Writing Summary of Chapter 2 of “How Charts Lie” and “Storytelling with Data”

# Anna Lee, who is the consultant at Tableau, talked about explaining the data with a great design. I only read two chapters of each textbook and watched a few videos. However, every content highlighted the word “PURPOSE”. The first chapter of these textbooks was talked about keep thinking about the purpose and target audience. Even Anna Lee from Tableau started one hour of lecture with set up the correct purpose and audience. On top of that She shared many information and advice such as using the proper colors (Suggested not to use more than 10~12 colors), sample outline for using proper graphs in relevant situations (Times should be on the x-axis, the location would be a good idea to using a map, the comparison would be bar charts, showing relationship should be scattered plot). The best part that I enjoyed was Anna Lee told me to use my word. Sometimes it is hard to select the terms to explain graphs and she showed an example that using charts with a lot of words. For all I know, Charts should not have many words. However, Anna Lee said it is okay. Although Anna Lee said okay to use my own words, “How charts Lie” said, Good Graph, itself, should let you visualize trends and patterns without having to read all the numbers. When Anna Lee talked about Layout, I started to think about our textbooks. The textbook “Storytelling with Data”, emphasized that bar charts must have a zero baseline and said that there are no exceptions. It was interested in my perspective that I thought it would be okay sometimes to remove baseline or do something to emphasize the part that I want to highlight like the example from the textbooks. In fact, I always used a graph to support myself, and sometimes I resize some graphs for supporting myself. Today, I realized that what I was doing was propaganda, not graphs.