

Portfolio of Writing

Student Name: Alexandra Emanuela Craciun

P Number: 1816129

Programme of Study: BA Creative Advertising

Module: ADAD4018 Ways of Thinking

Tutor name: Martin Bush

Tasks in the order I received them:

Task One: Manifesto Writing= 538

Task Two: Observational Writing=540

Task Three: Practice-based writing=564

Table of Contents

Manifesto	3
Task 1: Explanation of Quotations	4
Introduction.....	4
Quote 1.....	4
Quote 2.....	4
Quote 3.....	4
Conclusion	5
Task 2: Observational Writing.....	6
Introduction.....	6
The Picture	6
Explanation through Semiotics	6
Conclusion	7
Task 3: Practice-based writing.....	8
Introduction.....	8
Description of the artefact.....	8
Initial Reaction.....	8
The theme of the artefact	9
Critical summary.....	10
Conclusion	10
References.....	11

Manifesto

- “Don’t practice until you get it right. Practice until you can’t get it wrong.”
- “Every brain on your planet generates its own beliefs. Just imagine, around seven billion human brains are generating seven billion unique beliefs at this very moment. Now imagine what would happen if all those seven billion humans start imposing their own beliefs on each other. The only thing that is going to come out of such an inhuman attempt is chaos and eventually mass extinction. So, the only way to avoid such a catastrophic consequence is to be more compassionate about people’s beliefs.”
- “Concentrate all your thoughts upon the work in hand. The sun's rays do not burn until brought to a focus.”
- “When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too.”
- “The goal of practice is always to keep our beginner’s mind.”
- “A thing is not necessarily true because a man dies for it.”
- “Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn't go away.”
- “Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

Task 1: Explanation of Quotations

Introduction

In this section, three of the quotations related to the belief system, work and practice will be explained appropriately to show a higher quality of understanding.

Quote 1

“Concentrate all your thoughts upon the work in hand. The sun's rays do not burn until brought to a focus.”

Explanation: Concentration is the mental status that guides and directs one individual to complete a set of works (Todd, 2020). In this context of the quotations, the author wants to express the role and importance of concentration in one's life. The work in hand at a given point of time needs to be completed properly before commencing another piece of work (Lake, 2019). The author also expresses that diversifying the concentration not only compromises the workflow but the quality of work done also gets hampered and restricted. Again, this may result in failing the deadline for a particular work. Then the author compared this concept with the sunlight and its enhancements in strength upon focusing to clearly express his views. Hence from this quotation, the role of focus and concentration is proved and addressed clearly.

Quote 2

“Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn't go away.”

Explanation: Belief is the state of mind where the brain does not argue with the given facts and contradicts the ideas presented before one (Habermacher, 2018). Confidence or trust also vaguely bears the same meaning as Belief. It can also be explained the set of things that are majorly and largely accepted in society. Even not all the belief needs to be true and many times in one's life come that shatter the conventional belief under the pressure of reality. Here the author clearly defines reality in terms of the belief system of human beings and stated that reality is the state when one stops believing in an idea although the idea itself persists (Nwoye, 2019). By the quotation, the author tries to show the harsh truth about the reality and also show that the real scenario does not care about one's beliefs or likings.

Quote 3

“The goal of practice is always to keep our beginner's mind.”

Explanation: Proficiency comes with time and regular doing the same work again and again. Practice is the way of working or thinking that enables one to apply the ideas and knowledge in real-world scenarios (Page and Thorsteinsson, 2018). It is the habit of human beings that ensures excellence in one's skill. Here the author stated that one needs to practice the

designated work to nurture the beginner's mind inside of one. This kind of process not only helps the brain to learn new things but this further helps people to properly ready their thinking system and be able to sink in the concept that there are a lot of things that needed to be known to date. In this very spot, the author strikes the definition of practice and argues that practice only helps one to optimise the craving for acquiring new knowledge.

Conclusion

Here three of the quotations from the manifesto have been selected and properly explain of them. This on one hand enhances critical thinking and on the other presents the quality of understanding.

Task 2: Observational Writing

Introduction

Having observed closely the bookish meaning of Semiotics is the study of signs. It can also be understood and explained as the study of the aspects and traits in a given subject (Lindström *et al.*, 2018). There are several types of semiotics present in the novels of arts and here visual semiotics is going to be explained. For this, an image needs to be chosen as well as explained thoroughly by seeing the signs.

