

The most challenging aspect of unit one was changing the voice in which I write. For the majority of my academic career, I have had to utilize the “five paragraph essay”, a format which was too rigid for the Biss assignment. Due to this training, adapting my voice to meet the criteria of the assignment proved difficult, and in order to better mimic her style, I attempted to identify abnormalities (with respect to the standard essay format) contained within the format of “The Pain Scale”. For instance, she heavily utilizes short, concrete statements in order to emphasize ideas which may have previously been stated in a complex way. While my natural writing voice remains quite formal and academic, I think I have begun cultivating the skill of mimicry.

The things which I wish to continue to work on are creating an effective format for the presentation of heterogeneous information. I still have difficulty translating ideas in my head concerning the connection of seemingly unrelated information into coherent statements. This phenomenon is due to the fact which I tend to visualize things as a graph, where each “fact” is a node which is related to some other by some mode. In short, I have difficulty converting this non-linear method of thinking into a linear presentation.