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FFAR248 A-K

Prompt 5

Attributing Peer

Arden delivered an engaging presentation and offered insightful commentary throughout the course. Their presentation centered on the keyword “translation” and connected it to how marginalized groups, such as disabled and LGBTQ+ individuals, alter their presentation to be more palatable and align with social expectations. This prompted me to reflect on how I translate myself for others, and which parts of my identity I often choose to amplify or suppress. I found myself reflecting on how I often omit discussing my bisexuality or refuse to correct heterosexual language when used in reference to me; specifically when navigating conservative or hostile environments. I also extended this thinking to the amount of mental weight/labor that goes into masking my neurodivergence. The timing of this reflection felt significant, as it helped me understand how I am translating myself and code switching while being in a new city and to what extent I should continue this practice. Beyond the supreme content of Arden’s presentation, it was well structured and clearly delivered; providing a strong example of a successful tutorial presentation which ultimately informed the structure of my own presentation.

Attributing GenAI

Positionality: my writing process developed from policy debate. In varsity policy debate “spreading” is commonplace. Spreading is defined as someone delivering a speech at an accelerated pace, ranging from 300 to 700 words per minute, in order to maximize the number of arguments presented. Needing to record and respond to these arguments I developed an extreme shorthand notetaking style. This includes removing all articles, vowels within words, and replacing common words with symbols such as a crossed out circle for “not” or “no” and using an arrow to show a causal relationship between two pieces of information. I have conditioned myself to read and process information in this language to the point where there is no loss in compression.

GenAI Impact: before the mass availability of ChatGPT I would workshop all my arguments for an essay by hand in this shorthand style and then transition to a computer and translate my shorthand into standard English. However, I have discovered that shorthand which only removes articles is mutually comprehensible with ChatGPT and I can successfully write a text and then prompt it to “add articles”. The result is a completed and universally legible text that rarely diverts from my original intent. This has increased my efficiency while maintaining my creativity as my voice in writing has never stemmed from leveraging articles.

Attributing Other

Attributing the development of my perspective on Indigenous paradigm and communalist economy to my friend Zaid. During this course I would send photos of my annotated course readings to my friend Zaid. This would proceed with us calling on the phone for upwards of 4 hours discussing the text and our perspective and critique. A conversation which was exceptionally fruitful was in response to Lecture 3 readings surrounding indigenous paradigm and communalist centered economy. Zaid, coming from a Muslim Emirati context, expanded on how the idea of communalism presents itself in Islam, banking, family structure, and architecture in Iraq and the UAE. We also discussed Zaid's experience with Yemeni bedouin people who fled to the UAE and their difficulty with assimilating due to differing social norms and an alternative relationship to land. I also shared my experience with a version of communalism in Finland which manifests itself through an extensive social safety net. We then discussed the limitations and benefits of both systems and how they could be used to improve social and material conditions in the United States and Canada.