The Picture

The picture hence selected:



Figure 1: Picture of mother and Son

(Source: thankx4stayin, 2022)

Explanation through Semiotics

Representational aspect

In this aspect, some imaginary sense and fictitious characters are imported to describe a certain scene (Olds, 2020). Here distinctively two subjects are present and both of them are in the focus of the picture. At first, a lady can be seen in the figure and from the behavioural approach it is expected that she is holding another subject and the second subject is a young boy. In the picture, the second subject is looking somewhere else and the lady holds that boy passionately and kissed him on the forehead. The picture was captured in the Black and White scale and that highlights the subjects even more. Through the expressions of both the subjects, it is not very tough to anticipate that both the characters and the subjects are happy in the frame. Again, with the holding pattern of subject 1, a feeling of care can be observed.

Interactive aspect

As shown in the image, here the photographer tries to capture and describe a relationship between the two actors and here a sense of care and love can be found. The image also expresses a feeling of intimacy and the gesture of the two factors seems to be happy and enjoyable. The moment here, hence captured in the lenses, is a beautiful time and gesture between a mother and a son. The background of the picture shows that it is anywhere outdoors. Being captured in Greyscale the image is also very soothing for the eyes of the viewers and no extravagance of colours also helps the frame to be more expressive. Additionally, the picture hence captured has been shot at the equal eye level of the viewers.

Compositional aspect

In this aspect, the visual description of the image is being produced (Moya-Guijarro, 2021). The blurred background and the presence of the subject in focus create a beautiful contrast and it also helps the subject surface more prominently. Being greyscale the picture does not confuse the eyes of the viewers and distract the concentration anywhere else, the proper control and well-managed lighting in the photo enhance its quality and the clarity of the image. Again, the well-focused picture perfectly describes the subjects. Moreover, the high contrast in the picture between the background and the subject perfectly focuses on the actors.

Conclusion

Here in this paper, a detailed explanation about the selected picture has been presented. Furthermore, the image explanation has also been done to access the image and explain its Semiotics. All the aspects of Semiotics and the meaning of the image in terms of the aspects have also been discussed and try to analyse the picture in great depth.

Task 3: Practice-based writing

Introduction

The third part of the assignment paper is going to discuss the historical artefacts. One of the artefact pictures will be selected and described with creative writing and discussed with a reflective style. Artefact is known as the historical tool and here that will be described.

Description of the artefact

The artefact chosen for this assignment is the sword from the Bronze Age:



Figure 2: Sword from the Bronze Age

(Source: Archaeology, 2022)

Here, some of the swords from the Bronze Age of history are shown in the image. As the picture describes, there are several sizes and shapes available in the swords of that time. At that time human civilization was divided among several small unions of tribes and war as well as battles was very common. From the artefacts, it can be understood that the human beings of that time know how to shape a sword and how to wage war.

Initial Reaction

At first after seeing the swords and the pictures I was awed and astonished at the perfect shape that the human of that time gives. I can also identify that there are several sizes and types of swords available and I think all of them do not belong to a particular tribe. Some of the swords are of better quality and shining and some of them are not so bright in

appearances; having analysed all of them closely I create an understanding that they are not made of at the same period. Some swords are better built and some are poor in design.

The theme of the artefact

The theme of the chosen picture is mainly based on the warfare of ancient times particularly during the Bronze age. The picture also showcases the art of the human beings in that era and it also describes the political and social mindset of the people. The picture was chosen also discusses and addresses the difference in the quality of the swords and how the people in that era prioritised the goal of their lives (Bettencourt *et al.*, 2021). It is mainly the archaeological artefacts meaning those are historical records that surface from the planned excavation of several sites. As the Bronze age extends for a long period, the swords analysing their qualities and builds also explains their presence in different points of time in the history of mankind. The following word art showcases different ages of history:

