During Salman Rushdie’s speech, he covered many different topics about stories, characters, writers, and abstract ideas. First he discussed how we humans have a great need to tell stories. He mentioned a variety of different writers in his speech. Salman talked about how a person’s character is what shapes their destiny. He brought up the point that back in the day there was a great space between personal and public life. But now that space is much smaller, or nonexistent. I thought it was interesting when he discussed the September 11th attacks. He said when people from the middle east came to America and boarded the planes on 9/11, America’s culture and the middles east’s culture/history were then mashed together, forever.

I was very pleased with how Salman Rushdie presented. He brought about many jokes (i.e. the Kardashians), and although he was difficult to see (since I was sitting in the back), his hand gestures seemed to complement what he was saying. He appeared to be very comfortable speaking in front of a large audience. The only improvement I see that he could make is to raise his voice at certain points in his speech in order for all to hear. Overall his speech was engaging and well developed.