

# **FACTORS OF THE HUMANITIES**

## **AN INTRODUCTION**

**Dr. Vijay Srivastava**



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## CHAPTER 1

### A CRITICAL ELABORATION OF HUMANITIES LITERATURE AND THE CHALLENGE OF INTERPRETING SELF

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

One case study and five shorter texts that explore the nature of personal and societal identities from various perspectives and genres, putting the "interpreting self" at the center of thought. For many students, the materials included here will be their first exposure to any kind of AKHP Introduction to Humanities literature, and this will probably be the first chapter they study this semester. Because of this, it could leave readers perplexed and unsure of how to find the "right answers," how the various texts collected here relate to one another, what these materials teach about how we "should" interpret ourselves, and how one "ought" to be studying texts that are not written in a conventional textbook style. It is crucial that teachers actively work to promote an appreciation of this plurality in both classroom discussions and the accompanying writing exercises, rather than just restating the value of individual response and the variety of possible interpretations of the material presented. This may be achieved by promoting in-depth study of the texts and wide-ranging, free-flowing discussions on the larger ideas they highlight.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Ambivalence, Identity, Interpretation, Literature, Self-Perception, Social Change.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

While none of the texts in this chapter are as difficult to read as others in the volume in terms of language or concept, students accustomed to a more didactic teaching approach might find it difficult to see fiction as sources of discussion and commentary on human nature rather than just stories to be told. Students often do not have the opportunity to read fiction along with lectures and other persuasive materials throughout their academic studies. Furthermore, fictional works often have the capacity to provide deep comments on current events or the nature of human identities, but are more often regarded as mere stories than as reflections of a certain time or mood. Pupils should be encouraged to consider the variety of mediums that writers may use to communicate their ideas, the benefits that fiction may provide in this context, and the historical settings in which certain fictional works were created[1].

Additional difficulties that students may encounter are often associated with the superficial thematic disunity among the many texts that are being offered. The historical and political contexts in which the texts were written, the audiences to whom they were addressed, the specific issue or theme they address, the stories they tell, the arguments they make, and the assertions they make either explicitly or implicitly about social and personal identities are all widely varied. Since these books don't explicitly take opposing views to a certain theory, practice, or notion, students may believe that they are being asked to compare dissimilar things when they compare them[2].

Instead, they explore a number of related issues related to personal identity and self-interpretation in varied ways. Students should be encouraged to investigate these tiny, interlocking points of convergence and disagreement rather than looking for a larger master narrative. What's really important is that students discover multiple pathways that are created

when they place these texts side by side, rather than just looking for a single hidden point of truth buried in each text[3]. These places of intersection might be the surprise and confusion we experience when we discover that our perceptions of ourselves or those of others close to us differ from those of others. Examples of this would include the startling challenge to their identity that Hulga faced in her interaction with the Bible Salesman, Balthasar's reaction at being hailed as the descendent of a significant Genovese person, and Masha Gessen's revelation that her maternal grandmother was a Soviet censor.

The idea of the collision between one's own identity and the roles that society assigns, along with the expectations of appropriate behavior that go along with them, is related to this[4]. This study explores this theme in particular with regard to expected gender roles, the various ways that people resolve the conflict between their personal beliefs and social norms, the suicide of Judith Shakespeare, and Adivar's gradual reformation of society from within as opposed to without. It also invites consideration of how much a person is shaped and determined by the cultural, social, and political environments in which they are born, and how much a person can be considered a "purposeful agent" in control of their creative output and capable of bringing about change[5].

The conflict between structure and agency, essentialism and constructivism, the situatedness of knowledge, the question of the material or cultural determinants of individual identity and social change, the significance of history and historical memory in forming our understanding of who we are, and other such issues can all be abstracted into a more theoretical language with more advanced students. Beginner students will likely require assistance recognizing the more general, recurring issues that the chapter raises; more experienced students may and should be encouraged to search out such larger theoretical discussions on their own[6]. The books collected here encourage a variety of activities in the classroom. This companion's goal is not to be prescriptive in any way; teachers are welcome to use the teaching strategies, lesson plans, and reading exercises that work best for their students, keeping in mind the group dynamics, students' language proficiency, and their previous exposure to AKHP materials and instruction. While many of the texts below are good starting points for individual student study and presentations, a few of the texts may encourage detailed textual analysis and small-group debate on the author's thesis. Still others may encourage role-playing or other dramatic classroom activities. To introduce Adivar's text, *Turkey Faces West*, for example, you could assign one student to do a brief biography study and report the results; another to examine the historical setting in which Adivar was writing; and a third to investigate the diversity of perspectives on women's rights, democracy, and nationalism that exist in various Islamic states[7]. Instead of just rehashing the text in their presentation, students who present their own background research get a far deeper understanding of the texts themselves and engage with their peers much more actively because they are offering fresh material based on their own research.

Students may present and debate the phrases from the texts that they find most important or thought-provoking, and they can use this as a starting point to examine the issues addressed in the text, provided that they have prepared an AQCI on the material in question. This exercise might be done in small groups, with each group offering a statement or quote for debate by the others, in bigger class sizes. You might expand on this exercise by speculating about the arguments that the writers of the other texts in the chapter would have with the author of the piece under discussion[8], [9].

The following discussion of each book is meant solely as a guide; the recommended exercises and questions are meant to be a source of inspiration for new instructors, not as a methodological or thematic requirement. Similarly, the websites that are supplied with each



text in Section 1.3 below have been chosen with consideration for the need that teachers have to find further resources in settings with limited resources and time for online research and exploration. They are not intended to be exhaustive or prescriptive; rather, they should be seen as illustrative of the sorts of complimentary resources that are accessible and as a tool to aid in doing more searches. A vital research skill that should be cultivated early in the course is the capacity to identify, analyze, and utilize websites. Instructors and their students are strongly urged to hunt for extra content[10].

### **Background And Supplementary Material For Instructors:**

Flannery O'Connor wrote *Good Country People* in 1955. This short tale, which is set in Georgia, one of the Southern States of the USA where O'Connor herself grew up, uses the contradictory and paradoxical rural world of the "Good Country People" as its backdrop. Georgia is a section of the southern states of America known as the "Bible belt," which is dominated by conservative patriotism. O'Connor was raised in a Roman Catholic home and wrote in the Gothic style, which blends humor and tragedy, embraces horrific subjects, and favors unexpected or bizarre resolutions over pleasant ones[11].

This background information is crucial for assisting students in comprehending the book and the importance of the inconsistencies that exist between the narrative's true and artificial, believers and non-believers, the humble and the haughty, and the "simple" and the learned. Throughout the narrative, the protagonists interpret other persons they come into contact with using crude preconceptions that overlook the humanity of the other person in favor of seeing them as just a "type" or specimen.

The ramifications of Hulga's incorrect understanding of the Bible seller are dire. Hulga is certain that she can "see through" the young salesperson who comes to her mother to sell Bibles since she is older and more educated[12]. She regards the salesperson as gullible and naive, and she takes great satisfaction in her critical thinking when he professes to believe in God. She declares, "I'm one of those people who sees through to nothing.

I don't have illusions." But Hulga is the one who realizes how mistaken she has been in the last scene. After persuading her to take off her prosthetic leg and spectacles, the Bible salesman confesses that he has absolutely no trust in God. "You're not that clever! I've been believing in nothing since I was born!" He shows how his Bible-transporting luggage really contains wine and lewd playing card accessories, which instantly exposes his meticulously constructed persona as a "pretence." Hulga herself discovers all of a sudden how much her sense of self had depended on disparaging or rejecting others as gullible and naive "country people[13]." Thus, not only has the Bible seller severed her leg, but she has also demolished a key tenet of her own self-concept: the belief that she is the only one who can really perceive things as they truly[13].

During the text discussion, you could want to bring up themes like the importance of our own and the characters' perceptions of narrative strategy. In the last case, O'Connor's writing skillfully crafts a narrative that leaves us wondering just as much as the characters: who is the story's victim and hero? Are any of the characters really as familiar with their fellow villagers as they believe they are? What sorts of storytelling techniques are used to show us how the characters see one another? What is their self-perception, and how do they portray this to others? Which kind of stereotypes are they using? As readers, how do we feel when our preconceived notions about a character's behavior are abruptly challenged? You could also want to talk about how crucial items are to the development of certain stereotypes and the characters' sense of identity in this narrative[14]. When Hulga unexpectedly loses both her prosthetic limb and her spectacles, what happens to her? How can Bibles "locate" these

people living in the South, and how does their connection with this Book show their attitudes? Why do items play such a significant role in how we define ourselves and how we classify other people?

What types of difficulties may pupils have while reading this text? Despite being written in a straightforward narrative form and being very easy to read, the tale is lengthy, and it is probable that students will be reading it early in the semester. In a classroom where students were expecting theories and facts, they can also be unclear about "how" they should be reading a piece of fiction. Given that the book itself doesn't push its own interpretation on us or recite a certain "moral" that dictates its meaning, this ambiguity may be made even more apparent[15]. We can be left wondering whether our interpretation of the text is "correct" and how we should understand it. Naturally, this kind of ambiguity may serve as a great starting point for a conversation on the more general issue of interpretation as well as the unique opportunities that fiction can have for highlighting and challenging prejudices.

This is a great book to use when teaching children how to read critically. You could want to call students' attention to issues with language, style, and structure, particularly the way that what is said and how it is expressed helps us understand the character's values, worldview, and educational attainment. The longest book in Introduction to the Humanities may also be a useful tool for motivating students to take notes, summarize points of contention and storyline, and read for meaning rather than trying to comprehend every word. Here are some more ideas for encouraging critical reading in addition to the methods the Student Book suggests for creating a conceptual map of the text. You could wish to talk about the usage of metaphor, the function of names and naming, and the issue of irony. You might ask the students to consider the image on page 98 of their book and the sort of character it portrays if they are not acquainted with the historical and cultural background of mid-century Southern America[16].

### **Balthasar's Odyssey**

The second passage in chapter one is taken from Amin Maalouf's account of Balthasar Embriaco, a bookseller from the 17th century who, after living in exile in the Ottoman Empire, returns to his birthplace of Genoa. Although it is based on actual events, this work of fiction also explores how exile may create a unique and deeply felt connection to a place. Balthasar discovers that, although never having lived in Genoa, he is already "known" there thanks to his lineage and is welcomed as a son of the community[17].

As a result, the work offers a succinct, vivid overview of many topics that might be investigated in relation to "interpreting selves." How did Balthasar's past exile from Genoa influence his response to the city? When he was welcomed as a hero, how did his attitude toward the city change? What was the relationship between this and his self-perception as an impoverished antique dealer? What role do family names and genealogy play in this text? How did those who "imagined" Genoa in exile see it differently from those who really lived there? Naturally, one may expand the conversation to include more general issues like location, identity and exile, and perceptions of cultural difference from these text-based topics. Throughout his body of work, Maalouf addresses the issue of how the West and the East see one another[17], [18]. How did Balthasar "read" Genoa as a result of his upbringing in the Ottoman Empire? When Maalouf states that "no-one else belongs to Genoa as the Genoese from the East do," what does he mean? To what extent is our identity shaped by our allegiance to made-up locations?

comparable to the previous book, students should be encouraged to consider how complicated concerns of identity and belonging may be conveyed via fiction and to

investigate how comparable themes are portrayed in other genres of fictional and non-fictional literature. The work is helpful for close reading tasks as well since it contains a lot of sophisticated, context-dependent terminology. Before consulting a dictionary, encourage children to make an educated estimate about the meaning of terms they are unfamiliar with by using context clues[19].

### **Turkey Faces West**

There is a lot in this little book to encourage kids to ponder and have discussions. The writer, Halide Edib Adivar, was a political activist and novelist who worked and resided in Western Europe and Turkey. She was educated at missionary and local schools, where she was initially exposed to the Western literature that she would go on to teach. It was in this setting that she first formulated her views on the role of women in Islam and the need of keeping religion and state apart. This brief, multilayered work is a great way to help students strengthen their critical reading abilities. It may also be used to stimulate discussion on the significance of various political and cultural influences on literary creation. It may be a very excellent extract to get students to write a written response, like the AQCI approach described below, since the material was originally intended to be given as a lecture and is thus written in an argumentative manner rather than a didactic or fictitious one[19], [20]. This is an excellent resource to use in the classroom to get students thinking about how arguments are put together and to make a clear distinction between what they believe the author to be saying and how they personally feel about it. Depending on the level of proficiency of the class you are teaching, you might want to separate these two exercises into different time periods. To start, ask students to write down in single or small groups what they believe to be the precise logic of the argument. Then, have a more general group discussion about the many issues raised in the text and how each individual respond to them. Because of its subtlety and complexity, the argument demands a critical, analytical reading that differs from that required by Balthasar's *Odyssey* or *Good Country People*[21], [22]. Encouraging students to identify and defend what they believe to be the text's key phrases that, more than any other, encapsulate the core of the author's argument is one method to promote this sort of in-depth, analytical reading of arguments. In this scenario, you may assign students to do this task alone before having them read out the phrase they choose to the class. You may realistically illustrate how a same text, regardless of length, can elicit different perceptions and emotions by comparing phrase choices and having them validate one another[23].

Using this material, you may also choose certain phrases to test students' comprehension of the argument, particularly some that might seem counterintuitive or difficult on a cursory reading. What does Adivar mean, for example, when she says that "the Turk's democratic side was strengthened when he became a Muslim, since democracy is the dominating aspect of Islam"? For what reason, in her opinion, has the Turkish people been incapable of thinking like Turks? What is the issue that she perceives with Islamic law? What does Turkey's future have in store for this conflict "between religious orthodoxy and a more vital, racial instinct"? Of course, there is need for further explanation on this list[24]. After teachers believe that students have understood Adivar's thesis in its entirety, they might ask students to propose statements from the text for discussion and to get students' opinions. In less experienced groups, teachers may also contribute statements themselves. Do the pupils, for example, agree with Adivar's arguments and conclusions in whole or in part?

Which of her text's components startles or confuses you? Why? In the early part of the twentieth century, would they have predicted that a Turkish woman would write a work like this? Do they agree with her findings on the role of women in Adivar's imagined modern Turkish state? Do they agree that women's failure to get the right to vote has been "a

blessing" instead of a hindrance to their advancement in the workplace and in education? Do they agree with her findings that interfering with religious practices by the government "would constitute a dangerous precedent"? For Turkey during Ataturk's reign? In your nation, how is today? Will total separation of religion and state ever be possible? Do they think that different faiths are fundamentally compatible, if they weren't politicized, as she said in the last paragraph?

The essential contrast that Adivar emphasizes between Eastern and Western civilizations, as well as her allusions to the "ottoman mind" and the "objective psychology" of the Turks, may be of interest to more advanced scholars[25]. Examining such remarks may lead to a productive conversation regarding the various contributions of modern politics, culture, and history to the formation of essentialist and social constructivist conceptions of identity. They could also be prompted to consider the normative significance that Adivar gives nationalism throughout the work. Does Adivar consider it to be a force for good or evil? What do the pupils think about it? How would people respond to Adivar on this subject if they had read writings by other authors? Why does the moral meaning of "nationalism" vary depending on the historical period and context? Why does Adivar believe that a national battle is particularly necessary for the achievement of women's rights in Turkey?

### **A Room of One's Own:**

An extract from Virginia Woolf's 1929 novel *A Room of One's Own* appears in Introduction to the Humanities. The ideas discussed here were first introduced to a female audience in a series of lectures given by Virginia Woolf at Cambridge University's two women's colleges, Girton and Newnham. The paragraph occurs in the third of the book's six chapters, when Woolf muses on how, had she been as talented as her brother, "Judith Shakespeare," the fictional sister of well-known playwright William Shakespeare, would have survived in sixteenth-century England. She argues that the conditions of the time would have kept any woman from being well-known for her roles as actors or writers, regardless of talent. In an attempt to find out why there have historically been so few female authors and why so many of them adopted male pen names while writing fiction, she imagines a history of Judith[26].

In her thesis, Woolf presents a materialist argument, arguing that although cultural products seem to be the product of "inspiration" and productions made with no regard for the material world, they are actually "the work of suffering human beings, and are attached to grossly material things, like health and money and the houses we live in." Only a very fortunate and courageous woman could have dared to leave the home and risk her father's wrath in order to pursue her own goals in life. The imaginary Judith would never have had the chance to attend school like her brother. Her childish notebooks would have been ridiculed and mocked. If she relied on other people's money, she wouldn't even be able to do creative work; she would need "a room of one's own" and at least a tiny wage.

