

The Thoughts of Reading and Writing
English 1001
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Personal Outlook

A month ago if someone would have asked me what writing is, I would probably answer with “words on paper.” Everyone around us is prone to their own opinion, therefore everyone thinks differently about what writing is. Recently I got curious, so I went experimenting and researching different ways of what writing means to society. I did this in many different ways. Such as, asking people's opinions on what writing is, reading about what writing is, reading others perspectives, through threshold concepts, and just some personal thoughts on what I think writing is. Moreover, after hearing and reading other people's viewpoints of what writing is I have a new perspective on it.

Societies Thoughts

Throughout my day some people I encountered during my classes, work, and even friends and family members. I started by asking a girl in my Social Working class what she thought of when asked what writing is. She answered with “its a form of communication and understanding one another.” After class I went to my home to get ready for work and I asked my mother the same question, she answered with “I think of stories how writers put the story together and I wonder how the thinking process works.” Lastly I came across a close coworker of mine and proceeded to ask her the same question, she answered it with “i think of writing as order, without it the order of everything goes undocumented and its chaos.” She gave me a good example, without writing we would not be able to document our sales, therefore it would be hard to be a successful business because we wouldn't know what's good or bad for business she explained. I share all these opinions and examples with you to prove my point about how everyone has a different input on what writing is.

Research Helps Form Thoughts

My thoughts before and after reading the book "*Writing About Writing*" were unreservedly different. To me, writing has been just words on paper, honestly sorta meaningless so I assumed. When I thought of writing, I thought writing is the infuriating essays, teachers in high school made you do and turns out the only grade you for what you did wrong. In my mind I use to think writing is no fun when people make it all about being grammatically correct. For example, in high school, we are made to believe writing is only good when it comes off grammatically correct. When we write the teachers are not grading what we wrote about, but more about how it's written. In a way it is like a threshold concept-an idea so central to understanding a certain subject that a learner cannot move forward in that area. Therefore, after so long of high school teachers treating are writing like every other person, grading it for the errors and not the purpose, we as writers tend to forget what writing is. So for us as the writer we need to break that threshold and remember that not all people are reading are writing for grammar errors but more for insight on the topic we are writing about.

Final Thoughts

My thought now after reading the first chapter of "Writing about Writing" is very different and I have more of an open mind set about. In my eyes I now see writing as a form of communication where we are capable of viewing others perspectives. Writing to me now is not only something people just do but writing is a career. A career where you have to be a good writer. Which brings us to the question what is a good writer? A good writer is someone who is able to take constructive criticism, a person with an open mind, and someone who has a strategy on achieving their goals. Also after reading this chapter of the book it makes realize the time and imagination it takes to write good content.

My Message for Others

After taking into consideration what I have said what writing is and from what others say writing is, there is also a textbook version of what writing is. Through my experience while reading the first chapter I have collected many professional and nonprofessional insights. The book "*Writing about Writing*" first gives us the actual definition of writing, which is "a basic grammatical skill of transcribing speech to print." It then goes on to explain to the reader a more interpretable definition. Such as, "writing is used to communicate, to share ideas, to get things done." After reading that I really gained the perspective of how meaningful writing is. In conclusion, writing is a very broad conversation, meaning it focuses on so many things and interpret various meanings. With all the information you have gathered while reading this essay, you should now understand that writing is more than what you previously believed. Moreover, all the numerous opinions and informational factors of this subject, everyone should have their own impression on what writing is to them.