

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UIec4ZQ9pSg5TrXwmi\_14mt2hYRwJrJ7/view?usp=sharing

Dhufliqar Hussein

ENGL 393 – Technical Communication

Spring 2023 / Dr. Justice

Sonic warning

March 28, 2023

Sonic writing is a creative expression that explores the sonic world and captures its essence through words. By using language to describe and evoke the soundscape, sonic writing allows us to dive into a sound and explore where it originated. Additionally, it gives us a chance to understand the message behind the soundscape, what it means, and what it's trying to convey without words. The power of sonic writing lies in its ability to capture the essence of sound and make it tangible through the written word. Through careful observation and interpretation, sonic writing can reveal the hidden stories and meanings behind the sounds we encounter daily. Sonic writing provides a powerful tool for exploring the sonic landscape and connecting with the world around us in a deeper and more meaningful way.

Creating a soundscape is a unique and creative way that involves manipulating multiple sounds and music tracks to convey a message or evoke someone's emotions. According to Steph Ceraso, touch, sight, and sound work together during sonic interactions. For instance,

deaf people cannot hear sounds but feel them through their bodies. This is a way of feeling the sonic vibrations, power, and material force. And this could also mean that it could be their only way of communicating with the world and feeling they are part of it.

I recorded the sound of my car keys with my phone after deciding on the type of soundscape I wanted to make. I started by determining the precise sounds I wanted to record. As the sound of car keys and the opening and start of a car may be distinctive and recognizable, I was particularly interested in documenting these sounds in this case. A sound of a click can be heard when opening a car door. A deep rumbling sound is frequently heard while starting a car. The clicking sound of the ignition being turned and the rumbling sound of the motor can also be heard when the car engine first starts. Overall, as the listener imagines the feeling of driving a car, the mixture of these sounds might evoke excitement and anticipation. I made sure my phone was set to record and that it was placed close to the sound source to get the best possible recording. Next, I pressed the record button on my phone and made sure that it was picking up the sound clearly. I started by jingling the keys to capture the metallic clinks and clanks. Then, I opened the car door slowly, making sure to capture the sound of the door opening and closing. Once the door was open, I recorded the sound of turning on the ignition and the engine starting up. I let the engine idle for a few moments to capture the sounds of the car running. Afterward, I captured a sound online of a car driving and crashing.

One of the key choices I made while creating my soundscape was picking sounds familiar to the audience. The first sound is the car keys hitting and bouncing back-to-back from each other. It provides a sense of driving a car. Before taking off, it's necessary to remember to wear a seatbelt. Although the purpose of anticipation or excitement that comes with opening the car door and starting the engine might be energizing, delaying the straightforward process of fastening your seatbelt can be a fatal mistake. Driving without a seatbelt on a short or long trip can put you in danger because accidents can occur anytime without warning.

My second key choice was the sound of the car door opening. This is a way of conveying that the driver is entering their car. The third key choice was turning on the vehicle, which can be heard in the soundscape clip. This is a way of establishing the start of the driving experience and setting the scene for the potential danger of driving without a seatbelt. The fourth key decision I made was to underline the value of using a seatbelt by using the sharp and unexpected sound of screeching tires and a car collision. This serves as a clear warning of the possible consequences of failing to take the quick action of buckling up. Finally, the fifth key choice I made was the overall pacing and structure of the soundscape. I intentionally created a slow and deliberate buildup, starting with the jingling of keys and gradually moving toward the climax of the car crash. This was done to develop a sense of tension and anticipation and to make the message of wearing a seatbelt more impactful.

If I had more time and resources to enhance my soundscape, I would add additional sounds that could be layered on top of the existing sounds. Another way is incorporating music and other sound effects to create a more dynamic and engaging soundscape that effectively

captures the listeners' attention and emotions. Lastly, I would use more advanced software to greatly enhance my soundscape, creating a more complex and better-quality sound.