Woolf is a titan of twentieth-century feminist theory and modernist literature. She was writing at a period of intense social upheaval that followed the First World War in Britain. Women were being employed in Britain in new ways as a result of the war, and calls for women to have the same rights as males, including the ability to vote, were growing. In 1928, this right was expanded to include all women over the age of 21, bringing women's voting rights into compliance with men's. Originally, it was only available to women over 30 who were property owners. This was the year when Woolf gave her lectures at Cambridge University, a place she characterizes as a stronghold of gender discrimination and conservatism, on the topic of "women and fiction." The fictitious narrator of *A Room of Her Own* is refused access to a "famous library" in the opening chapter because she did not go with a fellow student. She also muses on the reasons for the disparity between the wealth of

women's institutions and the richness of men's. This serves as the background for her study, which is offered in following chapters, of how women are portrayed in literature and how they write it. Her goal is to raise awareness of the structural barriers that traditionally prevented women from creating great works of poetry and fiction, which may be summed up as the need that women have a private space in which to create[27].

There are a lot of fascinating topics for students to explore in Woolf's work. Her thesis is materialist, and this might provide students an intriguing starting point. Do pupils agree with her thesis? Using her logic? With her recognition of the need of achieving a certain degree of monetary fulfillment and cultural acceptability in order to create works of art that are acknowledged rather than destroyed? What is their opinion on the work's title, which is based on the idea of the independent person who need a private space to be creative? Does her reasoning apply to all cultures or just some? How did the political and historical context of post-World War II Britain influence it? Is her reasoning still sound? Where did she write it, in Britain? in the region of Central Asia? Now?

Naturally, such contemplations may lead to a more extensive conversation regarding how to understand what constitutes "appropriate" female behavior and what occurs when disparate sets of norms and values intersect. Why was the fictional Judith Shakespeare's career as an actor and writer derailed? What was Woolf's opinion of society's perception of her? If this is a subject that interests them, students should study the remainder of the book and investigate the historical and cultural setting in which Woolf wrote it. This setting is made most evident in the opening chapter of the work. It also offers opportunities to discuss rights and cultural relativism. More advanced students might use this as a springboard to consider Woolf's own socialist views and how it affects her evaluation of nominal rights vs substantive rights[24]. Virginia Woolf is the subject of a plethora of online writings in both English and Russian, making it an excellent book for students to "read around" in preparation for essays or presentations. The whole of "A Room of Her Own" is not particularly long, and there are lengthy excerpts from the other chapters that are not available online in the ITH Student's Book.

## DISCUSSION

Russian-born journalist Masha Gessen was born in 1967. Masha attended school and college in the US after her parents migrated to the country in 1981. Ten years later, she went back to Russia and is currently a writer for publications in Moscow. The passage from Masha Gessen's article, "My Grandmother, The Censor," describes how she first learned that one of her grandparents was a censor in GlavLit during the rigorously ideologically regulated post-war era. Masha is stunned by the news since her mother was a vocal opponent of the Soviet Union. Masha remembers her mother reading books that were outlawed, including George Orwell's well-known 1984 criticism of dictatorship. We see her contemplating the paradoxes in her own upbringing and the challenges this presents for her sense of self via her thoughts on the conversations with her grandma. Masha's tale, as well as the stories of her mother and grandmother, provide a number of starting points for considering how much our perceptions of who we are might vary from those of others[28]. Why did Masha Gessen seem astonished when she learned about her grandmother's employment history? Why didn't she anticipate that her Jewish, multilingual grandmother would have worked in this field in the 1940s and 1950s? What changes in Gessen's self-perception resulted from discovering her grandmother's role in Soviet censorship? When Daniel Schorr and Martin Calb at last given the censor, whom they had never seen in person, a human face what about their identities? You may want to discuss the ideas of self-hood and ambivalence that are brought up in this work with pupils who are more advanced[29]. The statement, "What I really

wanted to know had nothing to do with this story," may be a startling excerpt for debate. I was curious as to why my greatest day ever was the day I received my Young Red Pioneer kerchief. If I had been reading Solzhenitsyn previously, why? However, the tales of my grandparents are about everything except belonging, and it was a question about belonging. Gessen seems to be hinting to an underlying need to reconcile her conflicting emotions being attracted to the Soviet Union and its ideology while also taking an early critical stance about it. Why does Gessen say anything about "belonging" after this? What does this indicate about her interest in learning about her two grandparents' jobs during the Soviet era?

### CONCLUSION

This work offers all students a helpful starting point for considering the nature of danger and belonging in Stalin's Soviet Union. You might advise students to do some background research on the historical era that Baba Ruzya is reflecting upon, as they may only have the vaguest understanding of several of the incidents mentioned in the text and because context is crucial to understanding this text and the various generations we encounter in it. Since there is a wealth of written and online information, more advanced students in all ITH language groups might complete a brief presentation on the historical setting. Multilingual students who are proficient in more than one language could also find it intriguing to contrast how various languages depict the Soviet post-war era. Additionally, Gessen's work offers a helpful framework for examining issues of social development and generation. The distinctions between Masha's generation and her mother's and grandmother's. Masha and her grandmother had lived together, would their perspectives have been different. You could also wish to bring up the subject of allied practices and censorship.

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## CHAPTER 2

### AN ELABORATION OF THE DEVELOPING STUDENT'S LEARNING SKILLS

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

An outline of the research named an elaboration of the developing student's learning skills is given in this abstract. The study looks at the many facets of encouraging and improving pupils' learning abilities. It explores the range of approaches, plans, and measures used to support the acquisition of critical thinking abilities. The influence of various teaching methods, educational technology, and learning settings on the development and improvement of these abilities is also examined in this research. The study endeavors to provide significant contributions to the current discussion on maximizing student learning outcomes in various educational environments by means of a thorough investigation. In the end, the goal of our effort is to provide educators, decision-makers, and researchers with knowledge on efficient methods that may help students become competent, independent learners.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Critical thinking, Education, Learning outcomes, Skills development, Teaching methods.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

A proficient academic writer begins with developing critical and sensitive reading skills for other people's writing. My ability to recognize the arguments, supporting details, thesis statements, and conclusions of other writers as well as to consider the structure of a book will be of great use to me in producing my own work. Fundamental to the Aga Khan Humanities Program's pedagogical ethic is analytical reading, which holds that understanding and critically evaluating the ideas of otherseven those that initially seem foreign, offensive, or even ridiculousis essential to developing into informed, tolerant, engaged, and reflective citizens[1]. It should be emphasized that reading critically does not need me to "agree" with the author or to criticize only for the sake of criticism. Furthermore, reading a work critically does not require me to give up on my own opinions or beliefs. Instead, it requires me to accept that other people have the right to hold opinions that differ from mine. I must, therefore, make every effort to read with an open mind and be ready to explain why and where I disagree with a particular author rather than just calling their viewpoint incorrect[2].

Students are likely to find this kind of interaction simple while reading some of the works in Introduction to the Humanities, but difficult or even painful when reading others. In these kinds of circumstances, the instructor's involvement is vital. It is crucial that teachers and students react to the texts critically and empathetically, especially when the opinions presented conflict with their own. More than any other place, here is where it is crucial for the teacher to act as a "guide at the side" as opposed to a "sage on the stage," assisting students in expressing their own reactions to the texts rather than imposing their own "true" interpretation[3]. The third chapter of this collection has an essay by Toby Lester titled "What is the Qur'an?" which delves further into the issues and difficulties of critical reading. Here, some key components of critical reading will be briefly discussed. After that, the AQCI, a quick reading and writing exercise, is suggested. Students can complete it to be encouraged to respond to and analyze the material they are reading, as opposed to just taking it in.

## Elements of analytical reading

Analytical reading is a set of methods for trying to comprehend, interact with, and assess a book that we are reading critically. It's not the same as the basic reading we may do for enjoyment or the reading for memorizing that schools teach us to do. It is not enough to just remember the facts. The goal is to read with a certain level of awareness, considering not only what is said but also how and why it is stated, as well as the impact and coherence of the writing[4]. Figure 1 illustrates how these processes may be analytically divided, albeit many processes can be carried out concurrently.

### a) Previewing:

Start by skimming the text and any notes that go with it. What is implied by the title? What details are revealed by examining the subheadings, the closing remarks, and the listed references? What is the text's length? How are you going to allocate your time if it's lengthy so that you can finish reading it all? Do you need to read over particular portions more thoroughly than others? Are there photos to go with it? What do they reveal about the argument and the text? Are there words you don't understand or references to parts of the context you don't know about? Look them up and put a note in the text if you can[5].

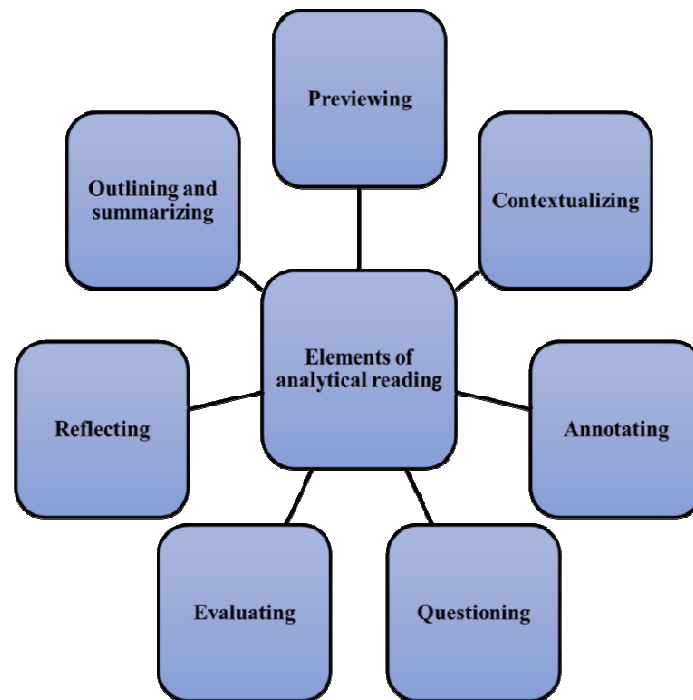


Figure 1: Illustrated the elements of analytical reading.

### b) Contextualizing:

Consider your knowledge of the author and the setting in which the work was written. To whom was he or she speaking? What ideals and views would they have held? It was written when? What would have been the main philosophical, political, and social issues of that era within that particular cultural setting[6].

### c) Annotating:

Make it a habit to use a pencil when reading. Go carefully through the material, making notes on vocabulary you are unfamiliar with, sentences that seem strange or puzzling to you, quotes that speak to you, and concepts that catch your attention even if you are not sure why or how you feel about them yet. Note significant details about names, and if individuals with

differing opinions are mentioned in the text, attempt to put them together so that you may eventually create a "map" of the material. As you continue, jot down the section headers and page numbers so that you may easily retrace the quotations later[7].

**d) Questioning:**

Ask questions of the author, the characters, and the book itself as you read the passages. These might be inquiries about areas of misunderstanding or the character of the dispute. Frequently, our areas of misunderstanding serve as our greatest guide to potential ellipses or holes in the author's argument. Keep a record of such inquiries and work to clarify them by highlighting the logical fallacies or inconsistencies that inspired the inquiry[8].

**e) Reflecting:**

Think on the book in relation to your own views, experiences, and previous readings. Are the author's findings ones that you agree with? Why not, and why not also? Do you disagree with the author's reasoning or the underlying assumptions that support the arguments? Do you have any personal experiences, habits, or beliefs that have influenced the way you see the world? Why? What would you ask the author directly if you had the chance to meet them? Every time you read anything that challenges you, make a note in the text. Examine the markings at the conclusion of the passage[9].

**f) Outlining and summarizing:**

Create a summary of the author's points of contention as you read. This might be expressed as a set of connected remarks that don't always follow a linear format, or it could take the shape of numerical points. What connections exist between the main arguments? What types of rebuttals are being offered? Make an effort to determine the author's thesis statement and then summarize it in your notes. Try to summarize all of the arguments being made in your outline into a single paragraph so that you have a narrative synopsis of the whole argument that you can refer to at a later time[10].

**g) Evaluating:**

After reading the content carefully, make an effort to critically assess it. What kind of feeling did it give you? Was that a persuasive argument? Why not, if not? What types of errors did the writer make? What kind of proof was offered to back up the claim being made? Was it convincing and valid? Instead of using logic, did he or she attempt to persuade you using feelings? Was there a way the author could have made their case more forcefully? Has it caused you to reconsider any of your beliefs?

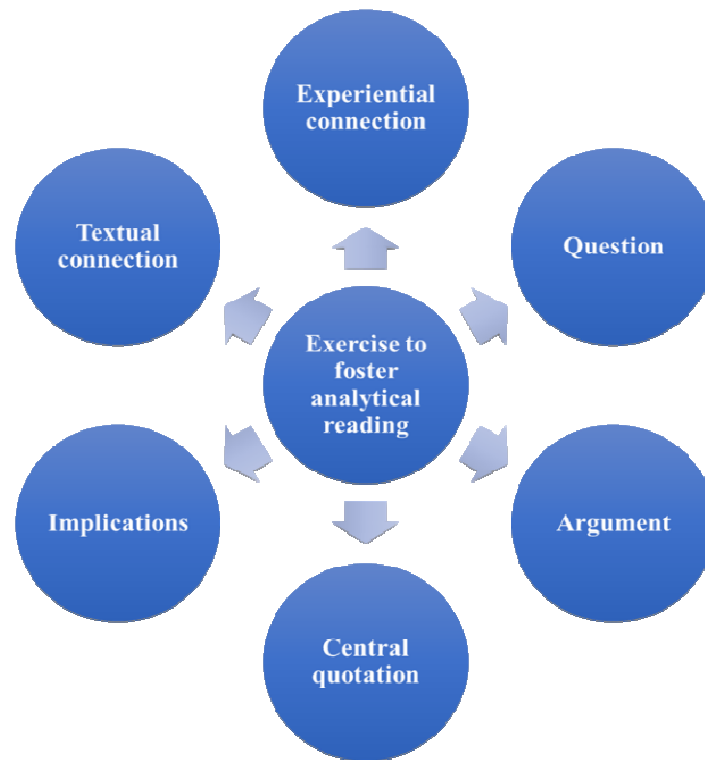
**h) Comparing:**

Establishing links between a text and other texts you have read may aid in its "embedding" in your memory. Consider the work in the context of other writers. Have you heard someone else make a similar case elsewhere? Have you encountered writers that disagree with one another on the same topics? In what ways can comparable issues have been addressed in other historical and cultural settings? What made the author decide to tackle the issue the way they did, in your opinion[11].

**Simple exercise to foster analytical reading**

Argument, Question, Connections and Implications is what AQCI stands for. Credit for this little written exercise goes to Michael Stewart of Central European University, from whom I borrowed the AQCI's concept and used it to my teaching in Central Asia for a number of years. It may serve as the foundation for lengthier essays and research projects and can be assigned to students on a regular basis to help them develop their critical reading

abilities. It is a helpful exercise to employ with younger students who have less writing experience, and it is brief enough to serve as a frequent point of feedback between students and teacher. However, it is by no means the sole method of encouraging critical reading of texts. The AQCI is comprised of six concise components that may be completed in little more than two to three pages at its most basic. More advanced pupils might build upon and augment these six components[12].



**Figure 2: Illustrated the Simple exercise to foster analytical reading.**

**i. Central quotation:**

Select a passage from the book that you believe sums up the author's position. This might be seen as an authorial thesis statement reiterated. The text and page from which you are quoting should always be cited[13].

**ii. Argument:**

Put the main idea of the book you're referring to in a few sentences, either explicitly or implicitly. You must express your thoughts about the author's stance and the arguments you think the author makes.

**iii. Question:**

Ask a question that you feel the text does not adequately or thoroughly address. This is not merely a factual issue; it should also be one of interpretation.

**iv. Experiential connection:**

Explain, in a few phrases, how your own experience or common sense supports or refutes the point you have given. Is the author's argument tenable or flawed, in your opinion?

**v. Textual connection:**

How does the book you are referring to's argument relate to, bolster, refute, or contradict an observation or argument from another text you have read for this course or any other?

