


Speaking / Voicing

Lend me your ears



A close-up portrait of actor Damian Lewis, who is portraying the character Antony from Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar. He has a beard and is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

theguardian

Shakespeare solos

Damian Lewis as Antony in Julius Caesar – Shakespeare Solos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q89MLuLSJgk>

Occasion

Speaker

Audience

Attitude

Feeling

Julius Caesar

ANTONY

Friends! Romans! Countrymen! Lend me your ears.
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interrèd with their bones:
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious.
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answered it.
Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest--
For Brutus is an honorable man,
So are they all, all honorable men--
Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.
He was my friend: faithful and just to me.
But Brutus says he was ambitious,
And Brutus is an honorable man.
He hath brought many captives home to Rome,
Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill.
Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?

When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept;
Ambition should be made of sterner stuff.
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious,
And Brutus is an honorable man.
You all did see that on the Lupercal
I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
Which he did thrice refuse. Was this ambition?
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious,
And sure he is an honorable man.
I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,
But here I am, to speak what I do know.
You all did love him once, not without cause.
What cause withholds you, then, to mourn for him?
O judgment! Thou art fled to brutish beasts,
And men have lost their reason! Bear with me;
My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,
And I must pause till it come back to me.

Presence

ANTONY

Friends! Romans! Countrymen! Lend me your ears.

I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.

The evil that men do lives after them;

The good is oft interrèd with their bones:

So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus

Hath told you Caesar was ambitious.

If it were so, it was a grievous fault,

And grievously hath Caesar answered it.

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Address

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I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interrèd with their bones:
So let it be with Caesar. **The noble Brutus**
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Repetition

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Friends! Romans! Countrymen! Lend me your ears.
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interrèd with their bones:
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious.
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answered it.
Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest--
For Brutus is an honorable man,
So are they all, all honorable men--
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Presence – Address – Repetition

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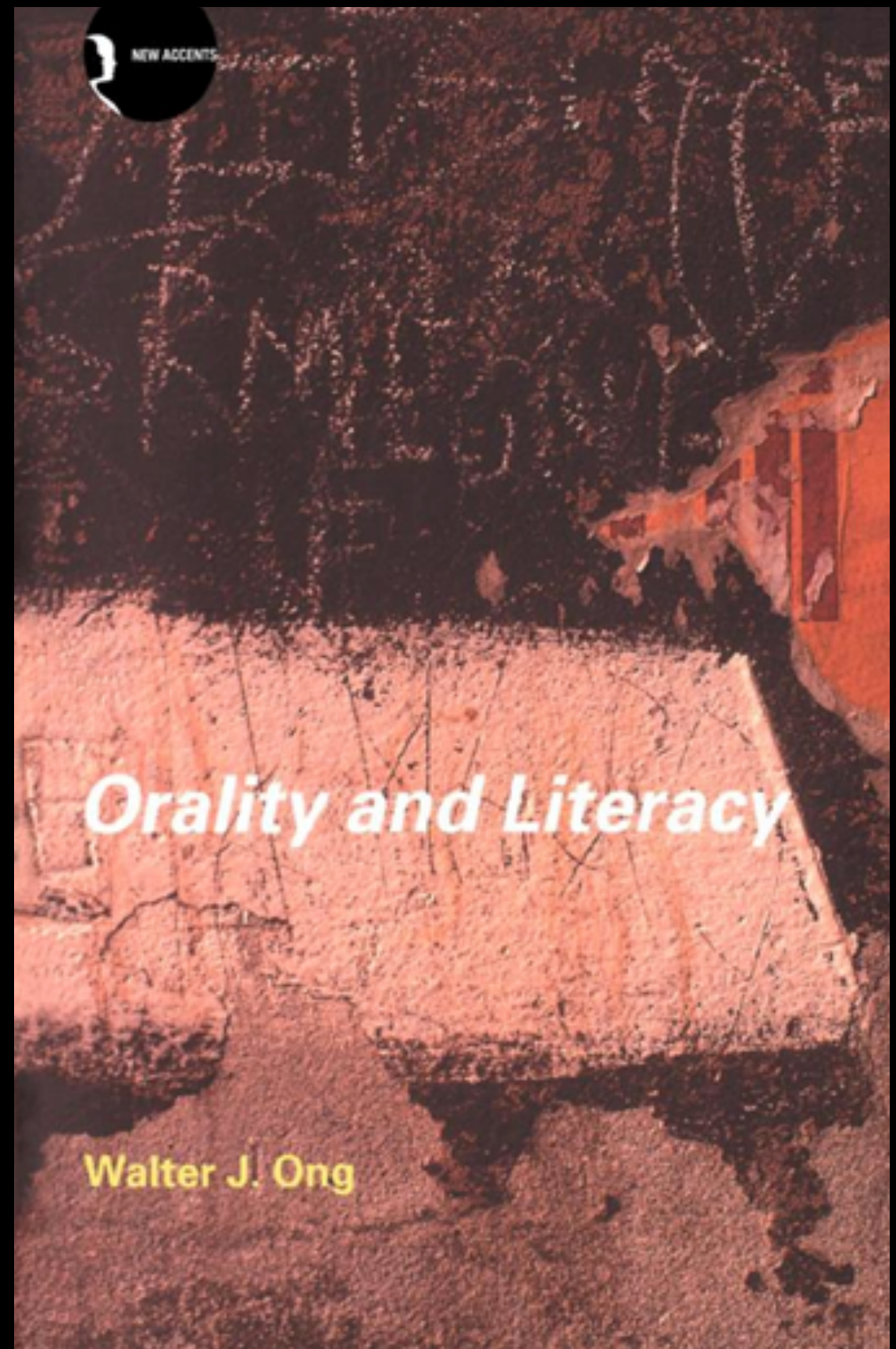
My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,

