is at the heart of Apple's current renaissance. And Laurene and I have a wonderful family together.

I'm pretty sure none of this would have happened if I hadn't been fired from Apple. It was awful tasting medicine, but I guess the patient needed it. Sometimes life hits you in the head with a brick. Don't lose faith. I'm convinced that the only thing that kept me going was that I loved what I did. You've got to find what you love. And that is as true for your work as it is for your lovers. Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart,

you'll know when you find it. And like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on. So keep looking until you find it. Don't settle.

My third story is about death.

When I was 17, I read a quote that went something like, "If you live each day as if it was your last, someday you'll most certainly be right." It made an impression on me, and since then, for the past 33 years, I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself, "If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?" And whenever the answer has been "No" for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something.

Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life. Because almost everything — all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure — these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart.

About a year ago I was diagnosed with cancer. I had a scan at 7:30 in the morning, and it clearly showed a tumor on my pancreas. I didn't even know what a pancreas was. The doctors told me this was almost certainly a type of cancer that is incurable, and that I should expect to live no longer than three to six months. My doctor advised me to go home and get my affairs in order, which is doctor's code for prepare to die. It means to try to tell your kids everything you thought you'd have the next 10 years to tell them in just a few months. It means to make sure everything is buttoned up so that it will be as easy as possible for your family. It

A Live like today last day

A Prepare to die

means to say your goodbyes.

I lived with that diagnosis all day. Later that evening I had a biopsy, where they stuck an endoscope down my throat, through my stomach and into my intestines, put a needle into my pancreas and got a few cells from the tumor. I was sedated, but my wife, who was there, told me that when they viewed the cells under a microscope the doctors started crying because it turned out to be a very rare form of pancreatic cancer that is curable with surgery. I had the surgery and I'm fine now.

This was the closest I've been to facing death, and I hope it's the closest I get for a few more decades. Having lived through it, I can now say this to you with a bit more certainty than when death was a useful but purely intellectual concept:

No one wants to die. Even people who want to go to heaven don't want to die to get there. And yet death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it. And that is as it should be, because death is very likely the single best invention of life. It is life's change agent. It clears out the old to make way for the new. Right now the new is you, but someday not too long from now, you will gradually become the old and be cleared away. Sorry to be so dramatic, but it is quite true.

Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma — which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They some-

how already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.

When I was young, there was an amazing publication called The Whole Earth Catalog, which was one of the bibles of my generation. It was created by a fellow named Stewart Brand not far from here in Menlo Park, and he brought it to life with his poetic touch. This was in the late 1960s, before personal computers and desktop publishing, so it was all made with typewriters, scissors and Polaroid cameras. It was sort of like Google in paperback form, 35 years before Google came along: it was idealistic and overflowing with neat tools and great notions.

Stewart and his team put out several issues of The Whole Earth Catalog, and then when it had run its course, they put out a final issue. It was the mid-1970s, and I was your age. On the back cover of their final issue was a photograph of an early morning country road, the kind you might find yourself hitchhiking on if you were so adventurous. Beneath it were the words: "Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish." It was their farewell message as they signed off. Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish. And I have always wished that for myself. And now, as you graduate to begin anew, I wish that for you.

Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish.

Thank you all very much.

Assume he's meaning
hungry for more / satisty.
& foolish in
follow gut?

Write a 2-3 sentence summary of this article using the following vocabulary words.

graduation

story

live

success

trust

Write a 2-3 sentence summary of this article using the following vocabulary words.