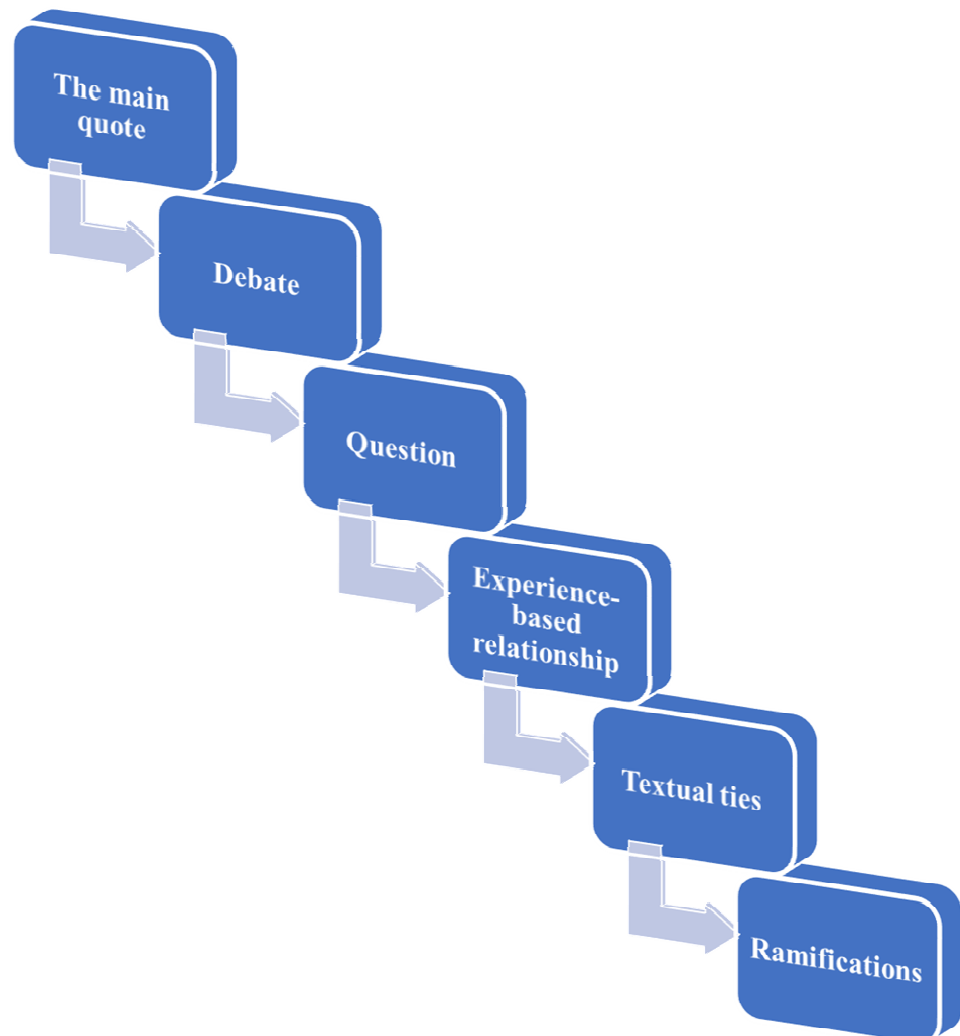
Provide a quotation from the other text if you can, and then explain how the argument in the current text, in your view, differs from, supports, explains, expands upon, or otherwise engages with the argument or point made in the other book[14].

**vi. Implications:**

Write a few words outlining your thoughts on the author's thesis and its consequences for our knowledge of the humanities or the specific issue this chapter of Introduction to the Humanities addresses. This might be seen as the author being asked the implications of your arguments to our understanding of the social world.

**Critical Perspectives on Education**

As an example, an uncensored version of a student's AQCI answer from Lola Ibragimova of Kyrgyzstan is provided below. In response to Robert French and Jem Thomas's "Maturity and education, citizenship and enlightenment: an introduction to Theodor Adorno and Hellmut Becker," the AQCI in question was answering[15]. This piece serves as an example of how a brief, one-page writing assignment can still provoke a significant amount of critical, introspective thought from the student and provide valuable information to the instructor about the student's comprehension and nuanced response as mention in the Figure 3.



**Figure 3: Represents the critical perspectives on education.**

**i. The main quote:**

For them, the problem with modern education is not just that it does not provide a contemporary education for free responsibility, but that it actually aims to produce a population that conforms and "fits" the role that a modern industrial system has assigned them.

**ii. Debate:**

The primary contention here is that individuals are under continual pressure to adapt to the contemporary environment. Everybody behaves in a manner that strengthens existing social, political, or economic ties.

The writers make the case that current education must be changed in order for individuals to be aware of the traps set by the "culture industry." For Adorno and Becker, however, it's not a simple question. They oppose the propagation of divergent ideals by people in positions of power because they believe this will only serve as a means of control. The type of the interaction between a student and an authoritative figure that will foster a critical comprehension of social reality is still an unresolved subject[16].

**iii. Question:**

How to raise nonconforming persons practically raises another issue. This, in my opinion, presupposes a pre-deterrent desire for the new values, but in the culture business, where individuals are brought up to "fit" into the system already in place, this desire cannot possibly arise. It's also difficult to demonstrate that friendship leads to maturity. One does not always pursue the other. Conversely, things may also go wrong. To be friends with a kindergartener or an elementary school student, for instance, requires that the student already possess a certain amount of maturity[16].

**iv. Experience-based relationship:**

It is undoubtedly true based on my own experience that the official educational system takes a highly top-down approach to the student-teacher interaction. Though Adorno and Horkheimer recognize the issue, it is not always obvious how to fix it. The only realistic method that can provide an approach that will enable one to separate from the cultural business is "friendship."

**v. Textual ties:**

Looking at Adorno's initial work on "Enlightenment as a mass deception," it is true that Becker and Adorno's radio talks attempt to disseminate the notion of a critical view of the world. It is still feasible, nevertheless, that:

- a) Given Adorno's ability to see the social world from a "outsider" viewpoint, others may be able to do the same.
- b) Adorno and Horkheimer just develop a different conception of consciousness and provide a different perspective on the environment, all the while continuing to work in the same cultural sector [17].

**vi. Ramifications:**

In my opinion, Adorno and Horkheimer's writings represent an additional effort to draw attention to the dangers facing the contemporary world. I wholeheartedly agree with the authors' recommended analysis. The workable answers they offered for the issues they highlighted, in my opinion, are still debatable.

## DISCUSSION

This research delves into a thorough investigation of the complex procedures involved in developing and honing students' learning abilities. A vast range of cognitive, metacognitive, and affective skills are included in learning skills, and they are essential for both academic performance and lifelong learning. Our study includes a detailed analysis of various techniques used in classrooms, such as conventional classroom methods, creative teaching techniques, and technology integration[18]. We examine how different learning settings affect the acquisition of skills, taking into account elements like inquiry-based learning, group projects, and the importance of hands-on learning. We also look at how educational technology affect learning and what it means for developing skills in the modern learning environment. Our goal is to provide educators, administrators, and policymakers with nuanced insights via this thorough research to help them improve their teaching practices and provide welcoming learning environments that support the overall development of students' learning abilities[19]. The ultimate goal of this study's results is to improve our knowledge of successful teaching strategies while equipping students to become resilient, self-directed learners ready for the challenges of the twenty-first century.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study has offered a sophisticated analysis of the many facets associated with cultivating and improving students' learning abilities. We have learned a great deal about the complex process of skill development by thoroughly examining a range of approaches, teaching techniques, and the impact of different learning settings. The results highlight the significance of a comprehensive strategy that takes into account both conventional and cutting-edge teaching techniques, recognizing the influence of technology and group projects on the development of students' cognitive capacities, metacognition, and emotional competencies. With the goal of optimizing learning outcomes, educators and policymakers may benefit from the insights gained from this research in terms of developing curriculum that work and setting up conducive learning environments. Education stakeholders may adopt evidence-based strategies that enable students to develop into flexible, critical thinkers, and lifelong learners by comprehending the dynamic interactions between many elements that impact student learning. This study adds to the continuing conversation on educational excellence by highlighting the need of ongoing investigation and modification to satisfy students' shifting demands in a society that is changing quickly.

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## CHAPTER 3

### INSTRUCTOR TECHNIQUES FOR DEVELOPING STUDENT'S ANALYTICAL READING OF TEXTS

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

Students might be encouraged to think critically about what they read by assigning writing projects that call for a critical response, such as the AQCI that was previously discussed. But throughout the session, the teacher's own questions are also quite significant. It is important to keep in mind that there are several kinds of cognitive processes and that the questions we pose will cause our students to respond cognitively in a variety of ways, resulting in a range of engagement levels. It is unlikely that queries meant just to elicit factual data or force students to memorize the book will result in true critical engagement with it. On the other hand, very abstract questions that do not demand that students back up their responses with facts and logical reasoning will often result in fruitless debates amongst students who have different opinions. It is imperative that the instructor stresses the importance of holding opinions and supporting them with facts. It's also crucial that students be able to differentiate between their understanding of the author's thesis and their own interpretation of it thanks to the questions. It is often advantageous to change the focus of the questions from content comprehension to analysis and evaluation.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Analysis, Critical Reading, Education, Instructor Techniques, Representation, Students.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Asking students to play out and take on the viewpoint of someone whose beliefs vary greatly from their own, in addition to expressing their own thoughts on the issues presented in the book, may aid in the development of this understanding. Having two students pretend to be different ITH authors and argue with one another may be one approach to do this. For instance, you may invite students to imagine Adivar and Woolf having a conversation about the reasons for gender discrimination in the first chapter. By posing written questions to one another, students may also be encouraged to hone these skills[1]. When we consider the questions we pose, students are better equipped to comprehend the variety of cognitive processes needed for reading a text critically. It also makes it easier for students and teachers to transition from the teacher-as-questioner paradigm to one in which they work together to actively learn. As with any other skill, students may acquire the capacity to ask insightful questions through practice. It's a necessary skill for successful learning.

#### **Interpreting Individuals**

We shift our focus from the topic of how history, culture, and the imagination shape our sense of ourselves to the question of how we understand others. Since there is a clear relationship between the two topics, educators should encourage their students to read the texts and think about how our perceptions of the opinions and actions of others affect the way we see our own communities and cultures. Instructors should also feel free to bring up materials from chapter one that they may have already covered, because the arguments made in this chapter support it. You will probably assign your students to read and discuss just a fraction of the eight short texts and one case study in this study [2].

Orientalism by Edward Said is without a doubt the hardest book to read. For students in less advanced classes, its manner and vocabulary could be difficult, yet this paragraph serves as the theoretical cornerstone for the whole chapter. Even if the exposure of students to this more theoretical critique has little to do with its relevance in contemporary social and cultural theory, it will probably help them when discussing some of the other, more descriptive works. Said's writings also provide students with a theoretical toolbox to examine a variety of different representations, which they might use as a starting point for their own autonomous "real-world" research projects or write-ups[3]. You may, for instance, encourage students to research contemporary popular culture, advertising strategies, the language of donor organizations, the governments of the students themselves, Soviet textbooks, Western popular culture, etc. using the critical analysis tools made available by Said's work. You may ask them to share their thoughts, provide instances, and pay special attention to the texts and ads we see on a daily basis.

### **Arguments and Representations**

The case study for the chapter, *White Sun of the Desert* by Motyl, and a few other texts provide powerful illustrations of the representational and argumentative genre that Said was denouncing. Students would be misled, though, if they thought that the primary objective of the chapter was simply to have them examine how the dominant class has come to represent the subordinate class in order to justify exploitative or expansionist goals. These writings show Said's argumentation's more overt application[4]. These books aim to thoughtfully examine different kinds of self- and other-representations and how they differ from or mimic the Orientalism that Said has denounced. For example, how Westerners have historically been portrayed in non-Western narratives of civilization, the critique of Western imperialism that has been made in the name of development and sovereignty, and the nuanced and confusing feelings that come with a real-life encounter with a country that was previously only imagined are all things that students should be encouraged to think about.

As a consequence of thinking critically about these many approaches, students need to acquire a more sophisticated grasp of how the self and other are depicted. Like the last chapter, these realizations may be taken to a higher theoretical level when there are more experienced students in the group[5]. The "other," as the chapter's introduction in the student's guide suggests, never simply exists there in our understanding without also providing a contrastive awareness of how and why that "other" is different from "us." The texts in this chapter offer a variety of ways to spark animated conversation on a range of subjects, such as the challenge of representation and the endeavor to depict an objective, independently-existing reality; the connection between knowledge and power; perspectives on development and human evolution; the problem of hegemony and hegemonic representations; and the debates between universalism and cultural relativism. Obviously, the goal of promoting these kinds of conversations is not to only promote the use of a more theoretical language for its own sake, but to assist students in thinking more synthetically across texts and disciplines, seeing linkages and recurrent disagreements[6], [7]. In fact, you may want to avoid utilizing too many -isms while teaching these ideas to your students and instead encourage them to identify recurring issues and challenges. When conversing with advanced or motivated students, you may use more theoretical vocabulary; nonetheless, it is important that students get the concept, not simply the label.

### **Activities for Education and Creativity**

Like the previous chapter, this one flows nicely into a variety of learning activities. Below, we examine a few of them. Given that Central Asia has seen a rise in new encounters with varied "others" in recent years, there is a plenty of material in the students' local surroundings to

analyze how both parties to the encounter comprehend, and are themselves understood in it. On a field trip, you may show your students different parts of a neighboring city and have them look at how different "others" are portrayed and interwoven into the local artwork and architecture[8]. Which ideas about the different meanings attached to these designations are represented in the architectural architecture of a number of Central Asian towns? How do our encounters with these material objects alter our views of the "others" that they form? Do students ever encounter situations where they are seen as the "other" in ways they did not expect? These works might serve as a great theoretical starting point for examining and thinking about many kinds of interactions that are embedded in or etched into the spaces of the family, the city, the state, and schools[9].

Additionally, these writings promote original and innovative work. You might, for instance, act out a scene from the perspective of one of the other characters in Motyl's movie or compose a little screenplay for *White Sun of the Desert*. You may also create a rewrite of Kipling's *White Man's Burden* that evokes a sarcastic reaction to the original work, like to that of Black American authors. Taking into account that the texts' levels of English ability vary from the simple narrative of the development of writing and language skills[10]. There is a long discussion on assisting pupils in improving their writing skills at the end of this and the next chapter. Views on representational problems and orientalism may be accessed via visual artifacts. It is important to support students in critically analyzing and openly discussing the ways in which gender, sexuality, and race are intertwined with the formation of what Said refers to as the "regular constellation of ideas" that make up orientalism and its aftereffects. In addition to the visual aids that accompany the words in the student book, there are some excellent online resources available for studying, such as orientalist artwork or advertising tactics that used Kipling's catchphrase of the white man's burden[11].

### **Context and Additional Resources for Teachers:**

Despite the possibility that students have already watched this movie, it is crucial that they consider the watching procedure and the chapter's subject before starting to watch the movie to ensure that it is an active rather than a passive experience. Before starting to watch, have students read the chapter's introduction and peruse the other readings to get an understanding of the concepts covered. Another way to promote active watching among students is to assign certain groups of them to concentrate on various aspects of the movie, such as the soundtrack, storyline, characters, characters' symbolism, use of contrast, colors, etc. Talk to the kids about the process of "reading" a movie and how it differs or is similar to reading a speech, an essay, or a fiction. Encourage students to propose topics to see a movie on[12]. This will help them become more aware of the movie as a text and steer clear of classroom discussions that are just detailed retellings of the story. Encouragement of taking notes while watching the movie and documenting personal responses and feelings may also help to increase viewer engagement.

The video by Motyl serves as an introduction to a chapter that focuses on the issue of how we see other people, particularly when those people first seem unusual, alien, or beneath us. Not only should teachers encourage students to express their opinions on the movie, but they should also urge them to consider the reasons behind their beliefs and find evidence to back them up. The student book's lengthy discussion questions that go along with the text may be used in the classroom with quick presentations and, if there are more gregarious groups involved, different ways to reenact certain situations[13]. If the narrative were told from Abdulla's or one of his harem members' points of view instead of Sukhov's, how would it seem? What approach may a female director have used to this subject matter? How would it be received by feminist viewers? When the movie was first shown, how would viewers from

various regions of the Soviet Union have perceived it? If it were shown on national television today, how do you think the public in your nation would react? Urge students to create their own narrative sequences or other storylines, and consider how their depictions of gender and intercultural interactions vary from Motyl's. These enactments can then serve as a starting point for discussions about the author's stance, empathy and audience concepts, the contribution of gender and women's attire to the creation of ideas about "barbarity" and civilization, and the film's contrastive use of Russia, the country that Sukhov longs to return[14].

