At Tara McPhersons words (from the “Toward anti-racist technical terminology” article), “covert racism and its rhetoric of color blindness,” I’m reminded of some stickers I saw at the Dollar Tree. These stickers had a pattern of skin colors (for equality, I assume) yet also had large, bold words, “Color Blind!” I buried it at the bottom of the pile. Our goal should not be to pretend there are no differences; but to recognize them, embrace them, recognize past and present hardships, and DO something ACTIVE about it. It’s also fairly common, during conversations about injustices and inequalities, to hear someone chime in with a comment that downplays or counters the facts. Maybe something like, “We work at the same place! And I know for a fact that that it’s different there. Women and people of color make the same money as me.” While it is really great when employers rise above the norm and practice equity, the response significantly downplays the issue at hand.

I love the idea of using language to provide knowledge and technology at accessible levels, and battling anti-racism in terms used. For me, as an ELA teacher, this also means the overall language; there is such a stress on “proper English” that we forget how infrequent its application really is. I’m familiar with many figures of speech with negative and/or racist connotations, and I’m always receptive to learning about the history of others.

It’s interesting to think that some of the younger computer users rely on the search features to locate computer files rather than purposefully create a hierarchal system; similar to the way a tree looks, as Dr. Schacht’s analogy goes – and I completely agree. I have all (ALL) of the resources, articles, files, etc. from all of my classes since the fall of ‘18. As I type this into Microsoft Word, I have the doc. saved under Desktop:School:Fall 21:CDL – Critical Digital Practices:Journals. I personally have a hard time thinking of the storage “tree” as anything different – partly because I used to access programs and games on our desktop computer using the Dos Prompt dialogue box. (C:\>cd doom) I love that we can still do this through the browser window! [And, from what I can see, GitBash! It’s exciting to get back into this stuff – especially with an eye on pedagogy and humanities.]