

Short Assignment 1: Personal Linguistic Reflection

For your first assignment, I would like all of you to write a **personal essay in which you reflect on your own use of language**. This can be either multiple languages (if you are multilingual), and/or variations of one language. This may seem simply on the surface, but really take the time to evaluate the role of language, however you define it, in your life.

Questions to consider:

Think about the different *audiences* you have in the classroom, at home, at work, with your friends, etc. When and why do you change the way you speak? How is the language that you use in your writing different than the language you use outside of an academic setting? How does that switch influence the construction of your identity?

Most importantly, do you think that the language that you use impacts the way that you see yourself? Is your language part of your identity? What parts of your identity does your language possibly impact?

Expectations

- This paper will be written in the genre of a personal narrative to be shared **with me as your audience**
- Take the time to think deeply about your daily interactions and the writing that you have done in your past.
 - Consider focusing on one or two specific experiences or concepts and practice an analysis of that example in relation to your linguistic life.
- Keep in mind that you will be able to use parts of this paper for your first major paper

Suggestions:

- Because the genre is a personal narrative, the expectations will be different from formal academic writing. Keep in mind:
 - Your tone may be informal if that helps you to evaluate your language use.
 - **Include specific examples or quote yourself from your day-to-day life** to contrast the difference between your informal language and your classroom language.
 - If you are multilingual, you are absolutely encouraged to include some examples of the other languages you speak. If you do include other languages, please translate to English in a footnote.

Format:

- ✓ 2-3 pages
- ✓ 12 pt Times New Roman
- ✓ Double-spaced
- ✓ 1-inch margins
- ✓ Proper MLA heading

Due date: 4/5 by 11:59 pm (Sunday)

Writer's Memo:

For this assignment and all that follow, please write a writer's memo and copy and paste the following rubric with the appropriate outcomes at the end of the memo.

The Writer's Memo should:

- ✓ Be ½-1 page double-spaced
- ✓ Briefly articulate what went well
- ✓ Briefly articulate areas of concern
- ✓ Include the outcomes you want evaluated
- ✓ Include a brief explanation of **why** you want those outcomes evaluated **for this particular assignment**

Assignment Rubric:

Key concepts:	Outstanding	Strong	Good	Acceptable	Needs Improvement