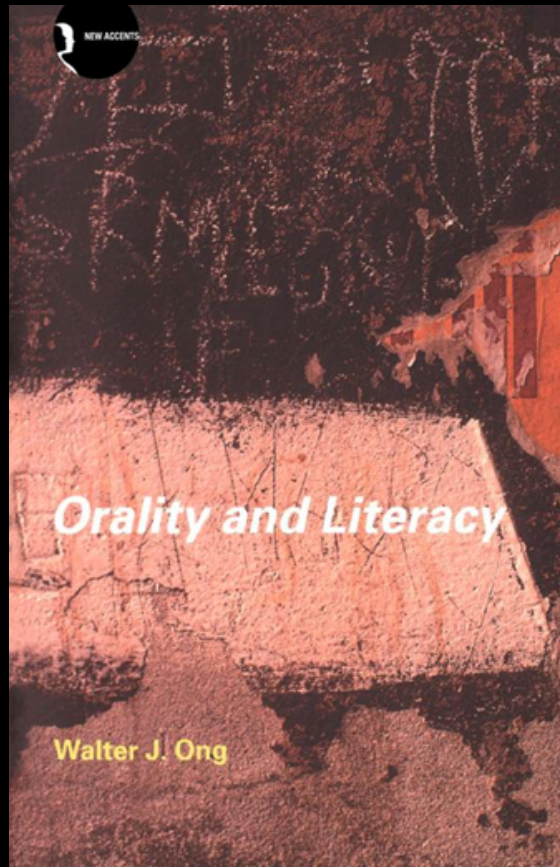
And I must pause till it come back to me.

Orality

Orality and Literacy

Walter J. Ong
(1982)





"In a primary oral culture, to solve effectively the problem of retaining and retrieving carefully articulated thought, you have to do your thinking in mnemonic patterns, shaped for ready oral recurrence. Your thought must come into being in heavily rhythmic, balanced patterns, in repetitions or antitheses, in alliterations and assonances, in epithetic and other formulary expressions, in standard thematic settings (the assembly, the meal, the duel, the hero's 'helper', and so on), in proverbs which are constantly heard by everyone so that they come to mind readily and which themselves are patterned for retention and ready recall, or in other mnemonic form."

(Ong 1982: 34).

Heavily rhythmic – "I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him"

Balanced patterns – "The evil that men do lives after them; / The good is oft interrèd with their bones"

Repetitions – "If it were so, it was a grievous fault, And grievously hath Caesar answered it."

Antitheses (opposites) – evil / good

Alliterations – "He was my friend: faithful and just to me." / "O judgment! Thou art fled to brutish beasts," "a kingly crown"

Assonances – "What cause withholds you, then, to mourn for him?"
cause/mourn

Epithets and formulaic expressions – "Lend me your ears" / "My heart is in the coffin"

Ladies and
gentlemen



Best man Speech – *Four Weddings and a Funeral*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6GPicVYCvs>

