

Diagnostic Essay

Due Date: Thursday, February 10

1 Topic

What does it mean to be a native speaker of a particular language?

2 Part A - Brainstorm

To assist in your brainstorming process, you can think about the following questions, however, what you choose to articulate on is not necessarily confined to these questions. To be more precise in our questions, suppose that we specifically analyse the English language, and ask the question of what it means to be a native English speaker,

- Do you *have* to be born in an English speaking country?
- Is it age sensitive?
- Is it time sensitive? Meaning is there a certain prescribed period for which one can develop a native ability to retain English.
- Does it depend on whether or not your parents are native English speakers?
- Does it depend on whether or not your siblings are native English speakers?
- Does it depend on whether or not English was the official language throughout your educational upbringing?
- Does it depend on whether or not your friends spoke English?
- Must we judge native speakers based on their accent?
- Must we judge native speakers based on their style of speech? (Meaning, certain phrases that they use that are usually only understood amongst a certain set of people sharing that language)
- Must we judge native speakers based on their literacy skills?

3 Part B - Rough Draft & Peer Edit

After having brainstormed on a handful of the aforementioned questions, or perhaps questions you have come up with on your own, construct a rough draft of your essay and have it peer edited by a classmate.

4 Part C - Final Draft

When you feel like you are ready to formalize your rough draft, **type** out your final draft. The editor you choose to use is up to your preference, you can use L^AT_EX if you like (of course there would be no bonus points for having done so) or you can use Microsoft Word. In either case, you are required to meet following criteria,

- Font size of 13.
- Double Spaced.

5 Part D - Final Submission

Your final submission must include **both** the *edited* rough draft as well as the final draft. The edited rough draft **must** include a signature of the person who edited the draft.