It is recommended that advanced students see the film in conjunction with further research on the historical context of the Basmachi uprising, which serves as the film's inspiration, the circumstances surrounding Motyl's screening of the film, and the official response to the film in the USSR. Did they find it surprising to learn that the film came out in 1969? What historians have been taught in schools about Central Asia in the years after the October Revolution, and how does Motyl's portrayal of the area compare? Which aspects of Central Asian life are highlighted and which are downplayed? For these kinds of tasks, students might draw from a vast and growing body of online literature; more adventurous students can decide to pair their research with local archival examinations of the early Soviet experience in their neighborhood. There is a wealth of comparative scholarship on representation in film and television, most of which focuses on how non-Western cultures and women in particular are portrayed[15].

### **Orientalism:**

While some of the other readings in the chapter may be omitted in shorter, more concentrated courses, this one is an important theoretical pillar and should be thoroughly examined. This is not an easy text, and students risk getting distracted worrying about whether they have understood all of the passing references, rather than focusing on the main point about the "relationship of power" that links specific existing places to specific cultural constructions of them. It is a very deep and productive book that stimulates a great deal of discussion on the argument's particulars, its usefulness as an analytical instrument, and its applicability to the present day. It is thus a great book to assess pupils' individual reading comprehension and application skills. Additionally, it aligns well with the previously developed AQCI and the methods of content assessment discussed in the student textbook for the source. Furthermore, despite its complexity, it is really rather well reasoned. Two strategies to encourage attentive reading of the text are to have students identify the key claim in each paragraph and then rebuild the argument as they understand it as a whole, maybe even in the form of bullet points. English-language copies of the content need to be available in most AKHP libraries, and advanced students ought to be encouraged to study it further. Recently, the whole book has also been made available in Russian[16], [17].

### **Creative Interactions with Representations of Central Asia**

Since it contradicts our established conceptions about the world, students may find it difficult to understand Edward Said's assertion that "orientalism is a created body of theory and practice" as opposed to just a scientific or objective depiction of certain parts of the world. Said asserts the unnerving assertion that "power produces structures of knowledge," suggesting a connection between the two but not in the way that is often taught in educational institutions. To help you understand this conundrum, reading Said in conjunction with other texts in the chapter that specifically say that move is a great idea[18], [19]. Power differences affect the processes of knowledge generation and the kinds of representation that resulted? What outcomes are these interactions producing? Of course, we need to inspire more students with a critical mindset to apply this line of reasoning to contemporary issues. What is the

relationship between power and knowledge generation in contemporary Central Asia? Will the discourses of the strong always win out? Are there methods for challenging dominant narratives? Do we not have a duty to reproduce the dominant ideas of our day, even if we feel that we are standing "outside" of them?

Said's tale is also based on a plethora of other concepts that students need to debate. Said uses Italian political philosopher Antonio Gramsci's idea of hegemony as the foundation for his argument of how Orientalism emerged from western hegemony. More advanced students should be encouraged to think about this idea and how it differs from related ideas. Furthermore, he employs psychoanalytic language to argue that Victorian interest in the sexuality of "oriental" women tells us more about the society in which the portrayal was made than it does about the people it was intended to represent. Students should be asked to think on the Jean-Leon Gerome picture that is included with the text[20], [21]. What does it disclose about the viewer's viewpoint on the shown Arab woman? How might psychoanalysis as a whole aid in our comprehension of the kinds of unconscious mechanisms that underlie this specific painting style? There are additional images to take into account, including the ones on Said's book cover and the Victorian-era Orientalist paintings. What do you think these images have in common? How do women's sexualities become portrayed? What aspects of social life in Turkey, Arabia, Algeria, and other "oriental" nations are shown in these paintings? How do they help us make sense of the claims that Said made? Said critiques orientalist writings in the later part of the sample by drawing parallels between a series of ideas related to racism and imperialism.

### **Effective Structure for Student Talks and Other Events:**

As suggested by the aforementioned ideas, this is a very beneficial item for student presentations. These might center on Said's life story or on some of the intellectual currents that he contributed to and/or drew from. They might look at some of the ideas that are discussed in the book or investigate how Said's theory can be used to evaluate specific programs and policies. Said is the subject of a sizable body of written and online literature in English; the Russian literature on Said is smaller but still expanding. There are some helpful article links in section 2.3 below.

In addition to analyzing Said's book, more experienced students or those who would want to utilize it as the foundation for more study should be encouraged to use it as a tool for analyzing modern orientalisms. Students with good internet access could be encouraged to look at how elements of Central Asian life are portrayed in modern Russian media as an example of this kind of exercise. Said's text can also be used as an analytical tool for analyzing other forms of cultural production outside of the classroom. This can be a very fruitful text for "taking into the field" and using to study social relations. Students should be encouraged to consider and report on situations from their everyday lives that they were able to analyze thanks to the study [22].

### **An overview of Timbuktu:**

This little passage from Leo Africanus's *Description of Timbuktu* gives us a very different perspective on the "other" than Edward Said's criticism. It is advisable to urge students to consider the kind of representation that Africanus provides and the implications this raises for his conception of the African continent. What distinguishes Leo Africanus' story from the majority of modern depictions of Africa. In what ways may this portrayal have influenced the Middle Ages European conception of the African continent, for which Leo Africanus served as the principal information source for many centuries. More advanced students should be encouraged to consider how this text, when read in conjunction with others in the chapter,

offers an insight into the relationships between power and knowledge, imperial conquest, and representations of the other. While beginning students are likely to take the text at face value, as a medieval Spanish Muslim's depiction of North Africa, more advanced students should be encouraged to think critically about these relationships[23].

### **Takeaways about the Franks:**

This horrifying and graphic essay describes how an Arab envoy in the eleventh century expressed dismay at what he saw to be the cruelty and insanity of the Franks during the Crusades. Naturally, it is a portrayal of the "other" on one level by a diplomat who considers the Franks and their "curious medicine" to be barbarous. However, a deeper examination also demonstrates how a person's personal relationship may coexist with their complete hatred of the group they are a part of. It also demonstrates how stories about the brutality, irrationality, and savagery of the "other" may reinforce one another. Pupils must to be taught to consider the history of the Crusades, the ideologies that drove them, and how this could have impacted current Christian and Muslim perceptions of one another. Students may study this book and Said's description of Orientalism together in an educational manner, just as they can with Leo Africanus' work. They should be encouraged to explore their feeling of astonishment for what it indicates about dominant current discourses and how they affect our view of the geography of "civilization."

They may be startled to learn that in this narrative, Europeans are the ones who are "exotic." This seemingly straightforward text can be a powerful tool for considering historical encounters between groups that view one another as "uncivilized" and for considering the ways in which historical discourses of superiority are legitimized differently when it is carefully read and utilized as a starting point for a larger conversation. The student's guide's first review question is a useful starting point for this kind of conversation. The text can also be used as a starting point for thinking about the possibilities for tolerance and pluralism as political values, as well as for reflecting on how the "other" is currently portrayed in European and Islamic countries. Advanced students should be encouraged to consider the specific historical and cultural correlates that make orientalism a particular historical discourse about the East that differs qualitatively from earlier historical portrayals of the other[18], [19]. Is it possible to interpret Minqidh's description of "friendship" as a metaphor for the potential to combat intolerance? In this context, what does his kind response to Fulk's request suggest? Which is more terrifying his dread of all people or his confidence in one man?

### **The Burden of the White Man:**

Kipling's poem is a great way to get students thinking about poetry beyond only extracting its meaning and encourage them to analyze it artistically, rhythmically, and linguistically. Because Kipling's message has an imperious, righteous tone, it is further supported by the sing-song pace, continuous repetition, and demanding voice. This is a call to arms, not a description or an argument. The poem was first published in the United States in 1899, by Kipling himself, at a period of intense debate about whether or not the country should emulate the imperial policies of Britain and other European countries. Theodore Roosevelt, who would go on to become the US president and vice president in the near future, is said to have copied out and distributed the poem, noting that although its quality was "rather poor," the US should take note of the message it contained[21], [22].

Whether students read the poem in its original language or not, it is a useful exercise for improving their language abilities since it is full of references and contains some rather complicated and archaic terminology. The ITH coursebook may be a useful tool for

curriculum that place a lot of focus on English language learning and help students enhance their creative thinking and English proficiency. Some of the more striking vocabulary items might prompt them to identify and look up synonyms, which could lead to a number of follow-up language-building activities. Students enrolled in the Russian ITH course would find it useful to contrast several translations and consider the variations in emphasis that are apparent in the various translations. Others may want to pay closer attention to the message itself, the setting in which it was written, and some of the humorous reactions it drew in the US. The poem sparked intense discussion, particularly in the US, and numerous more poems that adopted Kipling's style to convey an opposing viewpoint were published[24], [25].

Reading Kipling alongside Said and *White Sun of the Desert* is a great idea since it invites consideration of the benefits and limitations of straightforward comparison. How does Shukov compare to and vary from the "white man" that Kipling portrays? In what ways did Soviet modernization initiatives in Central Asia deviate from, and/or align with, Kipling's notion of colonization as a "mission"? For more experienced pupils, these kinds of inquiries could serve as the foundation for independent study using resources from their local area or online.

### **Structure for Student Talks and Other Events:**

This work is excellent for igniting discussion in the classroom! It is best to urge students to study it carefully and attempt to comprehend Gortchakoff's logic and rationale behind his arguments rather than just brushing it off as haughty. What presumptions about human development, the relationship between nomadic and settled peoples, the nature of "civilization," the "right" of the "more developed" to subjugate the "less developed," and the presumptive necessity of state security are used to bolster his arguments? In Gortchakoff's own words, why is "imperial expansion" acceptable? Students who closely examine this work will find several intriguing similarities to Kipling's writing. Comparing the language and metaphors used, the kind of reasoning cited, and the underlying teleology it depends on might be the topic of class activities. It is important to urge students to consider the larger currents that underpin demanding attitudes toward progress, scientific advancement, confidence in civilization, and other related topics, rather than only noting the sentiments that are mentioned here. How does Said's book assist us comprehend the processes that would have made Gortchakoff's thesis sound convincing to his contemporaries? It achieves this by tying imperialism with specific kinds of representation and power and knowledge together[26], [27].

## **DISCUSSION**

The goal of helping students develop their critical reading abilities is complex and calls for the use of a range of efficient teaching strategies by educators. One important strategy is to walk students through the close reading process and motivate them to examine the material carefully in order to find hidden meanings[28]. Teachers might use techniques like annotation, in which pupils highlight and annotate important sections, to create a more participatory and involved reading experience. Students' analytical abilities may also be improved by creating a classroom atmosphere that values critical thinking and lively conversation. By using Socratic questions, teachers may help students clarify their knowledge of the content by getting them to express their perspectives. A dynamic component may be added to the learning process by using multimedia materials, such as interactive web tools or movies, which can also support a variety of learning styles and strengthen analytical abilities. Instructors should also stress the value of context, assisting students in placing the text in its literary, cultural, or historical context[29], [30]. This contextual knowledge helps students draw conclusions and analyze information in an educated manner. In the end, combining

these strategies guarantees a comprehensive approach to helping students grow as analytical readers, giving them the skills necessary to navigate and analyze texts with accuracy and depth.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, developing students' critical reading abilities necessitates the use of a thoughtful and varied range of teaching strategies. Teachers provide a climate that encourages attentive reading, annotation, and active class discussions, among other strategies, to help students engage deeply with texts. Multimedia resource integration brings a dynamic element that accommodates different learning styles and improves the learning process as a whole. By stressing the value of context, teachers may make sure that students understand the work in question and see its larger significance in relation to a historical, cultural, or literary context. By using these diverse methods, educators enable learners to scrutinize texts critically, stimulating them to delve into deeper levels of interpretation and develop the analytical abilities required for a sophisticated comprehension of literary works. Teachers are essential in molding students into astute readers who can confidently and sophisticatedly explore and analyze texts as they continue to hone and modify their teaching strategies.

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## CHAPTER 4

### A MULTILAYERED ANALYSIS FROM GORCHAKOFF TO KALAM AND BEYOND

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

Through a complex study, this abstract explores literary authority in great detail, including a range of viewpoints from historical characters like Gorchakoff to modern voices like Kalam and beyond. The story takes into account the scholarly milieu of Gorchakoff's time, reflecting on Russia's imperial incursions and their function in projecting the country's image as "civilized" to other European powers. The conversation also touches on Gorchakoff's diplomatic message and how it relates to Russia's Westernizing and Slavophile ideologies. With its attention now on Egypt, the study considers democracy and nonviolence while exploring the importance of the Suez Canal and its role in resistance. As the story progresses, an examination of American convert to Islam Murad Kalam's experiences provides insights into the conflict between idealized ideals and nuanced reality. The conversation skillfully moves between empire, independence, and Kipling's legacy, offering a thorough comprehension of these historical settings. The next section of the abstract shifts to pedagogical issues, discussing the difficulties in imparting academic writing skills and encouraging critical thinking via the analysis and interpretation of various texts. All in all, this multifaceted research advances our understanding of literary authority in a variety of historical and cultural contexts.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Academic Writing Skills, Colonialism, Cultural Context, Literary Authority, Pedagogical Issues, Textual Authority.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Students who are more advanced should be encouraged to study Gorchakoff's life and the intellectual environment in which he was writing in order to build on and broaden their understanding of the Russian empire. Why may Russia's imperial expansion have been crucial to proving to other European nations that it was a "civilized" nation? What possible meaning may the fact that this was a diplomatic message meant for other nations to receive have? Students may thoughtfully consider how Gortchakoff's dispatch would have fit in with Westernizing and Slavophile discourses in Russia at the time by drawing on their understanding of Russian cultural outputs from this era. Additionally, they need to be inspired to consider the legacy of Russian imperial expansion in Central Asia by drawing on their own, local expertise[1].

Did concepts of "civilization" influence the design and growth of any cities in Central Asia that the student was acquainted with? Exist any remnants of the "frontier" that Gortchakoff speaks about? Exist any monuments to the imperial monarchs in the area? Are there any remnants in public memory, street names, or museum exhibits? Did Soviet strategies succeed in dispelling the myth of superior and lesser civilizations? How are modern textbooks on the imperial encounter in Central Asia written in the student's home place of study? Students may be made aware of the "reading" of many types of material, including musical, architectural, and spatial texts, by using these questions to spark a range of classroom and field-based activities[2].

### **The Canal Users' Association Proposal:**

Thus far, a significant number of the works have emphasized the viewpoint of the colonizer, the one in control, or they are meditations on the kind of worldviews that proliferate during periods of one nation's political and economic domination by another. By using national leader perspectives like as determination, pride, sovereignty, freedom, and nationalism to oppose British imperialist rule over Egypt, students may have access to a different viewpoint via this work. Again, teachers should urge students to read this work for more than just how it is the exact antithesis of the texts that came before it or their reflection of it. Rather, they need to carefully examine the language used, the imagery evoked, and the underlying presumptions[3].

Encouragement of students to consider Egypt's unique terrain as well as the importance of water and rivers to resistance is also recommended. Why did the Suez Canal matter so much? How are resources like water and others disputed during conflicts? If you want to learn more about how and why rivers were so significant to empire-builders, this book might be a good place to start. With this material, more advanced students may go further into additional issues surrounding resistance and how it is portrayed. Nasser supports using war as a means of resistance. What response do pupils give that? Are there any examples of leaders promoting nonviolence as a form of resistance? They could also consider how much the oppressed are represented, whether or not the underclass can ever really "speak," and whether or not Nasser is really affecting "resistance" in this discourse or whether he is just echoing the vocabulary of the colonizer. Students may expand their grasp of how discussions about imperialism and independence have changed in the fifty years after Kipling by reading the outstanding secondary literature regarding the Suez crisis[4].

