

Re-audiencing Play Activity

This portion of the interactive section asks you to think of the ensemble of voices that you have available. Oftentimes we think in particular and familiar ways, focusing on known methods of invention, deploying recognizable strategies, relying on the same genres and deploying a similar voice. We will start from the values and principles that you've identified with Jessi, and the projects that you have explored in her activity.

I will guide you through two prompts to think about, write about, and talk about, the various voices that you have. Think about the content and the broader narratives, the values underlying your work, the things you know and love, and your passionate attachments.

So, I'm going to ask you to think about, and imagine, rhetorical ecologies as you revised based on these prompts. Think about what changes in your approach and why. You will have two minutes to think and write, and then I'd like you to pitch, to a partner, the newly revised piece as if they were that audience. And then switch and have them pitch to you. You will have one minute a piece. Following each re-imagining and pitch will be a minute for short discussion. I'm hoping to be able to work through this activity in about 12.2 minutes.

Scenario One – You've been asked to include your project in a short documentary film aimed at promoting a new writing major. It is intended to circulate on social media and targets undergraduates as they are choosing and planning a major. It is being coordinated with academic advising for cross-promotion. You've been asked to focus on the "stories and narratives of your work and how you see it relating to this new major."

Scenario Two – You've been invited to talk at a career day at your child's/niece/nephews/grandchilds/friends elementary school. You will be preparing a five minute presentation on your current work, and you are asked to be open to answer questions from students. The teacher coordinating the day has asked that you be "authentic" and to "get the kids interested."

TIME IT OUT, 2-1-1-1, so 5 minutes total. 2 minutes to think and write, a minute each to pitch, and a little discussion time.

What changes?

What stays the same?

What do you feel the need to change?

Why is that important?