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### Source Based Article

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language and next year’s words await another voice.” – T.S Eliot. Language is one of the powerful tools in the world because it can make someone’s day, or it can hurt someone. Language is used in different platforms such as, texts, music, movies and more to express their thoughts and feelings. As we all know, texts, music, movies and more comes in different categories which is called genres.

I define genres to classify writing in different categories in different platforms. An informative text called, *An introduction to Analyzing Texts and Textual Practice* by Charles Bazerman briefly goes over different genres and also discusses how they’re different from one another. The text is a basically a speech targeting certain audiences as college students and writers to teach people about how writing effects the way of life. The text maintains its consistency of what the author is trying to express. One of the many things Bazerman debates about in the text is that he explains social facts. Bazerman claim “the social facts are what people think are true and that they influence how we will act” (368). Which informs us that, we act the way our brain persuades us to act... or we are controlled by our brain, so our act and our behavior depends on what we are told by the brain.

Bazerman then goes on to showing us that speech acts can be organized into different genres. He also defines genres bit differently. Bazerman defines genre as “patterned, typical, and

therefor intelligible textual form.” Bazerman also uses terms like genre, genre sets, genre systems, system of human activity and speech to help us get a better grasp of his claim and to understand and communicate better through the texts. Bazerman shares lots of new things which I personally have never thought about. It was very interesting to know his thoughts on how everything from social facts to speech acts connected to make genres. Throughout his texts he makes many good points on writing and understanding writing. Bazerman opened the eyes to new thoughts about texts and how they can affect the actions, rights and duties of others.

Any texts are set for certain audiences and that bring me to my next point. Audiences are important for authors because that’s the only way an author can connect to people because not everyone has the same taste. If there isn’t any audience to hear/read the message, thoughts and feelings of an author than the text won’t mean anything. So, it’s important to set certain audiences to hear your piece of work which may have positive influence and help people understand the message or the thoughts the author is putting across. Throughout the text Bazerman focuses on one set of an audiences; college students, staff, parents and we could say education system.

My definition of an audience is the people who views the texts or piece of work from the authors and relates to the work and is also able to share their feelings about it. Bazerman’s text could reach out to the audiences in a positive way because he has explained the texts with enough information to support his claims. He only targeted specific audiences knowing that writing is an important factor for college students. His claims have good points which can force us to think that he is right about many things he spoke about. Understanding of writing is very critical for college students because college requires writing in almost every step of the way. Bazerman also discusses about the grading system and how it isn’t as advanced as it could be. He

then goes on to tell us bit about how the grading the writing system works claiming that grading system isn't as helpful and it's not helping students understand writing into advanced level.

Rhetorical strategies are another important factor to discuss about. Personal definition of rhetorical strategy is a plan, or an action taken to achieve a set goal. In this case, Bazerman uses his detailed and informative writing skills to express his thoughts into words for the audiences to have better understanding about what writing is and how it should be done.

“Education is not just about going to school and getting a degree. It’s about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life.” – Shakuntala Devi. Education and knowledge are an important factor in life because those are the only ways you can determine what kind of life you want to live. Another texts that talks about rhetorical situation is from Bitzer called *The Rhetorical Situation* that basically discusses about rhetorical situations to specific audiences and uses genre. Bitzer defines rhetorical as “a natural context of persons, events, objects, relations, and an exigence which strongly invites utterance.” Some of the key terms that associate with his definition are; audience, speaker, subject, occasion and speech. Bitzer claims that rhetorical situation does not mean merely understanding the context in which the speech is located; it does not refer to the setting in which the interaction between speaker, audience, subject, and purpose takes place; it does not necessarily depend on a persuasive situation; nor is it embedded in an historical context.

Bitzer explains rhetorical situation in three different parts such as exigence, audience and the constraints. First, an exigence is a reason, “a defect, an obstacle, something waiting to be done”. Second, the audience is the second part of a rhetorical situation. For Bitzer, “a rhetorical audience consists only of those persons who are capable of being influenced by discourse and of being mediators of change. Lastly, the constraints on a rhetorical situation emerge as a result of

the “persons, events, objects, and relations which are parts of the situation and have the power to constrain both decision and action needed to modify the exigence.” Bitzer also said that “a rhetorical work is analogous to a moral action.” That quote helped me have better understanding of the meaning of what rhetorical situation is because it drew me to think of how moral act is performed in situation of certain kind.

In the story of *How to Tame a Wild Tongue* by Anzaldua shares his personal struggle. When it comes to personal struggle, I believe everyone can relate to it because everyone has their own story about their struggle. However, everyone’s struggle can be different, but it can be relatable to the audience and it could send a positive message to the audiences. After reading the author’s struggle I could relate to it because I have been to her situation about having to be comfortable with different languages. The audience for this piece of work could be anyone who can relate to her story. I would debate that it’s targeting the foreigners. Language barrier could change anyone’s life because learning language in a foreign country could be one of the hardest things to do. I have had my own struggle and experiences. Language is person’s identity, and this is the main idea expressed in this text. “There are more subtle ways that we internalize identification, especially in the forms of images and emotions.” (Anzaldua, p.83). She also used different types of rhetoric such as; quotes and pathos which helps the audience to connect to the text.

Anzaldua’s *How to Tame a wild Tongue* is different from other two texts because this is about her personal experience of fitting into a different world. The other two were informative speeches about completely different context. I believe that Anzaldua’s work had stronger message to spread and it will also be more viewed and heard because everyone has their own experiences and struggle through life. Anzaldua’s story sends stronger message to the audience

because of the emotional side to her story. It's more realistic and easier to relate to Anzaldua's story than Bazerman's text or Bitzer's text. Bazerman's and Bitzer's texts had enough good points and information to support their claims, but Anzaldua's text has emotional appeal to it. Bazerman's and Bitzer's context could have been helpful for the students, but it's isn't as catchy as Anzaldua's work. Long speech about writing sounds boring and might not catch many people's interest but personal struggle is everyone's story. It is also inspirational to know how she stood by and didn't let language barrier kill her spirit.

Gloria Anzaldua's story motivates people not to be discouraged and accept the fact that foreigners are different, special and take the challenge of being bilingual in the USA. When I was going through similar struggle, I was a kid, but it still hit me hard which motivated me to stay strong and get better. This has inspired me to not give up and keep moving through hard times because giving up is never an answer. You stop trying doesn't mean the time will stop for you, so it's better to take the hardest part as a lesson and keep moving through hard times. Like my mom used to tell me "there is always a light at the end of the tunnel." And that's true.

#### WORK CITED

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