### **Consider the United States:**

Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, the British literary journal *Granta* sought a number of articles, one of which is this research. Klima discusses his conflicted views about the US in this special issue of the journal and looks at some of the ways that his experiences there have shaped, distorted, and reshaped his own images of the US. It is crucial that this piece, along with others, serve as a starting place for students to consider their own perceptions of the United States as well as the media and resources that shape those perceptions. Educators must use caution when suggesting that the purpose of discussing this work is to reach a definitive consensus regarding the true nature of America[5]. One strategy to prevent this is to have students concentrate on the chapter's main idea, which is how people get to know one another and how politics, culture, and knowledge creation are all intertwined. For students who are more advanced, this might be discussed in relation to Orientalism and how cultural outputs influence how we see the "other." This could be modified to a more interactive small-group activity for students who are just starting to explore the humanities, where they consider how dominant discourses shape their impressions and how they learn about different countries they have never visited[6].

### **Murad Kalam across the room**

The difficulties faced by an American convert to Islam who, when given the opportunity to live in an Islamic nation, is deeply disheartened are portrayed in Murad Kalam's work. As a result, it allows students to consider how our perception of the "other" changes when our home-based conceptions of them are abruptly upended by an experience with a messier and more complicated reality. How should students interpret Murad Kalam's admission that his early depictions of Islam were shrouded in an exotic, orientalist ether? Is the orientalism he admits to being a part of himself the same as, or distinct from, the orientalism Said criticizes?

What types of parallels exist between the motifs that Said describes as orientalism's hallmark? Similar to many other books in this chapter, Kalam also sheds light on the types of conundrums we encounter when our preconceived notions are progressively refuted by evidence of an alternative reality[7]. How may Kalam's struggle to reconcile his idealized vision with an increasingly contradicting reality be understood in light of some of the ideas he met previously in the chapter?

The question of whether political ideologies are compatible or incompatible with broader cultural norms and religious worldviews has also emerged as a subtext in Kalam's text. In this essay, Kalam discusses how his opinions on the compatibility of democracy with Islam have evolved, as well as his doubts regarding the best places to preserve the "true Islamic values" of equality, modernism, and freedom. Naturally, this will be a rich environment for students to debate their own opinions on these topics, preferably in small groups, and for them to express their opinions in written assignments. Simultaneously, they may be examined with more advanced pupils as a means of addressing topics of universalism and cultural relativism, as well as the consequences of adopting either perspective for how modern politics are conducted[8].

### **Developing Students' Writing Skills:**

The challenge of teaching pupils academic writing skills was a common subject of discussion among ITH instructors at the AKHP Training of Trainers. A group of students chorused in accord as soon as one of the instructors brought up plagiarism. A number of educators in the class mentioned how challenging it was to get their students to write independently without paraphrasing long sections from other authors' works. Moreover, it was generally accepted that as the use of the internet increased across Central Asia, students were handing in "essays" that were nothing more than disorganized collections of quickly copied and pasted sections from different websites, or in some instances, whole books that had been downloaded[9].

Naturally, this is not only a Central Asian issue; academics from all over the globe, even those at prestigious research institutions, have seen an increase in plagiarism as a result of the development of internet technology. However, in Central Asia, instructors and their students could have unique difficulties getting access to foreign publications, library resources, and the sorts of activities and materials that support autonomous learning. Furthermore, students' anxiety and apprehension about boldly expressing their own thoughts and answers in text have been perpetuated by the legacy of an educational system that placed an emphasis on information acquisition rather than the critical analysis of texts. Students often acknowledge that they have no clue how to write their views in an argumentative manner, particularly if their only experience with writing independently has been in somewhat repetitive topical and descriptive writings at school[10], [11].

This means that rather than assuming that a student can write a 30- or 40-page course paper without feeling completely intimidated by the task, instructors should treat academic writing as a skill that must be learned like any other. Students should be taught composition techniques and grammar rules. It would be similar to asking someone who is used to cooking for a small family to prepare a three-course dinner for one hundred guests without providing them with any direction on how to arrange the many duties required. Therefore, it's critical that we provide writing assignments that are both practical and relevant in and of themselves. A student's level at university and the number of classes they are balancing in addition to ITH will determine what constitutes a "realistic" academic essay. Asking a student to finish a long course paper when they have many such papers due on the same day encourages plagiarism, copying, and the simply mechanical replication of information. As a result, it doesn't really

help children learn how to reason and analyze independently[12]. A brief creative writing assignment that really motivates the learner to interact with the subject matter is much more successful than a longer, more impressive-looking work that is lengthy but badly organized, repetitious, or plagiarized.

### **Helping students to think about structure and argument:**

When enrolling in AKHP courses, students often believe that the course would be more "serious" the lengthier the writing assignment. This may sometimes be made worse by instructors and the administrators of their departments, who impose undue emphasis on appearance over content and establish ever-longer course requirements. Giving everyone in the room 10 to 15 minutes to write a little essay that they will individually have to deliver to their peers is a helpful exercise that doesn't have to take long and may be highly compelling about the importance of short, well-structured essays. The topic of the essay should be something they are reasonably aware about, but something it is unlikely that other students in the class would have prior knowledge of. For example, this may be a review of a book they really like, a profile of someone they look up to, a conversation about a subject they are passionate about, etc. Before the preparation period ends, students are informed that they will each have precisely three minutes to submit their essay to the class[13]. They are unaware in advance that one other student in the room will be chosen at random to serve as a "scribe" during their essay presentation. This student will take notes on the essay as it is presented in order to create a shorter version of their own presentation using the knowledge they have just acquired from their friend. Stated differently, every student will not only write a three-minute essay of their own, but they will also act as a "scribe" for another student, summarizing what they have learned in class by taking notes throughout the presentation. Following the presentation of each 3-minute essay, each "scribe" is invited to provide a summary of the specific essay that they took notes on. The remaining students are then invited to evaluate and discuss each other's summaries, giving each other points according to how well they thought the student had summarized the original essay's substance[14].

Students should be asked to choose which of the original essays that were given to them was the easiest to understand, and why, after hearing all of the scribes' re-presentations. What was it about the way the student in question handled the content, made use of the time allotted, and organized their points that made them persuasive to an audience and, as a result, more amenable to clear and concise replication[15]? On the other hand, which writings were difficult for students to follow?

This practice usually shows that the most well-written summaries came from the original essays that were the most logical, persuasive, and well-structured. On the other hand, the writings that initially lacked structure were often the ones that caused the most debate and difference of opinion over whether the "scribe" had summarized the content accurately. The listener is compelled to improvise and extrapolate in order to bridge logical gaps and reconstruct what seems to be a cohesive argument when the original presentation is ambiguous. Students often discover that essays with too many information or extraneous details, as well as those with material that jumps about or lacks a cogent argument from start to finish, are hard to read. They are often surprised to learn that a great deal of information may really be covered in a condensed, well-organized three-minute essay[15].

Students might be encouraged to consider the components of a well-written, brief essay by using this activity as a springboard. Too often, the concept of "good essay structure," as it is taught in schools, is reduced to the need for a "beginning, middle, and end," implying that there is no requirement for a cogent point of connection to exist between these three very disjointed aspects. Alternatively, we can help students see the essay as a single, cohesive

whole, where different sections contribute to the overall persuasiveness of the writer's ideas, if we direct their attention toward the argumentative threads that they wish to develop through the exposition of an idea, development of it, and brief summary conclusion[16]. You may advise students to make a list of the components they believed made up a solid essay and compare it to the characteristics listed below, which are often recognized as making up a well-argued essay:

- a) Coherent connections within and between paragraphs/sections;
- b) Good use of supportive material;
- c) Logical consistency;
- d) A sense of the author's own voice; we see their own opinion being argued for, not merely a repetition of others';
- e) Use of clear, coherent language. Sentences well-structured and short enough to understand;
- f) A willingness to acknowledge, engage with, and where necessary, refute, opposing arguments or positions.

### **Argumentative essays and the role of the thesis statement:**

An argumentative essay is usually a brief academic work in which the writer aims to promote and defend a certain point of view within a disputed subject or discussion by using evidence from the literature as well as from personal experiences and observations. Students should be aware that the term "argumentative" does not equate to "combative." An argumentative essay aims to do more than just refute other people's opinions or use pretentious rhetorical language to support one's own perspective. Instead, it is to critically and tactfully participate in a discussion, provide valid arguments in favor of their position based on the evidence at hand, and demonstrate how their position withstands objections from others. Argumentative essays' method of reasoning serves as a model for lengthier, trickier, or more creative academic writing that may be found in study, research papers, thinking pieces, and academic journals[16], [17]. Thus, developing a solid understanding of the fundamentals of academic argumentation lays the groundwork for a student's future success in writing. Because of this, it is equally crucial to offer credit for the quality of arguments in grading argumentative essays as opposed to the "correctness" of our own conclusions. It is crucial for the student to explain to her where and why we happen to differ if we believe that she has reached a false conclusion about which we disagree. This is how we may help the student develop. The quality of arguments should be the focus of both the teacher and the student's attention[18], [19]. If students are certain that their writing will not be graded based only on how much their argument happens to reflect that of their teacher, they will likely be significantly more exploratory and involved in it.

The following components will often be included in an argumentative essay, albeit they don't have to be seen as separate, related units.

- a) A thesis statement is a summary of a claim or assertion.
- b) Evidence might take the shape of statistics, other supporting materials, personal observations or research, or citations from other publications.
- c) an awareness of potential rebuttals to your own, interaction with them, and explanation of why you continue to hold a different opinion.

- d) An examination outlining the potential ramifications of your position, including how it could affect our comprehension of related phenomena or other issues.
- e) A final synthesis in which you provide a brief summary of your case.

You might want to start by asking students to think of each of these various components as a separate "section" of the essay, depending on their level and the topic at hand. Then, have them organize their initial argument into a more formal format by having them fill out a table with distinct sections for the thesis statement, supporting details, and counterarguments. It's crucial to remember that this exercise is a tool, not a goal in and of itself. The words and sentences that provide a seamless transition between various aspects of the argument are sometimes the most difficult to write in essays.

### **Thesis Development Exercise**

The creation of a cogent thesis statement needs special consideration. A thesis statement is a condensed version of the essay's major point, one or more phrases that the reader should remember as the essence of the case that was made. It should be specific, understandable, and defended; this is the kind of statement that one may reasonably argue against. It often consists of many connected assertions that lead to a conclusion. Students may find it difficult to formulate a thesis statement since it requires them to truly think things through and decide precisely what they want to convey and why. Helping students to go through and refine this will assist to ensure that the thesis statement is reduced to a specific, cohesive, and convincing assertion.

The remainder of the essay may be considered an extension and defense of the points raised in the thesis statement[20]. An especially helpful example of how to turn a broad and ambiguous statement into one that is specific and defensible is provided by the following excerpt:

Give students this example to illustrate: concentrating a thesis statement Assume your teacher assigns the following essay to you in a course on 19th-century America: Examine and contrast the justifications for the Civil War between the North and the South. After turning on the computer, you enter the following text:

There were several reasons why the North and South fought the Civil War, some of which were similar and others of which were not. This flimsy argument only restates the query without offering any new details. Although you will go into more detail about this new knowledge in the essay's body, it is crucial that the reader understands your direction. Now, move your comparison in the direction of interpretation: why did one group believe that slavery was morally acceptable while the other did not? After reexamining the facts, you conclude that the South felt slavery supported their way of life, whereas the North thought it was immoral.

### **You write:**

You now own a viable thesis! This working thesis includes a justification for the conflict as well as an outline of the ways in which the opposing parties differed. Your working thesis may seem ambiguous when you go to more fully describe these distinctions throughout the essay. Perhaps you come to the conclusion that morality was a factor in both sides' conflicts; they just interpreted morality differently. Both Southerners and Northerners thought that they were fighting against oppression and tyranny, but Southerners protected their own rights to property and self-government, while Northerners concentrated on the exploitation of slaves. This is contrasted with the initial weak thesis. This last thesis offers a method of analyzing the data that highlights the importance of the query. Remember that this is only one



perspective of the Civil War; there are other valid points of view as well[21]. There are just strong and weak thesis statements and strong and poor applications of evidence there is no right or wrong response.

### **Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* is a great American novel:**

Consider what the reader would anticipate from the essay that follows. You will probably provide a broad, complimentary synopsis of Twain's book. You were requested to analyze rather than to summarize in the question. Your lecturer is most likely not interested in your thoughts on the book; rather, she wants you to consider what makes Huck's escapades so memorable what do they teach us about life, America, growing up, racial relations, etc.? The question first asks you to choose a feature of the book that you believe is crucial to its meaning or structure. Some examples of such elements are the function of storytelling, the scenes that contrast between the river and the beach, or the interactions between adults and children.

### **The role of questions in fostering argumentative essays:**

It is important to keep in mind the role that questions and questioning play in stimulating analytical or critical thinking. This is particularly true when it comes to the manner in which we offer writing projects to our pupils. The way questions are written in post-Soviet textbooks often encourages students to provide descriptive, reproductive answers, just restating the textbook's version of the "truth." We really encourage students' thoughtful and analytical abilities when we pose questions, therefore how teachers assign essays may have a big influence on the quality of writing that is produced. Simple descriptive inquiries like "what," "when," or "who" are exceedingly difficult to argue persuasively. On the other hand, questions that pose the questions "how" and "why," offer a contentious idea and invite discussion, or directly request the student's viewpoint are often much more likely to foster critical thinking and an argumentative writing style[22].

### **Interpreting Texts:**

This is the most thought-provoking, difficult, and satisfying chapter of Introduction to the Humanities for a lot of students. Furthermore, it is most likely the chapter that most teachers find most challenging to teach. We are not only working with texts that are often challenging in terms of language and structure, but we are also working with subjects that both our students and ourselves are likely to have strong opinions about and that they believe belong beyond the purview of critical classroom analysis.

The case study's basic topic, "What is the Qur'an?" may at first seem like a difficult or unaskable issue to many students and even educators. Others have strong, unfavorable reactions to the notion that we could be studying religious literature, particularly overtly "fundamentalist" ones. Some people can find it perplexing or difficult to read spiritual and political literature next to one other. Furthermore, the topics covered in this chapter the nature of textual authority; the boundaries and possibilities of interpretation; the creation of ideology and how states manipulate it to control society are inherently challenging and even unsettling[23], [24]. Students may come to the realization that they need to question the basis of many of their long-held views when they start to consider the authority of textual products, the sacralization of text, or the consequences of government control over the media. This chapter is thus "difficult" on many levels for both students and teachers. But there are a ton of possible insights to be discovered by closely examining, carefully considering, and evaluating each of the writings it includes. This chapter of the Resource Book aims to provide some ideas and strategies to help these insights surface in the classroom and in the individual reading of students.

## DISCUSSION

It's critical to understand first what this chapter is not about. This study does not discuss the Qur'an or holy books in general. This chapter does not even support the idea that all texts, religious or not, must be examined critically and evaluated using literary or historical criticism techniques. Students reading these works may get to that conclusion, but it is not the only one. It's possible for other students to come to the same conclusion that some works do really transcend the parameters of critical examination. Therefore, it is inappropriate to interpret or teach this chapter as supporting a secularist or rationalist viewpoint[25]. According to what I understand, the chapter's main goal is to get students thinking about the nature and boundaries of textual authority as well as textual criticism itself. They should constantly be encouraged to come back to this point. It is crucial to assist pupils in differentiating between three distinct "layers" of thought in order to do this. Students are especially able to observe this process clearly in the Toby Lester book. First, there are the statements made by those cited inside the text. Second, the author's own perspective on the subject at hand, which could or might not align with the views of the sources he has been quoting throughout the text, is presented. Thirdly, there is the reader's own perspective. These three levels could first seem to be identical to pupils who are not accustomed to critically evaluating materials. Students who are used to reading literature to get facts can find it unsettling how different the viewpoints that Lester extracts from the text are.