graduates

life

failure

heart

drop out

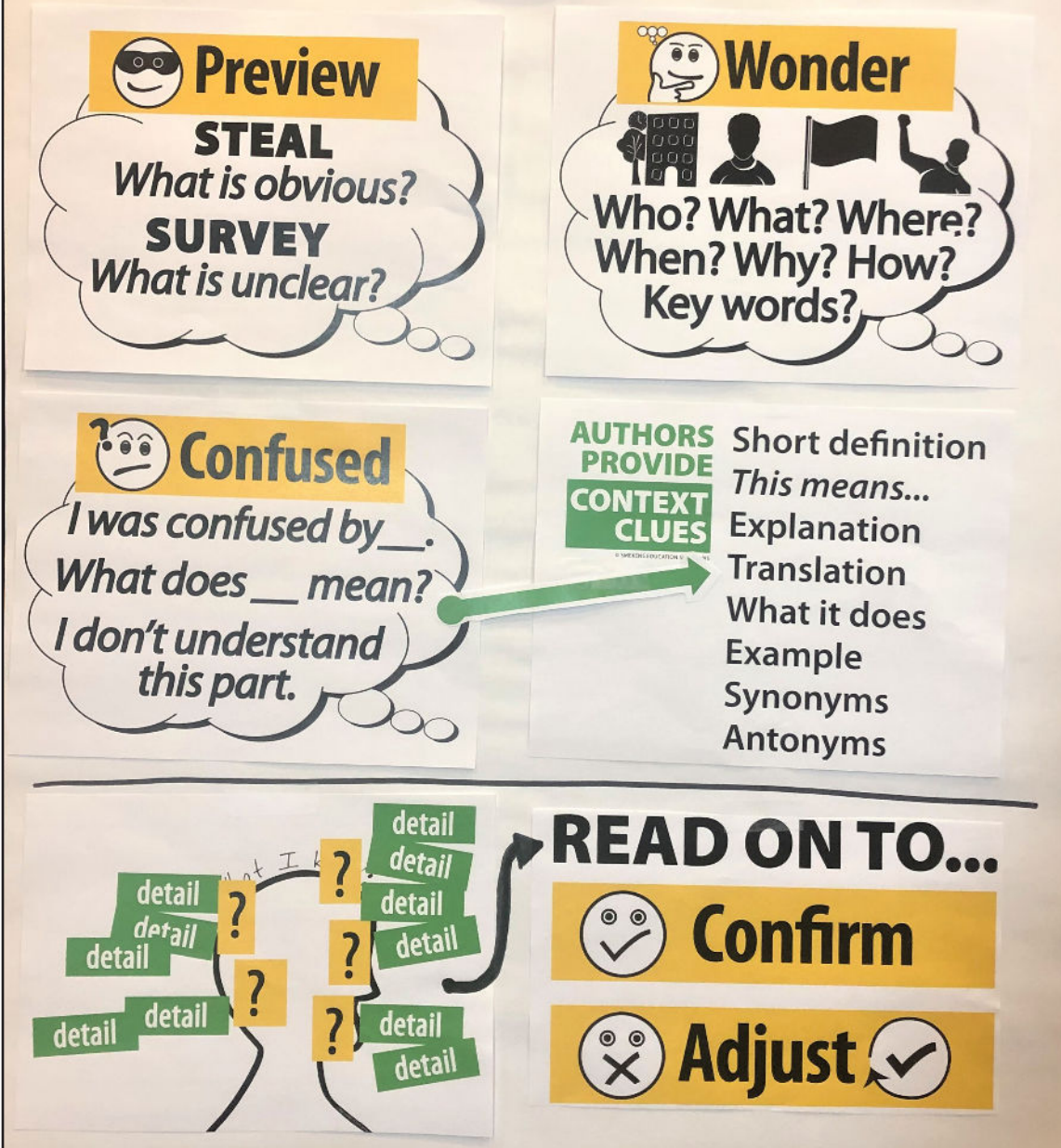
Readers Question Texts & Authors

STEAL: Skim all the text features in 2 minutes.

SURVEY: Use the “stolen” information to generate pre-reading questions.
*What don't you know?
 What is unclear? What are your first questions about this topic?*

Write them below the above the “high school seniors” headline.

CONFUSED: Be aware of details that don't fit with the meaning you are making. If necessary, stop reading, reread slowly, and adjust your thinking to match the author details.



ANSWER: Begin reading the article, noting answers to pre-reading questions within the margins.

WONDER: While reading, note additional questions you think of in the margins.

Mark answers to these *new* questions as you discover them.

