

Contextual Practices – Portfolio of Writing

Ways of Thinking

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Word count: 487 – (Jon's Task)

498 – (Ryan's Task)

550 – (Julia's Task)

Task one: Reflective thinking, applying reflection through practice. (Jon's task)



I have found an image presenting a piece of art that I find important and I will produce a reflective driven worded piece. On December 17th 'Season's Greeting' appeared and on December 19th it got confirmed by Banksy. 'Banksy has confirmed he is behind a striking bittersweet artwork that has appeared on a garage in the South Wales steel town of Port Talbot.'

I see a young boy with his arms stretched out and mouth open, capturing what I believe is to be snow while the boy is dressed in winter clothing, but as you analyse this piece you realise it is not about snowflakes, but ashes from a hidden dumpster fire and unknowingly we are all being fed something else.

According to Worlds Health Organisation, they identified Port Talbot as the most polluted town in the UK on Wednesday 2nd May 2018. And then they stated that it was an error and they retracted this statement, furthermore this may have been the trigger that initiated Banksy's work of art to reproduce 'Season's Greetings' which is a piece that is painted on a garage across two external walls that appeared over-night on 18th December 2018. 'Port Talbot is listed as the most polluted area in the UK, according to a new report. The UK Government has been urged to take action.'

A piece of artwork was found in Banksy's sketches which is almost identical first seen in December 2017. 'The programme 'The Alternativity' shows Boyle looking at a number of sketches by Banksy - with one almost identical to what appeared on the Port Talbot garage.' I believe he thought Port Talbot was the most suited for this original sketch and it grew from there as I have been to Port Talbot and have witnessed the pollution from the steelworks causing grimy areas. Given this artwork, it is a perfect match and highlights the issues we face with our environmental issues in a captivating way.

'Essex-based gallery owner John Brandler paid a six-figure sum for Season's Greetings. 'It's such an important piece - it talks about pollution, it talks about children, it talks about our future. Not just in Port Talbot, not just in Britain but on this planet. " - Gallery owner John Brandler.'

Air pollution is an environmental issue that affects millions around the world. 'Over the past 30 years, researchers have unearthed a wide array of health effects which are believed to be associated with air pollution exposure' Season's Greetings stood out because it is powerful and deeply emotive. I believe Banksy is exciting and ambitious, I respect he goes anonymously so that he does not take the credit and lets the art speak for itself. I find this artwork to be dexterous for instance it is highly skilled, especially by creating this piece by using his hands and it is also enthralling because my attention is held. Banksy mainly uses stencils and spray-paint.

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Task Two: Semiotic Analysis (Ryan task)



Here I will write a semiotic analysis using this symbol.

‘Apple is one of the world’s top consumer electronics manufacturers, whose products include smartphones and computers, as well as software and facilities for online services.’ From birth we are conditioned to see in specific ways, my initial thoughts from this image are that it is a fruit with a bite from it, maybe using a fruit can indicate a healthy choice. An apple can also be linked to Disney’s Snow White, or Adam and Eve, which were the first man and woman on earth. On the contrary, the style looks new, high tech, slick, fresh, modern and advanced. It looks like it has been made using designing software like Photoshop and Illustrator as it seems to display graphical elements due to its form. ‘The millennial apple logo is now one of the sleekest and famous logos in the world, just as famous or even more than McDonald’s yellow arches.’

‘The first logo was created by Ronald Wayne, one of which co-founded Apple in the early days in 1976, who wanted to represent the law of gravity that is inspired by an apple.’ He discovered this because an apple fell on his head. However, this logo did not last long and a gradual development took place. In 1977 the colourful apple came out because that is when apple started using colour display, it also has a bite so people don’t confuse it with a cherry tomato and because they use bytes in computers. It was originally drawn using free-hand and then moved on to be an illustration. ‘The Apple logo is very easily interpreted. This is the reason why Apple never put information about the company name in the logo.’ Conversely, there is a website that gives you

wrong information stating that this logo came from Adam and Eve who bit an apple from a tree of knowledge 'The apple symbol – and the Apple computers logo – symbolizes knowledge.' Which I find interesting because it interprets people's theories.

My response is that Apple is the most popular choice among products, but is it worth the money?

There are features that Android phones had before iPhones. Apple computers do the same as normal computers, I believe people pay for the logo and not the actual device. For the most part, Apple computers tend to last for years, but so do other computers. In my opinion, I believe that they are overpriced and they become obsolete when they get too old to run the operating systems and browsers, but they have better functionality, warranty, and security. Knowledge of the truth is always questionable. There is pressure put onto people to keep up with the latest trends which are usually expensive. Apple uses a clever logo as the symbol is minimal to make it look more modern which is currently in fashion. 'Apple Inc. has an organizational culture for creative innovation.' It challenges the usual standards and depends on cultural support.