## CONCLUSION

This exploration's multifaceted study, which covered ground from Gorchakoff to Kalam and beyond, has produced a wealth of historical, cultural, and philosophical discoveries. The trip started with a thorough examination of Gorchakoff's time, dissecting the intricacies of Russia's imperial development and its diplomatic outreach to European countries. After then, the story moved to Egypt, where it explored the complex dynamics of nonviolence, democracy, and resistance while also considering the geopolitical significance of the Suez Canal. The investigation moved smoothly into Murad Kalam's moving story, which provided a unique viewpoint on the difficulties encountered by an American who converted to Islam and the battle to balance romanticized ideas with the complexities of reality. This first-hand narrative helped people comprehend political beliefs, societal conventions, and religious worldviews more deeply. As the investigation went on, it covered more ground than just specific stories, touching on issues like independence, imperialism, and the changing rhetoric in the wake of 9/11. The analysis of pedagogical issues in the instruction of academic writing skills emphasized the significance of developing students' analytical and critical thinking capabilities. In the end, this multifaceted voyage across many historical and cultural contexts has highlighted the need of a nuanced approach in comprehending and interpreting complicated tales in addition to illuminating the nuances of literary authority. The investigation promotes ongoing contemplation on the relationships between concepts, the influence of historical settings, and the variety of viewpoints that mold our perception of reality. Essentially, the multi-level analysis is a call to explore more into the intricacies present in the books that have shaped our shared intellectual history.

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## CHAPTER 5

### A MULTI-FACETED ANALYSIS OF INTERPRETING RELIGIOUS TEXTS WITH ITS PERSPECTIVES AND CONTROVERSIES

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#### ABSTRACT:

Naturally, given the time constraints in their courses, instructors will choose readings for discussion depending on those readings. Taken as a whole, this chapter is beneficial because it forces students to think about how textual authority shapes and maintains both monotheistic religion and secular political beliefs. In order to assist students recall that the chapter is primarily about the nature of interpretation rather than the core of certain political or religious ideas, teachers are suggested to incorporate some of this diversity in their selections from the chapter. As the review questions imply, reading books "against the grain" of one another may be helpful since many themes are related. Luther's doubts about the text's publication and meaning need to be contrasted with Hanbal's or the Vatican Council's confidence in the soundness of their viewpoints and the repercussions of disagreement.

#### KEYWORDS:

Interpretation, Knowledge, Perspectives, Religious Texts, Social Techniques.

#### INTRODUCTION

Analyze the many viewpoints presented about the propriety and acceptability of how members of the various faith groups read religious texts. Qutb held the opinions that there are different hierarchies between sacred and secular writings and that "Islam cannot be studied as a theory". However, Bubi is persuaded that "everywhere God invited people to reason" and that science and religion may live without conflict. Luther contends that revelation can only be discovered by a very active, purposeful process of literary engagement and interpretation, as well as precise context knowledge[1].

In many respects, Lester is excited to learn more about this point as it is central to the controversy. Another topic that keeps coming up is the relationship between literature, political influence, and public awareness. Would an increasing number of works in vernacular languages advance public knowledge, or may they potentially provide greater space for governments to suppress the aspirations and ideals of the populace? This allows one to draw insightful parallels between Luther, Bakunin, and Mannheim; nonetheless, the debate is revisited later in the chapter. While Mannheim thought that the growth of unitary creeds via the state's centralized power was the greatest danger to freedom, Luther thought that the Bible's translation into common languages served as a defense against Papal domination[2]. In a previous generation's conversation with Marx, Bakunin expressed worry at the notion that a "classless" society would usher in the "reign of scientific intelligence," the most aristocratic, authoritarian, arrogant, and contemptuous of all governments.

Therefore, reading these texts constructively against one another may promote a fuller conversation on the role that texts, media, and other supposed sources of "knowledge" have in both liberation and domination. Some of the writings' accompanying visuals might provide as a visual aid for this kind of discussion[2]. How, for instance, did the Nazi regime use visuals and other strategies to encourage popular support for fascism? Which does the graphic accompanying the Mannheim text's 500 cables represent, greater freedom or more

control? Is knowledge really produced and endorsed by the powerful, or is its true function more as a restraint on political authority? How would Lenin and Mannheim have answered such a question?

### **Cultural Critique and Information Dynamics:**

This subject offers a ton of opportunities for students to think critically about their own contemporary culture. Which literary works are produced by well-known personalities from their respective countries' cultures and politics? What outcomes do they bring about? Do students have greater freedom now that they have access to so many different media channels, or can governments still have more influence on the opinions and aspirations of the general public? Do they hold the same position as other presidents of Central Asia, namely that a purposeful national ideology has to be created to keep outside ideas from entering the nation? If this is the case, then who is in charge of defining this ideology's bounds? Is it possible to avoid the "rule of experts" in the modern world? Students should be encouraged to gather and compare written materials from foreign organizations that operate in their country or from the leaders of nations that are nearby. What are their differences and similarities? What effect do they have on the reader? What normative viewpoints do they endorse? Do these pieces promote contrasting interpretations or the expression of radically opposing viewpoints? [3]Do they offer their book as infallible truth or as a springboard for discussion and debate?

The essay also provides a useful summary for analyzing the differences between opinion and fact. You may use this to initiate a discussion on the nature of "facts" in general with students who are more sophisticated. Exactly what is a historical fact? Who decides what historical occurrences become canonical? Why are certain chronologies and histories considered sacrosanct while others are deleted? Lenin's "What is to be done?" and the Lester text, as well as Bubi's call for *ijtihad*, all address the question of who has the right to access information. This might start a conversation about the right amount of information[4]. Is more information and speech freedom always a good thing? Does increased access to knowledge always lead to advancement in society? Was Lenin right to think that "freedom of criticism" may pose a danger to a country undergoing a major social and political upheaval?

As in previous chapters, the texts offered here may be used for a variety of recreational and educational activities. Scholars may be urged to research textual creations from their own contemporary cultures and the political, social, cultural, or religious discourses that support them, as well as to explore how knowledge is now generated and sanctioned in their own communities. Works of art and literature from different historical eras may be used for the same sort of exercise. Teachers may encourage students to think critically and thoroughly about what constitutes a text by doing this[4]. Are structures and images also certain kinds of texts? If true, how are the necessary techniques of interpretation different from literary text analysis techniques?

Students might be advised to use the case study as a basis for a research project in which they look at the range of contemporary interpretations that can be found within their own cultures. This might include discussing with other religious leaders how their communities' religious leaders interpret the works of Lester, Hanbal, Bubi, or Qutb. Who is in favor of whatever position, and why? Additionally, the topic is well-suited for historical or archive research, creating additional opportunities for possible individual study projects. For instance, the kind of *Jadid* newspaper that comes with the Bubi book can be available to students in many AKHP cities[5]. This may serve as a basis for their investigation into the argument over textual authority and interpretation at the turn of the 19th century between conservative clergy and reformers. Others may want to look at the different perceptions that different

demographic groups have of contemporary advertising materials[6]. One way to study contemporary social control strategies in the workplace and classroom is to read Mannheim's critique of "social techniques."

### **Context and Additional Resources for Teachers:**

This task is the most difficult in Introduction to the Humanities, according to AKHP professors and their students. The extensive breadth of the work presents challenges, partly due to its length and dense material, which exposes us to a wide range of scholars, locations, viewpoints, and arguments that might be confusing for readers who feel obligated to commit every detail to memory. As a result, there's a good probability that the reader of a book like Lester's may get mired down in the topical specifics and miss the larger picture and the important issues that Lester is posing. The following list of helpful recommendations will help students recognize and consider the book's major themes, allowing them to follow the "red thread" that connects all of the information rather than being bogged down in the abundance of specifics. The Lester essay tackles subjects that might provoke strong emotions in both educators and learners, which presents another, more significant obstacle[7]. This text addresses the nature of literary authority and permissible interpretation constraints, which speaks directly to the core of our study of the humanities.

After further analysis, Toby Lester's work ultimately considers the nature and limitations of Qur'anic interpretation. Rather than attempting to address the subject directly, it is an attempt to show why answers to the question "What is the Qur'an?" have been so diverse and controversial. It's a meta-reflection on the subject matter, the reactions to it, and the reasons why, given its contentious nature, many individuals didn't believe it was worth posing in the first place. Making a distinction between the several levels at which Lester's essay operates might help students comprehend what is a long and complex book. Students might also be asked to identify these various textual elements using different colored highlighters on a photocopy of the text, much as they would with themes and subplots in a brief narrative analysis[8]. Part of the tale revolves on a discovery made in Yemen and the subsequent events that befell the artifacts discovered there. Deeper still, it offers an interpretation of the Qur'anic meaning and its historical and contemporary relevance within the framework of Muslim tradition. Thirdly, Lester's piece is a reflection on the nature of interpretation itself at its most abstract level. It examines the condition of Qur'anic scholarship now and the disagreements between religious and secular Qur'anic academics over whether or not the Qur'an can be successfully incorporated into secular times.

### **Teaching Strategies for Lester's Text**

These themes recur throughout the whole story, showing themselves as opposing threads at different points. If students are getting caught up in the details of "who said what," it could be helpful to encourage them to recognize these several themes and make a graphic representation of how they connect to one another in the text. Making a list of every viewpoint presented in the book and allocating them to the different scholars listed would be another work. Many scholars are mentioned in the text; while it is not necessary to memorize and take notes on every one of them in order to comprehend the text, it can be useful to highlight and identify each one in order to illustrate the variety of perspectives Lester is attempting to convey, or even to arrange them on a spectrum from the most radical to the most conservative. Following that, students can be asked to place Lester on this continuum and to share their own thoughts regarding the benefits and practicality of integrating the Qur'an into contemporary secular philosophy[9], [10]. These kinds of exercises are a great fit for a variety of other, more interesting classroom activities. Students may, for instance, conduct a big group discussion around a particular theme, argue the numerous academics the

Lester book offers, or work in small groups to examine how the text varies from biblical and Qur'anic interpretations. It's crucial to keep bringing up the bigger issues around the nature of textual authority and the bounds of interpretation with students throughout the text's debate. An too narrow emphasis might lead one to believe that this chapter is "really" about the Qur'an or on the relative advantages of secular and religious knowledge. It is important for instructors to use caution while guiding conversations and asking questions so that students' queries eventually revolve around the interpretive issue[11].

As with the other readings in this chapter, teachers should urge students to think about the genre in which this novel is written. An aqida, or short essay, was written in response to those who advocated a more liberal interpretation of Islam. It is a succinct theological summary. It is helpful to read this section in light of Abdulla Bubi's call for Ijtihad or in connection with the Martin Luther text that follows. Encourage students to concentrate on the connection that the text makes between loyalty, not raising questions, and respect for political power. Students who have already read Toby Lester's book should be encouraged to incorporate Hanbal within the framework of Islamic intellectual interpretation that Lester provides. What literary or historical analysis of the Yemeni pieces would Hanbal think? What is his opinion on the contribution of human interpretation to the understanding of texts? When Hanbal asserts that the Qur'an was "sent" as opposed to "created," what does he mean by this and what does it signify to him personally? A variety of possible lesson ideas are inspired by reading these two works together. This may be anything like, say, a fictitious conversation between Hanbal and Abu Zaid or between Hanbal and Abdulla Bubi. Students might be asked to outline and compare the structures of their arguments and the kinds of authority that they employ to support their viewpoints in order to consider the implications of this for the conclusions that they each draw[12], [13].

### **The Latin Works' Preface**

Luther's use of rhetoric and the many possibly odd Biblical parallels may first startle beginning students and those reading the AKHP materials in a second or third language. By realizing that this is a serious letter addressed to a particular audience at a period of profound theological and social conflict in 16th-century Germany, students may be encouraged in overcoming these worries. Students should be asked to concentrate on Luther's purpose for writing, the people he is defending his position against, and the audience he is writing to. Encourage children to read so they can grasp the main idea being presented, rather than attempting to understand every reference and allusion. Students may benefit from knowing about the political and religious context in which it was written as they read for comprehension. Before class discussions, this book is a fantastic tool to urge students to do their own independent contextual study. Pupils could be especially encouraged to read up on the Reformation's history, the state of the Catholic Church in Europe at the time, or the idea that "indulgences" might be sold. For more basic groups or for those studying the material in a foreign language, the study argument may be successfully split into three parts, each delivered by a different student.

Understanding the concept of "indulgence," which is necessary for Luther's argument, may be challenging for pupils at first, especially if they are not acquainted with the term. In its literal sense, an indulgence was a sin forgiveness granted by a priest, either for previously pardoned crimes or even for sins to be pardoned in the future[13]. During Luther's theological studies in the early 16th century, it was customary for these indulgences to be sold for money. How did Luther react when he learned that these indulgences were being sold? How did he expect the Pope to react, and why did he feel so shocked when the Pope responded with fierce opposition? Are there any similarities to the way favors that are often exclusively handed out



in non-monetary circumstances being marketed for a profit in contemporary culture? Why is it "so hard to reject custom," as Luther observes? Do students concur with this finding?

The book's epilogue is a valuable resource for returning the discussion to the topic of interpretation. It's critical to encourage pupils to think about Luther's interpretation ideas. Does he agree with the interpretations of texts? What does Luther consider to be a true "understanding"? Why is it a continual process that requires him to edit, review, and go over texts so much? What is the difference between Luther's reading of God's word and the readings of Lenin on "freedom of criticism," the Vatican Council on the inadmissibility of different opinions, or Hanbal on the dangers of "discussions and dialectical debates about faith"? What effects do their differing understandings of their own human weakness have on how they interact with their text? What relationship do they perceive between religion and criticism?

### **The Social Revolution and the Knoto-Germanic Empire:**

Bakunin's writings is an excellent tool for students to refine their critical reading skills since he steadily builds his argument to counter the opposing position. Bakunin's argument, which revolves around German socialism and Marx in particular, will be easier for students to understand if they are familiar with the background of their debate and the mid-19th century discussions within the socialist movement about the benefits and drawbacks of trying to establish socialism through revolutionary change. Students should be encouraged to research the European historical context that made the Marx-Bakunin conflict so pressing during their pre-reading, since there is a plethora of internet literature accessible on this topic[14], [15].

Discussing in-depth definitions of "anarchism" with students is equally crucial when it comes to this literature. The term "anarchism" is carelessly used to systems that are dangerous and chaotic by nature. But since the word "anarchic" literally means "without the state," it would be helpful for students to understand Bakunin's critique of the state and the risks he saw in the state taking on the role of the "banker" of the people by learning about the variety of non-state social structures that have existed throughout human history. What kind of danger does Bakunin believe an excessively powerful state would pose? What danger does he see in Marx's conception of the worker's state?

What specifically does Bakunin believe to be the risk associated with an excessive amount of knowledge concentration in society? Additionally, Bakunin's work provides a springboard for considering the role of expertise and the risk of developing a state bureaucracy that would lead to the "rule of experts." This may be read in conjunction with Mannheim's description of the "new social techniques" to assist draw attention to the similarities and differences between the two points of view. Does Mannheim's account line up with Bakunin's projected sequence of events? Were they all convinced that a greater danger came from an excessive concentration of information or an excessive quantity of information manipulation by the elites? Does the student body have a "cult of the state" inside its own society? Why not both in addition to? Is science's standing as elevated and powerful as Bakunin suggested? Does the reality of socialist countries validate Bakunin's prediction of a split between the people and the technocratic elite? Are "cults of the state" still prevalent in post-Soviet cultures?

### **Decree of Papal Infallibility:**

As with the Martin Luther section, students may first find this book intimidating because of its intricate, rather archaic language that is full of connections and allusions. It might be useful to reiterate that reading for comprehension is the foundation of critical reading. To determine if students have comprehended the main ideas of the book and the work's defense of Papal infallibility, evaluation questions might be used. What is the Vatican City Council?

What is the history behind this particular Council meeting? Why may the subject of papal infallibility be contentious? How does the argument Hanbal provided for the infallibility of the Qur'an compare or differ with the rationale offered for the infallibility of the Pope? Why, in the perspective of the decree's authors, is it necessary to demonstrate that the Pope has both "inspection or direction" and "jurisdiction" powers. How does this qualitatively change the core of his rule[16], [17].

These and other texts may be used to initiate a discussion on the sources of ultimate religious authority that each individual accepts. In what ways do these conversations resemble—and diverge from—the argument between Lenin and his opponents in the Social Democrats over the value of "freedom of criticism" and the need for a "vanguard party" to guide the populace? If mediators are necessary for holy texts, is it the right of every pious person in a society to interpret sacred truth on an equal basis, or is it only granted to certain individuals or groups? Who gets to interpret scripture or political leaflets in any case?