CONTEXT CLUES: Expect to learn new terms within this article. Look for unfamiliar words and mark the nearby clues the author provides to support your understanding.

For high school seniors, coronavirus brings a sad ending and unexpected lessons

In mid-March, on what turned out to be the last day of school, Annalisa D'Aguilar walked the hallways of her performing arts high school in Manhattan, New York. The subway had been mostly empty on the way to school that morning. Many of her fellow students had stopped showing up as fears of the novel coronavirus swept New York City, the hardest-hit area of the country so far. On that day, the school's typically packed halls were empty.

"It just felt insane to walk around and have no one there," D'Aguilar said in a phone interview from her Brooklyn home. "My friend said it felt like we were in a war. The next day they canceled school for everyone."

D'Aguilar is a senior at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts. She's a drama major and had spent most of the year working on two productions that were set to stage in March and April. She'd learned her lines, hit her marks, knew every scene. Tickets were already sold.

One play included a choreographed dance to an instrumental version of the Lorde song "Royals." When she listened to the song on the weekend of March 27, she began to cry.

"I recognize that although these are all big things to me, it's small in comparison to what's going on in the world," she said.



Annalisa D'Aguilar, age 18, is a senior at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts in New York City. Photo: Aisha D'Aguilar

Like many of the approximately 3.7 million high school seniors across the country, D'Aguilar has had the last stretch of school pulled out from under her by an invisible and unforgiving **menace**. Grades and final projects float in limbo. Close friendships have been socially distanced. And as the coronavirus cancels spring, it is leaving in its wake entire rites of passage of the ultimate year of America's K-12 schooling.

Prom dresses hang in closets maybe never to be worn. Senior trips have been canceled. Senior pranks abandoned. And at many schools, the graduation ceremony, high school's final triumphant act, is in jeopardy.

Students said they understand why the decisions have been made. Sacrifices are being asked of everyone, and making exceptions for them, they know, would only risk more damage. They're already seeing the cost up close. During the weekend of March 27, D'Aguilar learned her great-aunt tested positive for the coronavirus.

"It's easy to be really mad about something like this, but the only thing we can do to get rid of coronavirus is to give up some of these things," said 18-year-old Piper MacIntyre, a senior at Garfield High School in Seattle, Washington. "It's sad, but I don't feel cheated. It just feels unlucky."

In a sense, national trauma has accompanied members of this senior class all their lives. Most were born in the dark and often frightening year following the September 11, 2001 attacks. They were fifth-graders when a gunman killed 26, including 20 children, at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. They were sophomores when another gunman killed 17 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The country has been at war externally since the members of this senior class were born and has been increasingly **riven** internally as they have come of age.

So perhaps seniors in this class have learned the hard way to be prepared for whatever is thrown at them.

"Everything is not promised to you," said Mia Jones, 18, a senior at KIPP DC College Preparatory, a charter school in Washington, D.C. "Things can be ripped from you at any minute. So you need to cherish everything."

Jones bought her prom dress last month but hasn't had it tailored. She's not sure she'll need to. She thinks the senior brunch at Union Market will be canceled, too. Few schools have said graduation ceremonies will be canceled, but many seniors are realizing it's a distinct possibility.

"That is what everybody has been working for all of our high school career," Jones said in a phone interview. "I would want that to stay the most. Even though it's just walking across the stage, it's a big deal. College isn't the path for all of us, and this is the last time we'll all be together."

At Lawton High School in Lawton, Oklahoma, Zac Shell and his friends have joked that they'll have to pick up their diplomas at a drive-through ceremony. But humor doesn't always work.

"We joke and try and make each other feel better, but I've had friends who have cried because they're so upset," Shell

said. "It's just all happened so quick. We're confused and dazed. For the rest of my life I'll remember this."

Shell said he asked a senior girl to the prom one day and school was canceled the next.

"We were just, like, well it was cute while it lasted," Shell said, chuckling.

For senior athletes, the shutdown of school brought with it the realization that their final spring season was over mostly before it started.

