Bryant Parchinski

Dr. J.T. Taylor

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**Reading Response: Genuine Inquiry**

A critical conversation is as any discourse between scholars and researchers on a certain subject. A critical conversation is characterized by the exchange of beliefs, arguments and evidence with a goal to increase the general knowledge of the whole group on the subject. Being in a critical conversation means engaging with existing research and challenging or supporting peoples viewpoints it also includes offering new peoples viewpoints that push the critical conversation forward. In short critical conversations are how knowledge is developed and expanded within a community of intellectuals.

In the reading Kenneth Burke’s metaphor of a party offers a complete and full picture of how critical conversations work in the real world of scientific research. According to Burke, joining a research conversation is a lot like showing up at a party where conversations have already been happening for a long time. He described that as a newcomer you must listen in to the ongoing chatter and try to truly understand the different perspectives being shared then and only then is it okay for you to contribute your own ideas. This metaphor targets the importance of familiarizing yourself with preexisting literature and works before attempting to add to the storm of ideas. It shows for real that research is not conducted in solo; instead, research is a process that involves many people working together where each researcher’s work is built upon the work and contributions of others. Burke’s metaphor also suggests to say that critical conversations are dynamic and long lasting. With new people adding fresh perspectives to the mix. A lot like how a lively party continues to grow and change as more guests arrive. Making it a perfect metaphor to describe critical conversations (Clary-Lemon et al. 7).

In the reading section of "Uncertainty and Curiosity," Clary-Lemon, Mueller, and Pantelides write about research describing it as a process of genuine inquiry or more plainly explained a pursuit driven by a true sincere desire to uncover new knowledge rather than merely confirming what is already known. The characteristics of Genuine Inquiry are having an openness for new information, being accepting of things that may prove your ideas wrong, and the willingness to be surprised by what you find. Genuine inquiry starts with a question and keeps going wherever the evidence might lead even if the evidence ends up contradicting initial assumptions (Clary-Lemon et al. 8). This coincides with my existing understanding and experiences with professional research.

Also the reading goes deeper on how research is a complex and mostly messy process often involving rethinking existing ideas. This was also familiar to me. I have always been aware that research involves hardships and unexpected turns and twists. However the idea that this messiness can actually be good for the process helps me feel better about some of my past research in my app design internships. I just love how this chapter embraces this messiness as a pinnacle part of a good genuine inquiry, which contrasts with the more rigid and methodical approach that some people preach in my workspace.