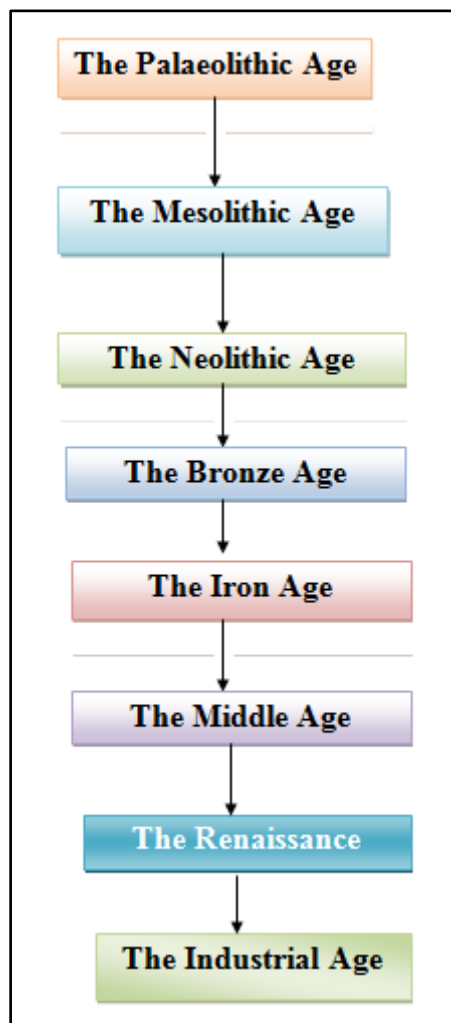


Figure 3: Historical ages

(Source: author)

Critical summary

The historical ages show different advancements of human beings and the thinking of the social and political nature of the ages. The artefacts and the archaeological products always reveal several ideas and things and bring them into the light of knowledge. As opined by Bettencourt *et al.* (2021), the political and socio-economic conditions of the Bronze Age have always been proved to be a difficult period in history and there is a surge of political tensions and warfare also recorded in the texts. On the contrary, Harding (2018) argued that due to the unsettling political and social structure and system in place, many modern weapons were created and developed in this period.

Conclusion

In the section of the assignment, an explanation of the artefacts that explains history has been completed. The selected picture about the artefacts has also been discussed and that surfaces many secrets about the history of the time.

References

- archaeology.org, 2022. *Study Suggests Bronze Age Swords Were Heavily Used*. Available at: <https://www.archaeology.org/news/8646-200422-bronze-age-swords> [Accessed on 7th March 2022]
- Bettencourt, A., Sampaio, A. and Hugo, S.E., 2021. Weapons and Tools in Rock Art: A world perspective. *Weapons and Tools in Rock Art*, pp.1-208.
- Bettencourt, A., Sampaio, A. and Hugo, S.E., 2021. Weapons and Tools in Rock Art: A world perspective. *Weapons and Tools in Rock Art*, pp.1-208.
- Habermacher, A., 2018. Book Review: Jean D'Aspremont, *International Law as a Belief System* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018). *Cambridge: Cambridge University Press*, 2019, pp.36-47.
- Harding, A., 2018. Bronze age encounters: violent or peaceful. *Warfare in Bronze Age Society*, pp.16-23.
- Lake, M., 2019. Book Review: Concentration Camps: A Short History. *Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal*, 13(1), p.18.
- Lindström, K., Palang, H. and Kull, K., 2018. Landscape semiotics. In *The Routledge Companion to Landscape Studies* (pp. 74-90). Routledge.
- Moya-Guijarro, A.J., 2021. The representation of male characters in three challenging picture books: A multimodal study. *The representation of male characters in three challenging picture books: a multimodal study*, pp.101-116.
- Nwoye, J., 2019. *Cultivating a Belief System for Peace, Equity and Social Justice for All*. iUniverse.
- Olds, K.F., 2020. Fandom as an Art Form: Artists Who Adopt Fan Behavior as Representational and Political Strategies. In *Handbook of Research on the Impact of Fandom in Society and Consumerism* (pp. 234-257). IGI Global.
- Page, T. and Thorsteinsson, G., 2018. The importance and benefits of practicing craft. *Bulletin of Institute of Technology and Vocational Education*, pp.32-44.
- thankx4stayin.deviantart.com, 2022. *DEVIANT ART*. Available at: <http://thankx4stayin.deviantart.com/art/Mother-and-Son-79856140> [Accessed on 7th March 2022]
- Todd, M.F., 2020. *Infrastructures of Race: Concentration and Biopolitics in Colonial Mexico*: by Daniel Nemser, Austin, Texas, University of Texas Press, 2017, 221 pp., \$29.95 (softcover), ISBN 978-1-4773-1260-5.