

Personal Archive Prompt: Item that Communicates Your Experience within or of Present-Day Protest Movements

This prompt asks you to identify an item that communicates your experience within or of modern-day protest movements to include in your PA. Unlike other prompts that ask you to choose a particular *type* of item (self-portrait, map, article of clothing), here the type of item is entirely your choice. **Mark for yourself (and your viewer) how have I experienced the recent protest movements?**

[Be sure to scan/take a photograph of the item to include as the item in your papers.]

Why Protest Movements?

Since late-May of 2020 (following [the murder of George Floyd](#)), we have seen (and perhaps, participated in) protests, marches, demonstrations, and vigils. In the days and weeks that followed, demonstrators renewed their calls for justice, as those who murdered [Breonna Taylor](#) were not held accountable and Kenosha police shot Jacob Blake in the back (for example). [In Milwaukee](#), marches have continued on a nearly daily basis into the present day.

Most often, these have been associated with or are manifestations of the [#BLM](#) movement. However, though most of these outward displays of protest and action are in response to the murder of black people, groups advocating for the rights of other marginalized groups have joined forces to stand in solidarity and support. For example, Youth Empowered in the Struggle (YES) led a [Milwaukee Black & Brown Solidarity March](#) on September, 2020.

With these ideas in mind, think carefully about what item you choose that communicates your experience with the protests, etc. Consider the following to help you choose and describe your item:

- In what way/s have I participated in the recent protests, marches, demonstrations, and vigils?
- How do I view and understand protestors' demands and calls for action?
- Are there any items I use (like clothing or signs) that signal my alliance with or contestation of the protests?

The answers to these questions should help you compose the description of the item.

After you create/identify your image, follow the directions under the heading [How to Complete Personal Archive Prompts] in the document [Introduction for Students: The Personal Archive Assignment].

Example from the Archives

Instructor's Choice: insert an example from an institutionally affiliated archive or archive of your choice. Alternately, use the example below.



Examples below come from the [UWM Latino Activism Collection](#). Note that the examples take a variety of forms: a paper petition, a photograph, a brochure, a telegram (no longer in use, but think of it like a text).

The UWM Latino Activism Collection "documents efforts during the 1970-71 academic year to improve conditions for the Latino community at UWM. In November 1970, UWM opened its Spanish Speaking Outreach Institute, a forerunner of today's Roberto Hernandez Center." The students' demonstration and activism draw from, parallel, and extend the work of student-activists at San Francisco State University (for more information, reference the Code Switch episode "[The Long, Bloody Strike for Ethnic Studies](#)").

- [Petition, signed in support of Latino demonstrations / Petición, firmada en apoyo de las manifestaciones latinas](#)
- [A police officer speaks to a protester during the occupation of the Chancellor's office / Un manifestante habla con la policía durante la ocupación de la oficina del rector](#)
- [Brochure, "Spanish Speaking Outreach Institute" / Folleto: "Instituto para la educación de hispanohablantes"](#)
- [Telegram, Council for the Education of Latin Americans \(CELA\) to Bernard Ziegler / Telegrama, del Consejo para la educación de latinos \(CELA\) a Bernard Ziegler](#)

