

WRT 205

Developing a focused explainer topic

As I've been reading through others' suggested additions to our canon, here are some issues that especially interest me:

1. Diversity in sports teams
2. Language diversity in workplace

Here are some ways in which these issues connect to other things we've read and/or to prior interests I have:

1. Explores how team performance improves when its members are culturally diverse.
2. Explores how workplace discrimination can affect employee morale/ individual performance.
3. Explores how speaking different languages can have a positive impact about how people think about different topics.
4. I find it interesting how speaking to someone in their mother-tongue helps you create a deeper level of trust and therefore a stronger relationship.

Looking at this list of connections, highlight key foundational concepts/ideas/terminology—list those here.

Unconscious bias

Linguistic diversity

Nonnative accent

Stereotype

Language barrier

Review your list to the left—which of these issues do you think a person would need to understand in order to understand why this broader topic interests you? Circle them and prioritize—what's really important? What really intrigues you? Why?

I find it very intriguing how people that are nonnative speakers of English are often judged by their weaker grasp of the English language.

I myself, have been surprised to meet someone who is very highly educated and very competent in my engineering firm that has simply not lived in the USA very long. In fact through my own language learning journey I believe their ability to converse in a second or third language is extremely impressive. It is even more impressive when I think of all the technical jargon and manufacturing acronyms that they must learn to understand.

Frame your project statement here: I think [X] is a really important topic in organizational culture, so I'm going to explain this foundational idea [Y] to you all. *[In other words, you're going to focus on some very specific component that is essential to our understanding of the larger whole; you're going to articulate both the small bit and the Big Picture here.]*

I think linguistic diversity is a particularly important topic in organizational culture. So I will be explaining the foundational idea of unconscious bias in regards to nonnative accents to you all.

