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Reflection

My Multi-Genre Project I asked the question do savants deserve more attention and respect than they are given now. Savants are usually overlooked and most people only know savants to the point they might say, "Oh, you mean Rainman?" While the answer to this is yes, it is still sad that people don't say, "Oh, you mean Daniel Tammet" or Kim Peek, the person Rainman was modeled off of. In my eyes, it might sound extreme but, I think that names like Daniel Tammet and Allen Snyder should become house hold names. Savantism is a disorder that does not get the attention that it deserves, because Savantism holds keys to open the mind that we currently do not have. I want my genres to reach out to the people who do not know what Savant Syndrome is and people who are educated in the field. I chose this groups of people because the uneducated need to know more about this disorder, and the educated need to hear my opinion. This project is a challenge to create two genres that best convey your thesis and your purpose, and I feel I have achieved this creating two convincing pieces of text that properly inform my target audience.

What I Believe and Why

I believe that savants deserve more attention than they are getting because they possess keys into the mind that we don't have, "Sometimes MRI scans are quite different results than our own, and often they are normal" (ingeniousminds) yet their talents are so much better than ours. There are many savants whose skill is incomprehensible to us like a calendar counter who can tell you what day of the week any date in time was and another savant that can remember his

entire past with perfect recollection. I believe savant's skill is to amazing to look past, and for their skill alone they deserve more credit. To me, it is not their skills that is amazing, but the fact that most of the time their brains are the same as ours. The answer to this is usually autism, making the left half of the brain weaker, forcing the right half to compensate for the loss of the left half; when this happens you will get a savant. Now maybe some sick perverse part of you is thinking, is there any way I could have a weaker left brain and the answer is yes. Professor Allen Snyder from the University of Sydney is doing that to people: "Snyder says he can unlock anyone's hidden potential by deactivating a part of their brain" (innersavant). Now you are probably thinking, why does everyone not know about this, and that is the reason I chose this topic.

The Genres

For my two genres I chose a textbook article and a tri-fold brochure that you can mail. For the textbook article I was hoping to reach out to the younger audience who might be reading from a psychology textbook for a class and realize how big of an impact savants COULD have on this world. I chose the tri-fold brochure because it is a medium of speech that can speak to a large audience of people. In real world implementation of these genres I would to love to see them in a textbook for a class I was in or to find in my mailbox one day. Both of the genres are quite linguistic but I did try and pick to opposites.

To describe how I used Multi-Modality and Aristotle's appeals in both of my genres I will talk about each appeal and mode individually, comparing the two genres to themselves.

Ethos:

I included ethos in my genres by introducing the reader to the leading scientists and savants in the field. In each of the genres I used ethos differently though, for the textbook article I showed how Allen Snyder was able to discover how the left half of the brain slows down the right half of the brain allowing for speech, verbal, and textual expression, although when you suppress the left half the right half will take over and try to compensate, increasing attention to detail, logical thought, and artistic ability. When I made the second genre, the brochure, I did this in a different way, I showed the reader several pictures of savants and Allen Snyder with textbox explaining why they are important to the savant community.

Pathos:

For pathos I chose very different approaches. In the textbook I chose to not include pathos at all. My reason being for that is, textbook articles are supposed to be boring and dry, not trying to persuade the reader to learn because of emotional stories. I made the brochure with the opposite in mind though, the purpose of a brochure is to be a sales pitch. If I did not include any pathos I could not sell the charity. Because of this, I decided to use ample amounts of pathos, one example being, showing a picture of a very handicapped savant, who made excellent sculptures, selling his sculptures at an art auction my charity held for him.

Logos:

I decided that logos was the most important appeal to make for my cause because, I think, having the reader come to their own conclusion on a topic builds a stronger feeling for the subject. With logos I could present my argument in both of my genres in a very logical and factual manner and have the reader agree with me on their own terms. In the textbook

everything all of my logos persuasion was made subconsciously, for example showing the reader a very interesting fact that gets them more interested in savantism. For my brochure I showed several facts that gets them interested in savantism before they reach the last page that asks and shows them how to donate.

Visual:

Visual was a large part in both of my genres allowing me to effectively and authentically persuade the reader. In the textbook I was able to create, to my eyes, a very accurate replica of a real textbook article. For the brochure I was able to create a very believable trifold that you would actually be able to send in the mail, including a stamp. Creating this false persona on both of my papers was crucial to me because I wanted the real thing where anything less would not be believable.

Spatial:

Spatial goes into visual a lot but I feel that spatial has something more than visual. To me spatial goes more into how the page is laid out not just what is in it. I think that spatial is also more important, it separates the two genres. For my textbook article I used spatial clues to my advantage by creating two distinct columns that created the feel of a textbook, and for my brochure I organized a page into three parts that contained separate textboxes and images with each page containing its own relevant information.

Linguistic:

Using linguistic elements in both of my genres was essential because without text what is an article. In the textbook article I logically flowed from one topic to another closing the article with the futuristic hope of thinking caps. For the brochure I used sever types of writing. On the back page I used text to create a mailing page, and on the front page I used text to include a title page. I also used multiple types of writing ranging from talking about a disabled savant to asking the reader for money.

Aural:

Although aural is an important mode, sound was not an essential part of my genes.

Gestural:

While I could have used gestural clues with some of my pictures, I decided against it

Kairos:

I feel I nailed kairos on the head, because this is a field that has infinite potential and almost none of the recognition it needs. This topic could not be timelier, we are not waiting for any new technologies to be released to progress. The only thing holding this research back is support. I feel that both of my genres full met the expectations put on them by other pieces in the genres. My works are similar to real ones and they correctly address the target audience.