Audience Analysis – Bryn Loftness Persuasive Essay on Spontaneity

**Questions -**

1. How spontaneous do you think you are?(1-10)

2. Think back to the last time you were especially spontaneous... How long ago?(Open Response)

3. A continuation of last question...Rate how spontaneous that act really was?(1-10)

4. Would you say you are generally open to change/flexible?(Y/N)

5. What is your (brief!) definition of spontaneity?(Open Response)

7. Do you think being spontaneous is beneficial to your health?(Y/N)

**Analysis –**

The intention for my first question was just to get a rough estimate to how spontaneous the class felt they were personally and for them to also get a feel to how spontaneous their classmates are. I got a variety of responses ranging from multiple people reporting 1, not at all, to 11, very much so. Rarely enough, no one reported ratings of 2, 3, or 4. It was either not at all or at least a 5.

My second question was for reader/responder introspection. I wanted my classmates to think about the last time they were spontaneous. I didn’t ask them to share, only to think of the instance. They responded time frames ranging from the previous day, to so long ago that they can’t even remember the last time they were especially spontaneous! This I found astounding! This is why I wanted to give this speech, to encourage some changes in others’ lives.

My third question was just to continue their train of thought. I wanted them to really evaluate the degree of spontaneity and for them to realize that there is so much more that could be done. The responses were primarily ratings of 1’s, 5’s, a few 7’s, 8’s, and only two 10’s. I tried to be vague with this question, however I do wonder what my classmates consider a 5 on the spontaneity scale.

I asked in my 4th question if the responder was “generally open to change/flexible.” I primarily received positive responses with only two No’s. With responses as such, I was surprised to see that those same responders hadn’t reportedly been spontaneous more recently/frequently. I’m hoping through my speech for them to realize that nothing is holding them back from bridging the gap from being open to change to embracing it- or even seeking it.

When asked for the definition of spontaneity, my classmates gave an assortment of similar phrases ranging from “flying by the seat of your pants,” to “doing something that goes out of your comfort zone.” Everyone had accurate and unique responses. In asking this question I just wanted to give my future-audience more thought exposure to my subject and to let them define it for themselves before I stand in front of them defining why they should be it.

For my final question I asked my classmates if they believe that being spontaneous is beneficial to your health. The responses were almost unanimous. Everyone but two said yes and none said no. This was key going into my speech because I now know that most all of the class already has a lot of positive feelings about spontaneous. I’m hoping, with my speech, that they will take more steps to be more spontaneous in their own lives.