

LE2 – Genres That Matter To Others

Writing strategies we'll work on in this assignment:

Rhetorical analysis: Rhetorical analysis: analyzing audience expectations; making conscious choices in writing that takes those expectations into consideration; critical thinking, reading and writing; analyzing written texts; using evidence from texts to develop/support analysis. Processes: Working through a process to develop your ideas; developing flexible strategies through writing; reflecting on writing processes, examining writing as in a constant state of revision. Use of Conventions: Learning citation practices, editing.

Possible readings (for instructors to choose among)

Darcy Frey, "The Last Shot"

Amy Tan, (I can't remember the title)

Deborah Tannen, "There Is No Unmarked Woman"

Earl Shorris, "On the Purposes of a Liberal Education II: As a Weapon..."

Malcolm X

Dick Gregory, "Shame"

Billy Collins

(and others... my reader is on reserve at the library!)

Thus far this semester we've worked hard to think about the genres that you encounter in your experiences as a writer and reader. With this assignment, we'll move out to consider what genres matter to others, what are the conventions of those genres, and why they're important.

INSTRUCTORS – TWO DIFFERENT WAYS THAT YOU MIGHT WORK W/THIS ASSIGNMENT:

OPTION ONE FOR YOU:

To do this, you'll need to work with one of the characters from the readings that we'll work through in this assignment. Once you've chosen a character, you'll need to create a genre that you think is important for that character. When I say "create" I mean that literally – you'll need to make an example of this genre, and that example will be part of your LE2. Then, you'll need to also write about how your analysis of the character you chose led you to create the genre that you did for that character and write about the conventions you incorporated in the genre and why they are appropriate for that character. Of course, to do this you will need to use **abundant** evidence from the reading to support your analysis of the character's tastes, preferences, and so on. We'll practice with gathering this evidence in class; you should be ready to do some very close reading, keep very careful notes, and be ready to use evidence from the text. We'll also work here on using MLA citations to cite your research.

A thorough, thoughtful analysis of this assignment will be between 4-5 pages.

OPTION TWO FOR YOU:

To do this, you'll need to work with one of the characters from the readings that we'll work through for this assignment. Once you've chosen a character, write about the question: **what genre would be appropriate for this character, for what purpose, and why would it be appropriate?** To address this question you'll need to consider the character as an audience, the purpose of the genre, and why you think this genre would be appropriate both for the character and the purpose. Of course, to do this you will need to use **abundant** evidence from the reading to support your analysis of the character's tastes, preferences, and so on. We'll practice with gathering this evidence in class; you should be ready to do some very close reading, keep very careful notes, and be ready to use evidence from the text. We'll also work here on using MLA citations to cite your research.

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