Joey Graham, a senior lacrosse player at the private Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland, said missing his final season at the school he has attended since fourth grade was crushing.

"I've always looked forward to being a senior, and a pretty large chunk of the year is being lost," he said. "And it's pretty heartbreaking."

But Graham, 18, took **solace** from an email his lacrosse coach sent to the players soon after the spring season was canceled, citing the team motto: "Be in control, be grateful and compete."

"He said, 'You guys need to carry these lessons with you no matter what you're doing. Be in control. Be grateful. Compete to keep your family safe and the older generation safe,'" Graham recalled. "It's a cool life lesson that through hard times you can get through by following those words."

Across the country, at Edison High School in Stockton, California, senior Dmetrio Cavens-Summers, a track athlete and football star, is also mourning the loss of spring sports. But he, too, has tried to keep everything in perspective.

Cavens-Summers lives with his brother and his mother. When his mother developed a cough a couple of weeks ago, he immediately thought the worst. "I'm not going to lie, I was scared," Cavens-Summers said. His mother recovered, but he continues to consume news about the coronavirus and post

updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on his Instagram account, trying to counter the wild rumors he has seen posted by others in his age group.

If prom and graduation are canceled, Cavens-Summers said, he'll roll with that. His focus now is trying to keep his wits about him.

"The world's going crazy. No one was prepared for this, but the best thing it has taught me is to be calm and be humble," he said. "I'm just keeping my mind focused on what I need to do and to stay calm for my teammates and my family."

While the disruption to these seminal high school events has been widespread, many seniors already recognize the historic sweep of this pandemic and how it will alter the world in ways big and small.

Seniors not planning on going to college will now enter a job market that has been devastated by the virus. Just weeks ago, the economy seemed to be humming along and help wanted signs were everywhere. That changed overnight.

There's uncertainty, too, for students planning to continue their education. Colleges and universities have been battered financially as well. Some seniors worry that their college career will be delayed. Others are waiting to hear if the financial aid they expected to receive is still going to come through.

Emma Dabelko, a senior at Athens High School in Athens, Ohio, is still deciding where to attend college this fall. But she knows what she wants to study — international development and global health — and is energized about next school year even as she mourns the loss of this one.

"Losing out on this American tradition and everything that comes along with that is really difficult," said Dabelko, 18. "It's definitely not always fun to be the people who have to live through a historical event like this, but it does happen. So in a way it's amazing to think about because this going to be such a major event that people will be taught about it and look back on it for a long time."

She said the pandemic could deliver lessons that might not have emerged in the classroom.

"It can be a learning moment for a lot of people to think about who we value and what we value in our everyday life," she said. "I know I'm going to value some of the small things that I hadn't before."

Write a 2-3 sentence summary of this article using the following vocabulary words.

mourn

seniors

value

miss

last

ORIGINAL CHOICE:

D'Aguilar has had the last stretch of school pulled out from under her by an invisible and unforgiving **menace**.

ALTERNATIVE SYNONYM:

LITERAL MEANING:

IMPRESSION/CONNOTATION:

EFFECT/IMPACT:

ORIGINAL CHOICE:

Many seniors already recognize the **historic sweep** of this pandemic and how it will alter the world in ways big and small.

ALTERNATIVE SYNONYM:

LITERAL MEANING:

IMPRESSION/CONNOTATION:

EFFECT/IMPACT:

Famous Speeches: Steve Jobs' Stanford University Commencement Speech



In this January 9, 2007, photo, Apple CEO Steve Jobs holds up an Apple iPhone at the MacWorld Conference in San Francisco, California. This was the day that the first iPhone was unveiled. AP

EXAMPLES FROM THE LESSON

graduation story live trust success

Steve Jobs delivered the commencement speech ~~to~~ at the Stanford Univ graduation. He conveyed that success requires trusting yourself while living out your passions. He delivered this message in three stories.

graduates drop out failure life heart

College drop out
Steve Jobs inspired Stanford Univ graduates to follow their hearts. He shared 3 personal stories about successes + failures in his own life.