More advanced students should always be encouraged to take note of the particular words and expressions that are used to refer to the "masses" and to emphasize how frail they are. Why is the "flock" mentioned so often in the Vatican edict, and what is the aim behind it? What makes this image different from the mass portraits painted by Bakunin or Lenin? How are images of threat and the risks of deviance communicated?

### **Vladimir Lenin: How should we proceed:**

Like Bakunin, Lenin's essay is structured as a response to his detractors. Therefore, similar to Bakunin's, it may be effectively positioned within the context of its writing to maximize students' comprehension. Students should be especially urged to consider what was going on in the Communist movement in Russia and other parts of Europe a good fifteen years prior to the 1917 revolution, which is what caused Lenin to be so worried about the risks of deviation. According to Lenin, who are the individuals who seek to "pull the communist movement into the bog"? What danger did the movement pose by permitting "freedom of criticism"? Why did he compare this false kind of freedom to the false freedoms enjoyed by workers under capitalism? To whom was he talking when he spoke of "enemies" on all sides? Students may immerse themselves in the context of discussions about communism in Russia throughout the early 20th century by accessing a vast amount of online content. Pre-research on this kind of book, either individually or in groups, may be beneficial since it is set in a historical setting that students are becoming less and less acquainted with. Based on such research, classroom activities could include a role-playing debate between Mensheviks and Bolsheviks about the benefits and drawbacks of having a vanguard party versus a mass party; a discussion about whether or not "freedom of criticism" is truly free from the "inherent falsehood" that Lenin claimed it to be; or a look at how languages of danger have been used historically to restrict free speech and criticism. Students should be encouraged to contrast Lenin's vocabulary with, instance, current media discourse on the war on terror, since his work is replete with vivid allusions. Exist any similar constructs or metaphors?

It would be helpful to teach students to think about how Lenin's views on the need of a vanguard party bringing the truth to the masses vary from those of Luther or Bubi. What is the difference between the "trade-union consciousness" of the masses and Lenin's "social-democratic consciousness," which he aims to prevent? Why does he believe that preparedness and timing are so important? Why did Lenin think that after the absolute minimum of concessions to worker rights had been made, the socialist movement required a "small, tight nucleus" to continue and prevent collapsing? If students are interested in learning more about the "spontaneity" idea that Lenin was arguing against, they should study the works of Rosa

Luxemburg. Instructors may easily incorporate these materials into the classroom if they would want to utilize the text in a discussion or role-playing activity[18], [19].

### **The Ijtihad Period:**

Abdullah Bubi, a Jadid scholar from Tatarstan, established a reform school that acted as a model for Muslim institutions connected to emerging movements throughout the Russian empire. This book might be an excellent starting point for individual or group projects including original research on the Jadids and their publications from archives or libraries, given the Jadids' popularity in Central Asia during the early 20th century. Bubi's article contains a few key themes that are indicative of Jadid tactics in general. His belief in human development and how it forms the basis for condemning people who would heedlessly emulate their parents really gets to me. Students might reflect on how the settings of their various works may have shaped their ideas on human perfectibility. Notice how his faith in human growth is not the same as theirs.

Because he believes in human progress, Bubi opposes the notion that the Qur'an is exclusively accessible to those who are alive now. He suggests that because we now have access to knowledge that was not accessible in the past, it should really be the other way around! The problem is that taqlid is more common than ijtihad, or that mindless copying approach is preferred than one that critically analyzes and reexamines texts. Compare and contrast Bubi's and Hanbal's explanations of what causes "deviation." If the latter holds that deviation arises from disobeying conventional knowledge, then Bubi says that the danger is particularly linked to the thoughtless perpetuation of traditions that have been handed down through the years. Not surprisingly, given that Bubi's writings utterly contradict both Hanbal's and Lenin's positions on this matter, he aggressively advocates for the freedom to free speech and criticism. Note the differences between the two suggestions about the significance or risks associated with "contamination" from different philosophical vantage points. Encourage students to think about the numerous views of the function of interpretation itself, as well as what these authors' varying perspectives have to say about it! Do the works of these authors themselves express certain points of view about the relationship between the public and private spheres, particular political or religious leadership groups, and the ability to read literary texts[19], [20].

## **DISCUSSION**

The foundation for the sociological study of knowledge, or how information is produced and utilized in society, was established by German sociologist Karl Mannheim. The content on this page was written just after World War II, but it wasn't published in English until the early 1960s. It is advisable to urge students to contemplate how Mannheim's personal past and the Second World War in particular impacted his opinions and usually pessimistic outlook. Compare this to the hope that a writer like Bubi has, that mankind would ultimately progress. It is advised to study Mannheim's argument carefully since it is well-developed and vigorously defended[21], [22]. Due to the intricacy of contemporary society, a completely new level of governmental control is required, or what Mannheim terms "social techniques," which concentrate a disproportionately larger amount of power military, psychological, or social in the hands of a smaller number of individuals than was previously feasible. Mannheim claims that since we live in what he refers to as "Mass Society," there is an issue that has to be "diagnosed." It should be emphasized that Mannheim holds that the techniques themselves are not inherently good or bad; rather, it is the application and goals of the methods that matter. What ultimately separates totalitarian regimes from democratic ones is the dread of their efficacy. Mannheim's writings may be analyzed productively alongside those of Lenin, Bubi, and Hanbal[23], [24]. It also opens up a wide discussion about

contemporary "social techniques" and their applications. Has anything changed since Mannheim's writing period? Should he gaze at the early 21st century, would he be inspired or intimidated? What chances can the internet and "real-time" media access provide for increasing democratic control over social behaviors, increasing information concentration in the hands of a limited number of people, or even both developments at the same time? The many new knowledge practices that have been made available by advances in biological science, as well as the manner in which these practices are now applied and challenged in other countries, including their own, might be the subject of independent study by advanced students.

## CONCLUSION

Sayyid Qutb attended a secular school in Cairo when he was a little kid and thereafter became a member of the Muslim Brotherhood of Egypt. As his work presents an exciting point of contrast with their previously examined viewpoints, students should be encouraged to research and compare the perspectives of Hanbal and Bubi and discuss how their different lifestyles may have affected their various religious beliefs. According to Qutb, saying that Islam is a "theory" that can be studied is a dangerous divergence from the deference that Muslims are expected to show. Moreover, Qutb asserts that believing precedes accurate interpretation rather than theoretical research or jurisprudence analysis: "first, belief ought to be imprinted on hearts and rule over consciences; then, when such a group of people is ready and also gains practical control of society, various laws will be legislated according to the practical needs of that society." These statements contrast sharply with Bubi's focus on implementing Shariah as a system of divine law and call into question Lenin's idea of the vanguard party and the need of bringing about actual change based on belief. What meanings do the authors described above attach to the terms "striving," "submission," and obedience to the relevant political or religious doctrine? How do their interpretations of these concepts match or deviate from the way students understand these terms and how to use them in an ethical context? Why, in the students' opinion, was Qutb ultimately killed because of his beliefs? Is this, therefore, the right approach for society to follow when dealing with individuals whose ideas are seen as extremist and threatening? These types of themes naturally lend themselves to a tremendous lot of debate.

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## CHAPTER 6

### GUIDING STUDENTS THROUGH THE RESEARCH AND WRITING PROCESS

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

Writing a long research paper requires almost the same skills as writing a short essay; the only thing that differs is that it takes time and expertise to arrange all of the skills into a cohesive, well-structured piece of writing. Setting reasonable expectations and reasonable deadlines for longer research papers is maybe the most important thing a teacher can do. When professors offer long essays to their students with little time for preparation, minimal access to resources, and little feedback, plagiarism is certain to occur. However, when given proper time and support, students often find that writing a research paper is one of the most enjoyable and intellectually engaging academic assignments. This is sometimes their first chance to study a humanities subject in depth that piques their interest. In the right situation, this might be the spark that ignites a lifetime of independent thought.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Intellectual Engagement, Research Process, Source Evaluation, Spatial Analysis, Writing Skills.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The various specifics of the research and writing process, a few general disclaimers are necessary: When assigning a long essay or research paper, carefully consider the goals you hope to achieve and whether it would be more advantageous to have students concentrate on a single, substantial piece of writing for an extended period of time. For certain kinds of activity, this is accurate. Make sure students have adequate time to do research, create an article draft, get comments, and then edit it. Students who are not acquainted with the process of writing research papers may benefit from the establishment of clear intermediate deadlines since it keeps them from trying to complete their papers and do research in an impractical period of time. Remember that a research paper doesn't necessarily have to be longer than a quick writing project. Students will probably need help selecting a research topic, developing a research question, and turning this into a series of doable tasks while working on a longer research paper, just as they would with a shorter writing assignment. The best research papers are usually very detailed, well-organized, and focus on a narrow topic [1], [2].

#### **Encouraging the capacity to find sources**

Locating sources is an essential ability, particularly in circumstances when students do not have as much access to research libraries or online article repositories. Because of this, instructors at AKHP often have a significant impact on students' ability to locate and use research resources. These could include "conventional" information sources like the internet and libraries, but they might also include places and people who students would not have thought of as information sources, such as locals, newspapers, museums, research organizations, NGOs, archives, and offices of statistics. But identifying the appropriate search area is just half the fight. Teaching children how to find relevant information online, in a library, or at the state archive is an important life skill in and of itself. Students may not be familiar with the categorizing and ordering techniques employed by libraries, and there could

be several library sections that are relevant to numerous AKHP works. Pupils could be split up into groups and given a set of questions to complete, all of which need them to do research in libraries. This is a useful project that will assist kids in becoming more used to their local library[3], [4].

The answers may vary in difficulty since the first question requires information that can be easily found in a single book, while the subsequent questions need information that can only be deduced by gathering information from several sources and comparing or combining it in creative ways.

Assisting pupils in locating resources on the internet is an additional crucial duty. The internet has expanded rapidly in recent years, and as more content becomes available online, it has proven to be a major source of knowledge. But given the unregulated nature of the internet and its growth, it is becoming more and more important to be able to locate and evaluate online material. It should be emphasized that, in addition to the main search engines that students are presumably more familiar with, there are public encyclopedias, specialist academic websites, and subject-specific "gateways" that may help students locate journal articles[5].

Even if many of the publications to which they connect are restricted to universities that subscribe, these websites may nonetheless provide students a useful summary of what has been published, which sources have been often referenced, and how they may seek other, accessible materials. Urge your children to utilize the creative and curious search tools available on the internet. Furthermore, the number of academic articles that are freely accessible online is steadily increasing. Two great examples are Social Research Online and the European Education Research Journal. Any student with an internet connection and some expertise searching online should now be able to discover enough information online for a research paper, even if they do not have access to a large research institution[6]. As helpful exercises to become familiar with search engines, students can compare how a particular news story was covered in various newspapers across the globe, look for specific statistical data from one of the many websites that have made census data available online, or search for historical sources about their own town or village. Students may find it useful to compare how they individually searched for the information they did and whether or not this resulted in data that was similar or different after finishing the exercise.

### **Teaching pupils to assess sources**

With so much information currently available via electronic media, finding it may not be as tough as sorting and evaluating it. Students may get overloaded with information, often of greatly varying quality.

Because the internet is a "open field," nobody can restrict who may publish anything online, who can post it, or how accurate it can be. On the one hand, this has made the typical internet-connected citizen's access to information much greater in recent years. As a result, the importance of source evaluation abilities rises. It's crucial to discuss with them the range of websites and the content that each one posts[7], [8].

### **Assisting pupils in organizing their assignments**

Even for seasoned writers, organizing a lengthy article or a significant piece of independent research may be difficult. Creating a thesis statement, condensing a broad topic into a set of research questions, and organizing the argument's many components into a cohesive story are just a few of the challenges that students have while writing longer research papers. It might be more difficult to "keep track" of the thesis statement throughout a lengthy essay or research paper, and it could be more difficult to arrange and balance all of the various parts.



Thus, structuring is very crucial[9]. When organizing longer pieces, it's helpful to concentrate on three areas: audience attention, subordination, relevance assessment, and outline. We'll go over each of them quickly one by one.

The process of placing concepts and arguments into a logical order is referred to as outlining. Students might benefit from using the "skeleton" and "driving" metaphors to help them think through their research papers. The driving analogy highlights the author's duty as the driver, guiding and transporting the reader safely to their intended destination. A competent driver is one who knows precisely where they are going, steers clear of rough shifts, and is prepared to point out fascinating things as they go. A skilled driver is one who periodically slows and takes diversions, but who does not let these moments become independent adventures[10], [11]. A second example highlights the work's structural component. Similar to a dissertation, a skeleton consists of a head, torso, and limbs that are all coherently integrated. Although some components are architecturally inferior to others, all of the components need to be inherently linked to one another and supported by the same core principles. Because the sections may consist of more than three and because the skeleton or tree model emphasizes the connections between the various sections rather than their separateness, it can be more beneficial for students to keep these images in mind rather than just telling them to write a tripartite introduction, body, and conclusion[12].

### **Encouraging citation awareness and preventing plagiarism:**

As researchers and AKHP students, students need to approach their academic work from the outset as a dialogue with an ever-changing corpus of literature. Rather than being a simple "added extra" or a formal obligation, acknowledging sources and referencing material should be seen as the primary component of academic writing, serving as a means of situating our work amid ongoing discussions. It is crucial that citing other work be understood as an intellectual process in which we identify and acknowledge the points in existing bodies of literature that we agree with and disagree with, as well as the ways in which these bodies of literature have influenced our own work, in order to assist students in seeing their work in this way. By using this strategy, students will also be better able to comprehend why and how plagiarism—the act of taking another person's words or ideas and passing them off as one's own—is a major academic issue[13].

It is crucial to emphasize this difference. Students are considerably more likely to continue plagiarizing, even accidentally, if they believe that citation is just a technical procedure and that plagiarism is the same as breaking a technical rule. Many students have come from educational systems that place little emphasis on the articulation of independent ideas and a great deal of emphasis on the accurate reproduction of sanctioned texts. If students understand that citing our sources stems from a particular stance that is central to intellectual inquiry—that our own knowledge builds on the knowledge of others and that there is no single ultimate locus of truth on a given topic—then it is likely to feel far more natural that we would want to acknowledge our sources, and citing becomes an integral part of academic writing[14], [15]. For example, almost few writings written by presidents of Central Asia identify their sources! Because of this, it is especially crucial for AKHP instructors to explain not only how and why it is appropriate to cite other people's ideas, but also the distinction between paraphrasing and quoting, as well as the different established conventions for referencing sources within a piece of work and in the list of cited references or bibliography.

### **Developing Analytical Skills:**

Students' work should take this connection into consideration. Before starting to write, encourage pupils to arrange their thoughts coherently rather than just brainstorming them.

Ask them to consider which concepts belong in which parts and how they connect to one another; which arguments are more important than others; how much room should be allocated to each section; and what sort of research each section requires. Similar to shorter essays, the focus should be on having a central issue or subject rather than a wide "theme" that will impede the essay's ability to grow analytically as opposed to just descriptively. After gaining a general understanding of the paper they want to write, students face another challenge: organizing their thoughts logically. Examining how other writers arrange their thoughts in their writing is the most effective approach to teach this to your pupils. Request that students recreate the chapter outline from a monograph or textbook, noting just the main parts but also any pertinent sub-sections and, if necessary, sub-sub-sections that expand on these [16], [17]. Ask them to arrange them in parts and sub-sections on their page in a spatial manner, and then point them to the Purdue Online Writing Lab's similar layout.

The capacity to judge what is worth including and what is worth excluding is closely related to the need to subordinate material. An effective research paper must evaluate the material's relevance, and one of the most critical abilities that students should acquire is the capacity to discern what may be safely omitted from a report! Learning this talent may be challenging, especially for industrious students who want to show off how much information they have learned and how well they can replicate it. Students should analyze their own writing critically and consider if it adds to the main point of the argument. Does it matter? Does it supply us a new piece of knowledge together with a justification for its importance, therefore addressing the "so what" question? Students that have well-crafted research questions have an easier time organizing their work since they have a solid point of contention. Always strive to get students to think in terms of arguments and questions rather than themes and subjects when you are creating questions and assisting them in narrowing down research ideas. Students will benefit from this as they write more analytical papers as opposed to just descriptive ones. For students who are just beginning to work on a research paper, you might assign the following in-class or homework assignment to help them articulate their thoughts [18].