Four Weddings and a Funeral

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm sorry to drag you from your delicious desserts. There are just one or two little things I feel I should say as best man. This is only the second time I've ever been a best man. I hope I did the job all right that time. The couple in question are at least still talking to me. Unfortunately they're not actually talking to each other. The divorce came through a couple of months ago. But I'm assured it had absolutely nothing to do with me. Apparently Paula knew that Peirce had slept with her younger sister before I mentioned it in the speech. The fact that he slept with her mother came as a surprise but I think was incidental to the nightmare of recrimination and violence that became their two-day marriage. Anyway enough of that. My job today is to talk about Angus. And there are no skeletons in his cupboard. Or so I thought. I'll come onto that in a minute. I would just like to say this. I am as ever in bewildered awe of anyone who makes this kind of commitment that Angus and Laura made today. I know I couldn't do it and I think it's wonderful they can. So anyway back to Angus and those sheep. So ladies and gentlemen, if you'd raise your glasses. The adorable couple!

Occasion – presence – address

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm sorry to drag you from your delicious desserts. There are just one or two little things I feel I should say as best man. This is only the second time I've ever been a best man. I hope I did the job all right that time. The couple in question are at least still talking to me. Unfortunately they're not actually talking to each other. The divorce came through a couple of months ago. But I'm assured it had absolutely nothing to do with me. Apparently Paula knew that Peirce had slept with her younger sister before I mentioned it in the speech. The fact that he slept with her mother came as a surprise but I think was incidental to the nightmare of recrimination and violence that became their two-day marriage. Anyway enough of that. My job today is to talk about Angus. And there are no skeletons in his cupboard. Or so I thought. I'll come onto that in a minute. I would just like to say this. I am as ever in bewildered awe of anyone who makes this kind of commitment that Angus and Laura made today. I know I couldn't do it and I think it's wonderful they can. So anyway back to Angus and those sheep. So ladies and gentlemen, if you'd raise your glasses. The adorable couple!

Repetitions and patterns

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm sorry to **drag you from your delicious desserts**. There are just one or two little things I feel I should say as best man. This is only the second time I've ever been a best man. I hope I did the job all right that time. **The couple in question are at least still talking to me**. Unfortunately they're not actually talking to each other. The divorce came through a couple of months ago. But I'm assured it had absolutely nothing to do with me. **Apparently Paula knew that Peirce had slept** with her younger sister before I mentioned it in the speech. The fact that he slept with her mother came as a surprise but I think was incidental to **the nightmare of recrimination and violence** that became their two-day marriage. Anyway enough of that. My job today is to talk about Angus. And there are **no skeletons in his cupboard**. Or so I thought. I'll come onto that in a minute. I would just like to say this. **I am as ever in bewildered awe of anyone who makes this kind of commitment** that Angus and Laura made today. **I know I couldn't do it and I think it's wonderful they can**. So anyway back to Angus and those sheep. So ladies and gentlemen, if you'd raise your glasses. **The adorable couple!**

Sequencing and signposting

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm sorry to drag you from your delicious desserts. **There are just one or two little things I feel I should say as best man.** This is only the second time I've ever been a best man. I hope I did the job all right that time. The couple in question are at least still talking to me. Unfortunately they're not actually talking to each other. The divorce came through a couple of months ago. But I'm assured it had absolutely nothing to do with me. Apparently Paula knew that Peirce had slept with her younger sister before I mentioned it in the speech. The fact that he slept with her mother came as a surprise but I think was incidental to the nightmare of recrimination and violence that became their two-day marriage. Anyway enough of that. My job today is to talk about Angus. And there are no skeletons in his cupboard. Or so I thought. **I'll come onto that in a minute. I would just like to say this.** I am as ever in bewildered awe of anyone who makes this kind of commitment that Angus and Laura made today. I know I couldn't do it and I think it's wonderful they can. **So anyway back to Angus and those sheep.** So ladies and gentlemen, if you'd raise your glasses. The adorable couple!

From what to how

Enter JACK with a hand-bag of black leather in his hand

JACK (*Rushing over to MISS PRISM*) Is this the hand-bag, Miss Prism? Examine it carefully before you speak. The happiness of more than one life depends on your answer.

MISS PRISM (*Calmly*) [...] The bag is undoubtedly mine. I am delighted to have it so unexpectedly restored to me. It has been a great inconvenience being without it all these years.

JACK (*In a pathetic voice*) Miss Prism, more is restored to you than this hand-bag. I was the baby you placed in it.

MISS PRISM (*Amazed*) You?

JACK (*Embracing her*) Yes—mother!

MISS PRISM (*Recoiling in indignant astonishment*) Mr Worthing! I am unmarried!

