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Professor Corbally

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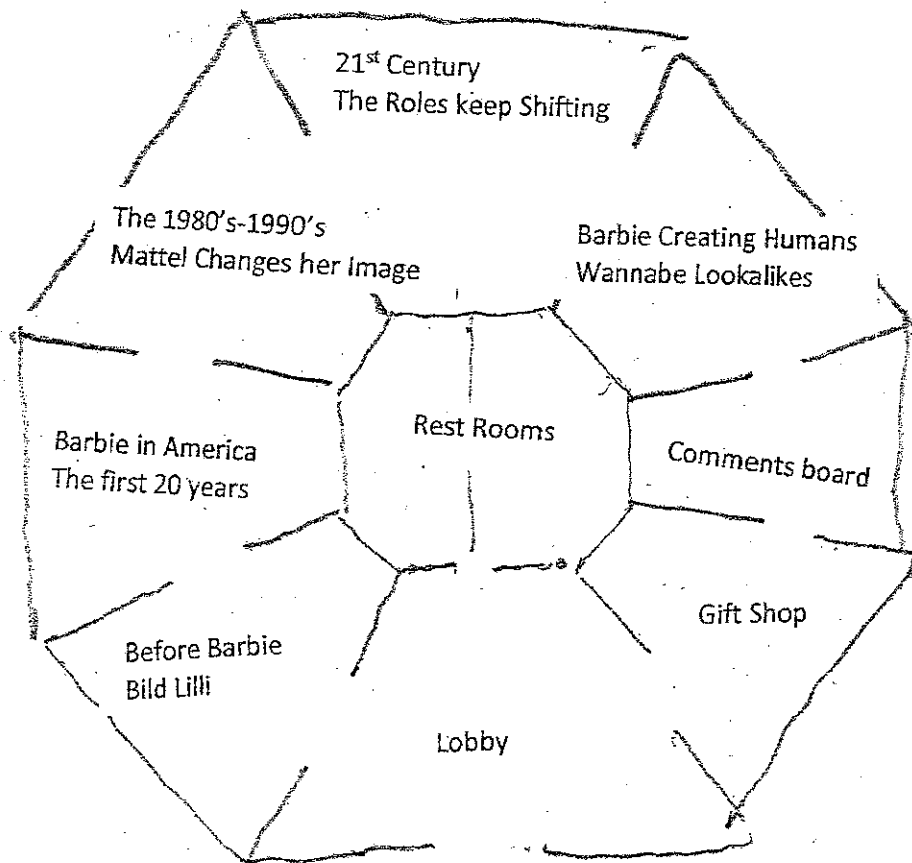
### Step 1 – Museum Brainstorming Discussion

I actually have a small collection of different Barbie dolls, and so I thought of doing a Barbie Museum. To give the museum a point and a narrow focus, I thought about how controversial the doll has been throughout its history. For example, the talking Teen Barbie from 1992 who said, “Math class is tough” angered people who felt that this was a huge put-down of women. The doll was quickly removed from shelves, and is now highly collectible.

So my museum will focus on some the changes, many controversial, in Barbie’s image over the years. The collection will be put in separate rooms based on periods of dramatic image change. The first room, for example, will show the original German Bild Lilli doll that Barbie was based on. This doll was based on a raunchy German comic strip, and the doll was intended as a gift to give a young woman on a date. Along with the doll the room will have samples of the comic strip and recreations of early ads featuring Bild Lilli. Another room will show early American Barbies with her as, basically, a fashion model. A room filled with examples from the 1980’s and 1990’s will showcase how the company responded to feminist concerns. This will have Barbie as an astronaut and as a soldier and as a doctor and business person. Another room will show how new lines of Barbies include different ethnicities and body types such as the 2016 Curvy, Tall, and Petite Barbies.

To keep with the controversial focus, a room near the end of the museum will have images and stories about people such as Valeria Lukyanova and Justin Jedlica—humans who

have styled themselves or had numerous plastic surgeries in order to look like Barbie or Ken dolls.



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