

Luigi Pegoraro
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Dr. Wiggins
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Argument, reasons, evidence, and appeals to logos

1 What is the argument? Is it explicitly stated or implied? Upfront or delayed?

The argument June Jordan is pushing in this personal essay is that there is no one way to use the English language. This argument is implied and explicitly stated in the introductory paragraphs.

2 What are the main reasons in support of the claim? Are the reasons audience-based?

The main reasons June gives are based on the fact that English in different parts of the world are different in their own way when comparing. And her personal experiences with English as a college teacher along with her students' experiences. The reasons can be audience based considering she uses specific countries in her examples and the fact that people can sympathize with her story and Willie's story.

3 How effective is the writer's use of evidence? How is the argument supported and developed?

Their use of evidence is very effective in meeting the readers' needs using rhetorical strategies that are gradually unfolded within the essay. The use of all three rhetorical strategies gave the essay better chances at reaching more people.

4 How well has the argument recognized and responded to alternative views?

There were moments in this story where the other side had its voice for example June includes an officer's point of view on the murder of Willie's brother. The officer had come to visit her class and at the end he gave his opinion on the matter. This shows that she is considering the other side as a part that matters but she does not agree with the officer's beliefs.

5 What is emphasized and what is omitted in this text?

A part of this text that was emphasized was Willie Jordan's story and his personal essay. This was a very powerful part of the text. As for something that was omitted it's possible that some of the other students had their own stories but for the sake of the text were not included.

Author background, and appeals to ethos

6 How does the writer's personal history, education, gender, ethnicity, age, class, sexual orientation, and political leaning influence the angle of vision? How much does the writer's angle of vision dominate the text?

June's personal experience and knowledge of English use in her community gives her a passion for the story and information she's giving the reader. This allows her to better relate to her writing which is always good for making an impact on the reader's angle. You can see that the angle June takes is of a person that wants a change. She is determined to reach out through her writing to her audience and in the classes she taught "Black English". This all makes the story more real.

7 What ethos does the writer project? How does the writer try to seem credible and trustworthy to the intended audience? How knowledgeable does the writer seem in recognizing opposing or alternative views and how fairly does the writer respond to them?

June's inclusion of her teachings in Black English is a very good way to gain credit; she also provides step to step rules of black English in the text. June knows that there is another side to this story and give the other side it's own voice she includes the comments from an officer about the killing of Willie's brother along with including the responses of the police to their protest of the murder.

Assumptions, values, and appeals to pathos

8 What assumptions, values, and beliefs would readers have to hold to find this argument persuasive?

The only thing the reader needs in order to relate to and understand June's writing is their willingness to understand and make sense of what she is saying. Racism and stereotypes are things that most people will agree are bad. Logically it is wrong. But getting people to step out into the rain is difficult. That is why the reader needs to be open minded in order for the writing to make the difference.

9 How well does the text suit its particular audience and purpose? How would this argument be received by different audiences?

For the intended audience it is almost a calling for help and justice. For the counter argument the people who may not be so open minded this could be seen as an attack on what they know or believe.

10 How does the writer use concrete language, word choice, narrative, examples, and analogies to tap readers' emotions, values, and imaginations?

June includes rules to Black English which gives the reader a better understanding of what she was teaching that satisfies the curiosity of the reader. And the inclusion of Willie's paper really touches the reader and seeks the emotion of such a real subject of the death of Willie's brother.

Writer's style

11 How do the writer's language choices and sentence length and complexity contribute to the impact of the argument? How well does the writer's tone (attitude toward the subject) suit the argument?

The use of language and text gives more depth to what she is saying, and her tone is on par with the subject because this is her story and her life.

Rhetorical context: Genre

12 How does the genre and the argument's place of publication influence its content, structure, and style? Might the text / approach be radically different if a different genre or publication was used?

What this text addresses is a problem that can be observed in many different places in the world. This text would have had the same meaning and importance if it were published in other parts of the U.S or world

Overall persuasiveness of the argument

13 What features of this argument contribute most to making it rhetorically interesting, memorable, effective, disturbing, or problematic for its target audience and for you yourself?

The inclusion of rules to Black English, the inclusion of Willies story, and the the inclusion of her personal life make this story memorable, effective, and even disturbing when the reader finds out that after the death of Willies brother nothing was done to help find justice.

Your brainstorm

14 Free write here what rhetorical features you're thinking of focussing on in your rhetorical analysis essay.

Some rhetorical features I want to focus on from June Jordan's Personal essay are the inclusion of "Rules To Black English", Willie Jordans personal essay, and her credibility tactics as we know she taught her own lessons in college.

15 Free write here some of the points you want to make by analyzing the above features. I want to talk about why June chose to include these rhetorical features in her writing and how this affects us the readers.