JACK Unmarried! I do not deny that is a serious blow. But after all, who has the right to cast a stone against one who has suffered? Cannot repentance wipe out an act of folly? [...] Mother, I forgive you.

Tries to embrace her again.

MISS PRISM (*Still more indignant*) Mr Worthing, there is some error. (*Pointing to LADY BRACKNELL*) There is the lady who can tell you who you really are.

JACK (*After a pause*) Lady Bracknell, I hate to seem inquisitive, but would you kindly inform me who I am?

Enter JACK with a hand-bag of black leather in his hand

JACK (*Rushing over to MISS PRISM*) Is this the hand-bag, Miss Prism? Examine it carefully before you speak. The happiness of more than one life depends on your answer.

MISS PRISM (*Calmly*) [...] The bag is undoubtedly mine. I am delighted to have it so unexpectedly restored to me. It has been a great inconvenience being without it all these years.

JACK (*In a pathetic voice*) Miss Prism, more is restored to you than this hand-bag. I was the baby you placed in it.

MISS PRISM (*Amazed*) You?

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JACK (*After a pause*) Lady Bracknell, I hate to seem inquisitive, but would you kindly inform me who I am?



Importance of Being Earnest (2002) 1:18:24 – 1:19:40

What – the words of speech – the alphabet

How – the sounds of speaking – like stage directions that playwrights use...

- punctuation marks – . , ? ! ...
- flow of words in time – pauses, emphases, speeding up, slowing down...
- ahs and ums – and so on...

Prosody

Prosody

Intonation – pitch (high, low), volume (loud, soft)

Stress or emphasis – chunks of information – rising or level, falling

Rhythm and tempo – speeding up, slowing down

Pauses – periods of silence, interrupting or regulating the flow of words

Fillers – ums, ahs, sighs, grunts and so on

ladies and gentlemen I'm sorry to drag you from your delicious desserts there are just one or two little things I feel I should say as best man this is only the second time I've ever been a best man I hope I did the job all right that time the couple in question are at least still talking to me unfortunately they're not actually talking to each other the divorce came through a couple of months ago but I'm assured it had absolutely nothing to do with me apparently Paula knew that Peirce had slept with her younger sister before I mentioned it in the speech the fact that he slept with her mother came as a surprise

but I think was incidental to the nightmare of recrimination and violence that became their two-day marriage anyway enough of that my job today is to talk about Angus and there are no skeletons in his cupboard or so I thought I'll come onto that in a minute I would just like to say this I am as ever in bewildered awe of anyone who makes this kind of commitment that Angus and Laura made today I know I couldn't do it and I think it's wonderful they can so anyway back to Angus and those sheep so ladies and gentlemen if you'd raise your glasses the adorable couple



My job today is to talk about
Angus [rising]

And there are no skeletons in his
cupboard [falling] [pause]

Or so I thought [slows down]

I'll come onto that in a minute
[level] [back to speed]

I would just like to say this [falling]

Um [pause] [slows down...]

I am [pause]

as ever [pause]

in ah [pause]

bewildered awe [pause]

of anyone who makes this kind of
commitment [rising, speeds up]

that Angus and Laura have made
today [falling]

I know I couldn't do it [rising,
slows]

and ah [pause]

I think it's wonderful they can
[falling]

