

Ersian Latifi

Professor: Dr Leslie Carpenter

Rhetorical situation worksheet : English belongs to everybody

AUTHOR:

The author of this text is Robert MacNeil.

Robert MacNeil is a retired journalist and news anchor known for his coverage of the Kennedy assassination and Watergate hearings and for founding the award-winning MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, now called the PBS

NewsHour. His investment on the issue is his love for the English Language and how it has developed over the course of years and is along the question of it will exist in the years to come.

CONTEXT:

The text is related to the English language and how it is compared to the other languages, and how as well technology is affecting the language we speak. This was published in 1989. What is described as a concern is how the English language is becoming effected by the other language and there is a fear that soon it might be replaced with Spanish. Also technology is playing it's part as how people are changing from written texts to audio visual ones.

ARGUMENT AND PURPOSE :

The main claim the author is making is that due to English language being a so called "English park" and it's formality which allows it to take different forms is causing the language to keep changing. The author is telling a protective stance

with the hopes of making people understand how the place we live in is changing because we have a lot of freedoms and can believe whatever we want, and it's our choice on what we want to do. He wants people to be more educated with the language around them.

SUPPORT:

"The French language is like the stiff French garden of Louis XIV, while the English is like an English park, which is laid out seemingly without any definite plan, and in which you are allowed to walk everywhere according to your own fancy without having to fear a stern keeper enforcing rigorous regulations". This shows the difference in English and the other language and its limitations.

Fascinates me that axe, meaning ask, so common in black American English, is standard in Chaucer in all forms - axe, axen, axed: "and axed him if Troilus were there." Was that transmitted across six hundred years or simply reinvented?

This shows how a word that was used for years suddenly has changed and if you say axe and not ask it's supposed to be wrong even though we are using that word for a long period of time .

TEXT:

It's an essay which is thoroughly build to explain to us the topic of English language

AUDIENCE :

The audience for this text is the other people who think and grasp the same concepts as him and also just the people in general as how he's trying to put out a message to all the language lovers and English speaking people

RHETORICAL STRATEGIES:

McNeil uses comparison as how he describes the English language as an overgrown garden which shows there is no control over it . And he uses clothes which is part of imagery to show the levels of the topic he's conveying in a visual way.

RESPONSE:

This text makes me feel how everything around us is changing and we are not even realizing it . Just when u take a look back u grasp how far you have gotten.

Something to ask is how far is the technology going to advance and what is going to happen to the language in the future