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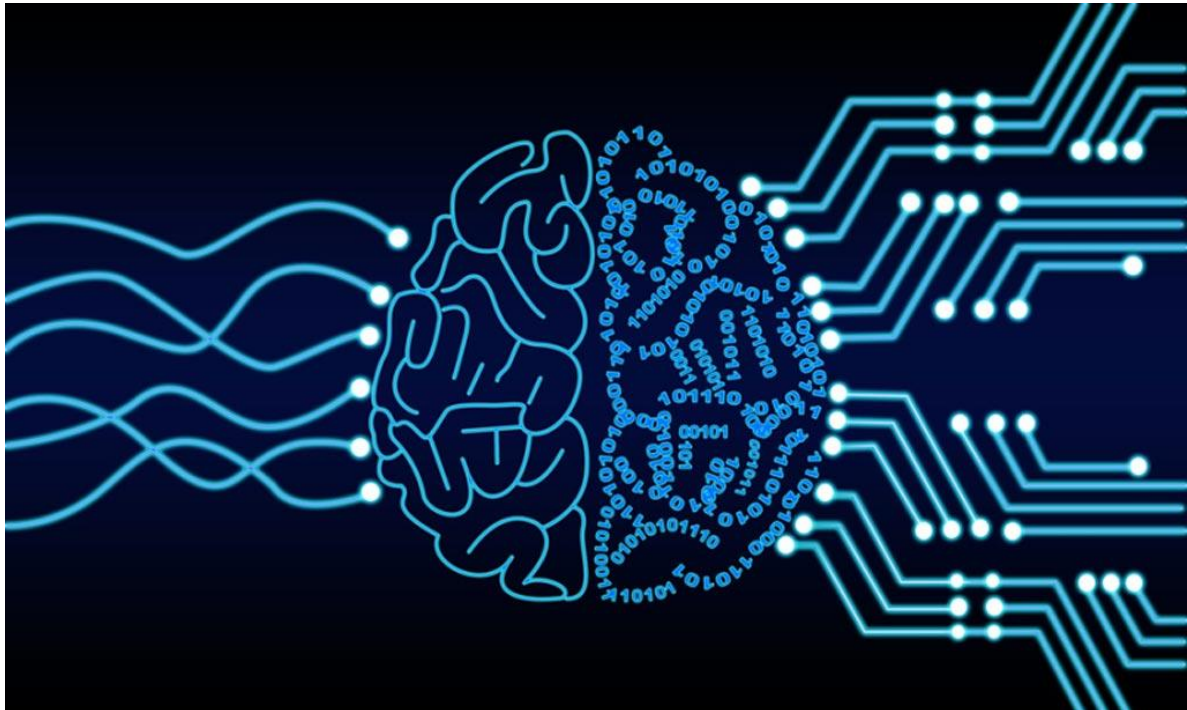
Task Three: Manifesto (Julia's Task)

1. In this era of fake news, artificial intelligence is highly used as a political tool to control and manipulate common people.
2. Whoever has power over the media, has power over the mind.
3. It's a highly misleading world, one that constantly asks you to comment and acknowledge other people's thoughts and feelings, but the world doesn't care what you have to say.
4. If you think money does everything you are going to end up doing everything for money and you may lose yourself in the process.
5. Art is not what you see, but what you make other people see.
6. Be part of the solution to stop pollution, it is an incurable disease that we can prevent.
7. Design is a way of thinking, it simplifies complications and turns your thoughts into visuals.

'Visual Thoughts'
8. Truth is always replaced by propaganda during war and controversy.

Keywords & Images

Artificial Intelligence



1. In this era of fake news, artificial intelligence is highly used as a political tool to control and manipulate common people.

By using artificial intelligence technologies like computers and phones that can be trained to accomplish specific tasks by processing huge amounts of data and analysing patterns, it can be used as a powerful tool to control and influence people. However, it can also log your data, It's become so common to give certain personal details that apps now exist to help you automatically enter your details. Certain websites can advertise misleading, false news that can manipulate your thoughts. I believe it can be used as a very powerful political tool for deception, that can even subconsciously alter your perception. "A system is corrupt when it is strictly profit-driven, not driven to serve the best interests of its people." - Suzy Kassem



Design is a way of thinking, it simplifies complications and turns your thoughts into visuals.

‘Visual Thinking’.

Visual thinking is the phenomenon of evaluating through visual processing. Visual thinking is a significant process. Visual thinking skills can help simplify complex systems, visualizations convey more understanding and meaning than verbal explanations. Take this rainbow for instance, if you have not seen one before then only getting the description will not do justice. It can be a precious component and a benefit when it comes to learning. Furthermore, I believe design is a way of thinking, for someone who cannot visually think, the design will show them what their imagination cannot, it's a necessity and in some cases a luxury. “Everything you can imagine is real - — Pablo Picasso

Media



Whoever has power over the media, has power over the mind.

'The Media' is an incredibly omnipotent way to send any information and message to particular groups of people, society's, or just about everyone in the world. We are surrounded and confined by various forms of media. However, we may think that we decide to ignore the majority of the information that goes into our conscious mind, but every time we hear or look at some type of media our brains register it, this can be dangerous as we don't know the agenda or motives of those in power. I believe that we are all controlled in ways we cannot interpret. With the use of design, we can raise awareness in engaging ways, by creating and sharing powerful messages visually. Design is a powerful tool. "A nation of sheep will beget a government of wolves." —

Edward R. Murrow

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