**Walk the walk,
talk the talk...**



Trevor Noah: Afraid of the Dark – 0:42:10–0:53:04

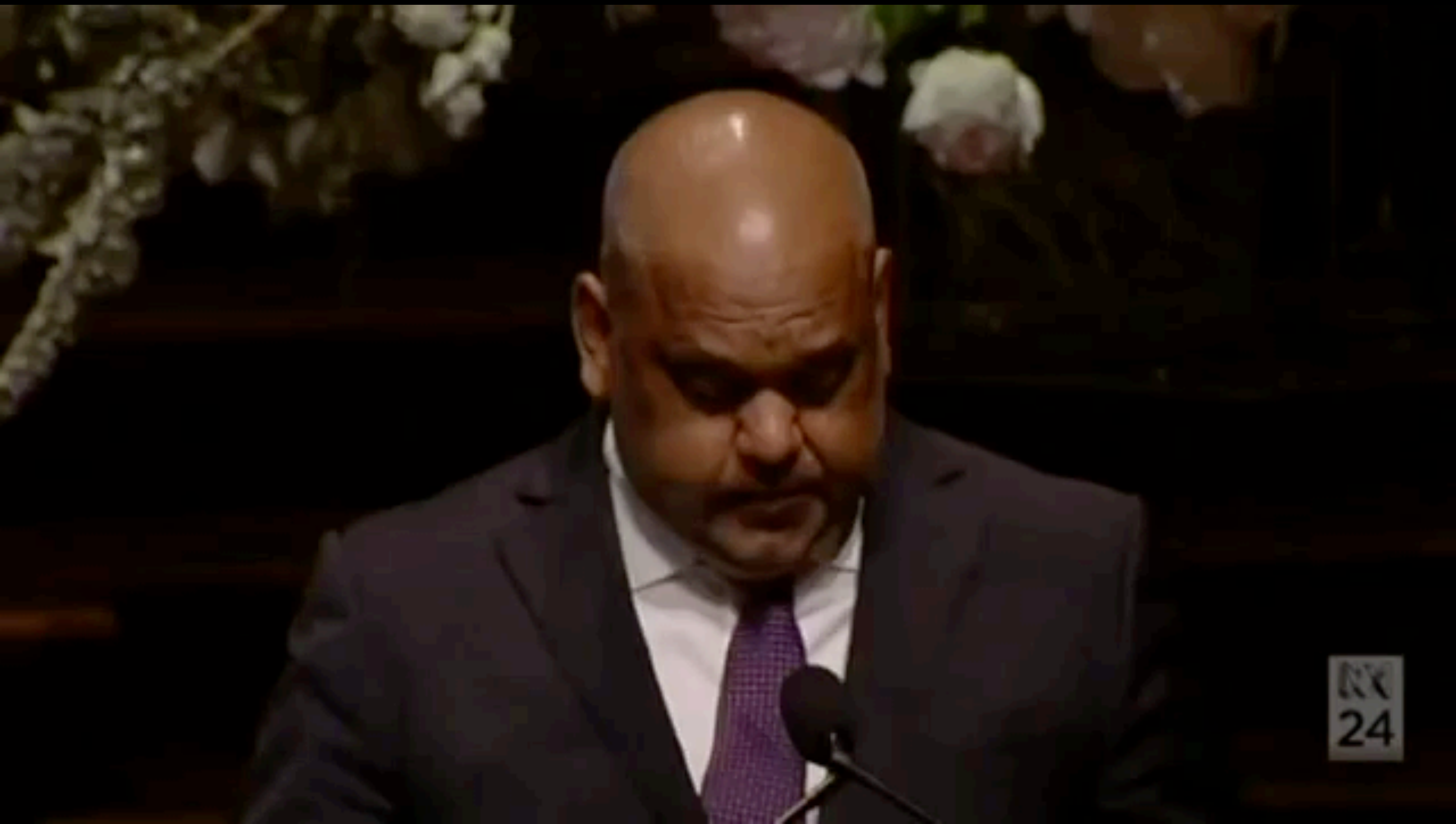
<https://www.netflix.com/watch/80134969>

Persuasion



Cate Blanchett – Gough Whitlam memorial service – 0:00:00-0:02:30

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uNhvvR6XKI>



Noel Pearson – Gough Whitlam memorial service – 0:00:00-0:03:57

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsXmYHiuJ8s>



Noel Pearson – Gough Whitlam memorial service – Monty Python – 0:00:00-0:03:57

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBM1kGAY3WY>

Aristotle – *Rhetoric*

logos ('word') – persuasion through the use of reason, respecting the role of evidence, logic, clarity, coherence;

ethos ('character') – persuasion through the character of the speaker, identified through reputation, expertise, credibility, personality;

pathos ('suffering') – persuasion by appealing to the emotions, arousing sympathy, stimulating imagination, identifying with traditions and beliefs

(Crystal 2016: 55)



Paul Keating. Redfern speech

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKhmTLN3Ddo>



Stan Grant – UNSW speech

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnNe-YzGaEI>



Chief of Army Lieutenant General David Morrison

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaqpoeVgr8U>



Julia Gillard. Misogyny speech

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihd7ofrwQX0>

Speaking / Voicing – Summary

Composition – occasion, presence, address – repetitions and patterns – sequencing and signposting

Performance – intonation (pitch, volume) – stress or emphasis – rhythm and tempo – pauses (silence)

Persuasion – reason (*logos*) – character (*ethos*) – emotion (*pathos*)

References and Further Reading

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William Shakespeare. *Julius Caesar*, <http://internetshakespeare.uvic.ca/Library/Texts/JC/>

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*,
<http://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/plays/the-importance-of-being-earnest-new-mermaids-iid-126071>