### **Fostering Intellectual Engagement:**

Students are better able to cite and reference other works honestly and fairly when they see citation as a "intellectual" process as opposed to a "mechanical" one. This is because we are able to properly represent the author's purpose rather than just a selection of their words. Talk to pupils about the need of referencing sources "in context" and the risks associated with relying only on quotes from other authors to make up for a lack of original reasoning. Assign pupils to read current books and monographs so they may consider how other writers reference their sources. Encouraging students to cite sources correctly is essential to preventing plagiarism, but it also requires establishing a clear academic policy that outlines the repercussions for any instances of plagiarism. Universities may have their own regulations about plagiarism, or teachers may include a note in the syllabus outlining the repercussions for plagiarism. Discussing plagiarism concerns with students at the beginning of the course is a smart idea, as is reminding them of the repercussions as you work on improving their citation abilities. Above all, however, setting relevant and achievable academic objectives for kids is essential to helping them avoid plagiarism. The perception of space is the topic of both chapters four and five. The concept that "space" would be something we can immediately understand may seem difficult to students at first. We tend to see "space" as a given, a constant aspect of the environment, and one of the "taken for granted" aspects of day-to-day existence. Therein lies the difficulty as well as the chance to inspire pupils to utilize space to engage in critical humanities thought. Even while space may first seem less interpretable than other aspects of social life, students who can understand

how space and our use of it influence social connections will be well on their way to developing into more critical, reflective thinkers in general. Our awareness of the "social production" of even the most obviously "given" aspects of our environment allows us to start recognizing the social production, reproduction, and interconnection of power relations that underlie other seemingly inevitable and unchangeable aspects of our social environment[19], [20].

### **Cultural Dimensions through Lived Spaces**

Nonetheless, there are several noteworthy distinctions that are worthwhile highlighting. Chapter Four is organized around many main ideas. Among them are the characteristics of our living spaces and the ways in which our arrangements and interactions with them shape who we are. ..Giving up a portion of his living quarters is not just inconvenient for the professor in Mikhail Bulgakov's *Heart of a Dog*; it is a challenge to his whole identity as an educated member of the elite. For the Afghan nomads Marta Colburn writes about, the yurt is essential to their sense of self, location, and worldview; it's more than simply a useful housing arrangement that permits movement. The chapter challenges students to consider topics that typically fall outside the purview of conscious reflection but provide a wealth of information about various worldviews and cultural systems: the ways in which space is used to convey ideas about gender, social hierarchy, or status; the connection between space and cosmology; and the ways in which spatial contestation serves as an indicator of social conflict[21]. All of these topics are developed by focusing on intimate, lived spaces. The second topic concerns human attempts to organize, rule, and plan space, as well as how these efforts are thwarted by the diversity of lives that swarm even the most "planned" of locations. The link between control of space and the exercise of power is acknowledged in Correa's essay on the function of the architect, in the town planners who constructed Milton Keynes, the communist planners who visit Professor Preobrezhansky, and in Corbusier's demand for "mass production" dwellings.

However, the "vision" for the architecture or city is challenged and opposed in each instance. These writings may undoubtedly spark lively debate on the many utopian visions that these various political agendas include as well as the reasons why space becomes so important to them. No matter where the students are situated, there are a lot of chances for place-based and interactive learning with these texts and this chapter as a whole. Any significant Central Asian city where students come across the material should be encouraged to consider the sorts of pasts that are etched in the terrain and the kinds of changes that are now taking place in their towns. It goes without saying that this may be accomplished experientially, and students should be encouraged to go deliberately around the various settings and note the various emotional reactions they have to each of them. The boulevards of the Soviet era, which are reminiscent of European capitals, the Empire Style buildings of the early Soviet era, the micro-districts of late socialism, the brash excess of the new elites' villas, the unofficial squatter settlements on the outskirts of town, and the traditional courtyards and mahallas that characterize much of Central Asian social life, all contrast dramatically in a city like Dushanbe. Even though students may think they "know" their city inside and out, they should be encouraged to walk its streets with the ethnographer's eye, visiting places they might not otherwise visit and considering the ways in which specific ideas, ideologies, beliefs, or attachments are expressed and reflected in the way that space is organized, how buildings are constructed, how they are designed, or the objects they contain[22], [23].

### **The Layers of Space through Thoughtful Inquiry and Comparative Analysis**

Students should have a clear idea of why they are exploring space in order for the practice to be fruitful. To help students concentrate their research and give some points of comparison,

you may want to dedicate some class time before they tour their town to creating a set of questions for them to investigate with. We should read space actively, just as we should read books. Students should be encouraged to consider what may be included in a "critical reading of space," which is comparable to a critical reading of a book. What are some pertinent questions to ask about the kind of events that take place, the persons involved in creating that space, and the organization of that space? How do various "lived spaces" come to be associated with various ideas and valuations, or with various "mythic" places? One way to compare it would be to consider the various ways that domestic space is produced, or the various types of shopping spaces. If students are allowed to come to these conclusions on their own, and are supported in doing so as they investigate their specific location, the quality and intensity of the observations that arise from this process are likely to be much higher[24], [25].

Even yet, it should be encouraged for students who do not reside in metropolitan areas or who find it difficult to leave their university building in order to participate in place-based learning to consider their physical surroundings and the social production of space. The building's architecture, in which they are reading the AKHP text, might serve as an excellent model for critical interpretation. In what ways does the architectural design of university buildings support or undermine a certain educational philosophy? How were certain socialist ideas ingrained in the utilization of the place if it was constructed during the Soviet era? If at all, how have the effects of globalization or capitalist logics changed those same spaces? Naturally, the same sorts of inquiries may be made about other well-known locations, such as streets, parks, squares, residences, businesses, and public transportation.

### **Courtyard Empire**

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's School of Architecture and Planning created the PowerPoint presentation *Courtyard Empire*, which showcases Islamic courtyards and architecture from all across the globe. It may serve as the foundation for individual research projects or as a group project in the classroom. This presentation has two unique qualities: it gives students the opportunity to start thinking about how to interpret architecture, fostering the same kind of critical "reading" abilities that they would need to read a text; and it offers a great starting point for discussing the similarities and differences found in Islamic architecture across the globe. To encourage students to interact with the visual content in the presentation, provide a few straightforward questions like "why a courtyard empire" and "why an empire of courtyards?" What does this tell us about the importance of communal space and the role that learning and reflection play in Islam? What does the term "empire" mean in terms of Islam's globalization? What visual parallels and discrepancies do students see among the variety of mosques and madrasas shown in the power point presentation? What does this imply about the way that local cultural styles and world religions interact? In what way do the two act as mediators? What similarities and differences exist between Islamic architecture and the architectural styles of other global religions? Students may be encouraged to do online research to examine how, for example, the layout of various functions and the construction of a madrasa vary from or are comparable to those of a Buddhist temple or a Christian monastery.

### **DISCUSSION**

In contrast to the courtyard empire presentation, Correa offers a cogent and concise explanation of human-centered design. Urge students to reflect on Correa's upbringing and schooling, and how these aspects influenced his distinct viewpoint on what it means to be a "Third World architect." In contrast to "living spaces," where the common area and open space are equally as vital as the regions used for sleeping and cooking, Correa challenges the

notion that houses should be seen as "cells" to be constructed into as many units as feasible. Correa's approach differs from others in that it begins with the perspective of how people really live and then develops housing to meet their needs, as opposed to starting from an approach that seeks to maximize the number of dwelling units. These contrasts are obviously connected to a number of philosophical systems, and advanced students would do well to take into account the normative assumptions that form the basis of Correa's arguments. Furthermore, Correa's work provides an excellent introduction to the idea of space being constructed, as opposed to existing. See how the central courtyard remains the same physical area but changes into a completely different sort of space based on its surrounds, even if it may have one, two, five, or ten storey buildings on each side. The area hasn't changed, but the space has. The concept that space is a social product rather than an impersonal feature of the natural world may be started with these types of images. This text highlights the significance of our spatial orderings to our sense of self, taken from Bulgakov's book. Phillip Philippic is against the idea of "civilized" behavior, which he defines as eating in one room, sleeping in another, operating in another, and working in a different room. He is also against the possibility of some of his private space being violated. This is an excellent book for utilizing theater in the classroom and for creative inquiry into the material. Urge students to think about the way it's written, how the audience or reader is given a "sense of place," and how employing directed questions highlights class differences via differences in tone, speech pattern, dress, and attitude. Taking on certain roles, imagining new situations, or crafting "pasts" for the multitude of individuals and the many social circumstances they inhabit may all help achieve this. Like the Magnitogorsk material covered later in this chapter, the book may be utilized to provide insight on the class struggles that existed in early Soviet society. There was social upheaval and attacks on some of the foundations of the previous social order in the early 1920s[26], [27].

### CONCLUSION

Even though it's short, this essay has a lot to encourage discussion and close reading. The straightforward claim made in Corbusier's writing is that we want to develop a "spirit of producing mass-produced houses." This work, in its simplicity, provides enough opportunity for reflection on the relationship between form and reasoning, space and word. What is the reason for Corbusier's writing style of short, sharp sentences? What makes him so hopeful? What aspects of the era he made his paintings reflect? For students who are not acquainted with ITH, just pointing out these background and argument components could be adequate. Higher level students should be encouraged to make connections with broader themes found in the canon of thought, such as materialism and idealism, teleology and directionality in historical events, and optimism or pessimism regarding the ability of human actions and technological advancements to improve the welfare and well-being of people. There are a few little points where Correa's conception of democratic housing differs and resembles other similar concepts. It would be wise to encourage students to consider Corbusier's beliefs on the relationship between spatial change and morality, namely that the availability of adequate housing may "produce" morally upright individuals. For more advanced students, these comments might work as an introduction to ideas like governmentality and the real-world uses of power. Le Corbusier conversing with one or more of the authors they have studied in ITH is one way to use these similarities to help students envision the book. Bill Bryson, a well-known travel writer, offers an insightful and poignant chronicle of Milton Keynes. It offers a clear knowledge of the unanticipated and often negative repercussions of excessive urban planning, and it serves as an excellent illustration of the kind of "sensitivity to place" that this chapter should be supposed to foster. Urging pupils to imagine Bill Bryson wandering through their community would be a wonderful idea. Milton Keynes is a well-

known "new town" in southern England; it was designated as one in 1967. These days, its population is well recognized for having "no heart" and a high depressive rate. Students should be encouraged to research the causes of this as well as the development of English new cities in order to think critically about the risks associated with planning and pursuing pleasure.

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## CHAPTER 7

### AN OVERVIEW OF THE SATIRICAL REFLECTIONS, AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS IN HUMANITIES EDUCATION

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

An overview of the political undertones and humorous reflections found in humanities education is given in this abstract. It investigates the complex relationship between politics and satire in the humanities and how these factors affect and alter the field of education. This study looks at how satire has been used historically and now in humanities education for political debate, social criticism, and critical analysis. It also looks at the ramifications of adding sarcastic remarks to the curriculum, taking into account both the advantages and disadvantages. Through an analysis of many case studies and theoretical frameworks, the purpose of this review is to enhance our comprehension of the complex interplay of satire, politics, and the dynamic field of humanities education.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Appropriated Space, Humanities Education, Political Dimensions, Reflections, Satirical, Space Production.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Students should be alert to the style in which it is written, and the context of intensified nuclear standoff between the Soviet Union and the West during the cold war. What is the message that Nesin wants to leave his audience with about the kinds of risk being taken in the name of “saving” civilization. How does he create this impression through the use of humor in his text. Encourage reflection on the contrast between overt/latent meanings, the use of personification and other stylistic devices for dramatic effect. The text can be used to encourage reflection and discussion on what “constitutes” a civilization[1]. Is it about the physical monuments the “stones, concrete, soil and cement”, as Nesin suggests. Can civilizations be produced in other ways. Is there any way of guaranteeing that the material productions of our civilization won’t be destroyed, as Nesin hopes. Nesin’s argument picks up on one of the great dilemmas in recent global politics about the relationship between force and peace. Advocates of “deterrence theory” argued that possession of the nuclear bomb was the kind of ultimate threat of force that managed to guarantee peace during the Cold War. Opponents argue that lives lived in constant fear and threat were in no sense “at peace”. Nesin’s text can be used as a point of entry into individual and group research on these dilemmas, and classroom discussion[2].

#### **Nomadic dwellings in Afghanistan:**

Colburn’s brief description of the nomadic yurt provides several points of entry for thinking about the relationship between social life and space. The yurt, as she points out, is ideally suited to the nomadic lifestyle, symbolically rich and highly functional[3]. Her observations might be used to foster more general reflection on the way in which traditional housing or building styles in different cultures reflect mode of life and worldview. If this article were to be used as the basis of class activities, different groups of students can be encouraged to research housing styles in different parts of the world and to comment in each case on the way in which housing style, ecology, mode of life and cultural worldview inter-relate. With



more advanced groups this can be used to introduce more general concepts in cultural anthropology, concerning the relationship between material culture and symbolic systems, ecology and mode of life[4].

As the discussion questions in the chapter suggest, this text also invites interesting comparisons with Carrea's vision for planned housing. How would Carrea view the yurt as a form of housing for the urban poor. What does the fact that this highly efficient form of housing has evolved historically, rather than been "planned" tell us about the creativity and adaptability of humans to diverse environments. The case of the Afghan Kyrgyz also raises interesting questions about the relationship between political systems and nomadic populations[5].

### **Gary Oppenheim:**

Gary Oppenheim's work serves to recap many of the theme's encountered earlier in the relationship between ideology and space; the scale and limits to utopian attempts to transform humanity through transforming their lived landscape; the importance of architectural forms taking account of the ecological and climactic conditions in which they are situated, and the contemporary legacy of Soviet town-planning projects. The text deserves close reading, and students may need some guidance in understanding several of the historical and cultural referents in the text, including those to functionalist architecture, the Dessau Bauhaus school, or the city of Gary, in Indiana, which Magnitogorsk was built to emulate. Links to some relevant supplementary material is given in section 4.3 below. More substantively, this chapter can be used as a point of entry for encouraging discussion and debate about utopian city-building projects in general, and the particular economic and symbolic importance that they had in the Soviet Union. There is an extensive secondary literature on Magnitogorsk, including Steven Kotkin's acclaimed work, *Magnetic Mountain*, which students with the desire to know more about the "lived experience" of Magnitogorsk during the period of industrialization are advised to consult. Students currently beginning their university studies may have little factual knowledge about Soviet history, including some of the historical figures mentioned in the text. Links are given to some indicative articles below, as well as to some general introductory articles on the Soviet planned economy, but this article can also be used as the basis for broader explorations in Soviet industrialization, and students should be encouraged to the extent possible, to supplement their reading of this article with their own explorations into the Soviet economic model. One of the recurrent themes in this article is of the limit to utopian visions for improving the human condition. Throughout its construction, Magnitogorsk was always something of an unfinished project, where the vision outstripped and outpaced the reality. Encourage students to seek examples of such failure in the text, and to reflect on the author's assessment of the reasons for their failure[5], [6].

### **Creating A Space for Successful Classroom Discussion**

ITH is fundamentally a discussion-based course. The real insights that can be gained from studying the humanities derive not from the simple conjunction of texts that we might read in vacuo as we would a textbook, but rather from the fact that texts are selected and structured in such a way as to generate reflection and discussion. Despite this, ITH instructors often comment that fostering good discussion feels like a matter of chance sometimes it seems to "work" and sometimes it doesn't – and as such arouses considerable anxiety. Many teachers feel that their ability to foster a "successful" classroom discussion depends upon whether they have a "good group", or worse still, whether there are two or three boisterous students who can be relied upon to make sure that classroom discussion does not give way to silence. In other words, for all its centrality to undergraduate teaching in the humanities, instructors often feel that they are particularly lacking in guidance when it comes to techniques for

fostering classroom discussion, or for incorporating student presentations into the larger ITH class[7], [8]. The aim of the eight thumbnail points is to give some practical suggestions for helping classroom discussions and presentations to be successfully incorporated as learning tools within the ITH course.

**a) Be prepared for the discussion, and make sure students are:**

Classroom discussions and well-incorporated student presentations require preparation, just as a good lecture does. If you are planning to include student presentations into the discussion, think about where they are best positioned in the class at the beginning. In the middle, to provide some “input” in order to provide some variation to a longer discussion, or at the end, once other students have had a chance to express their opinion on a text that they have read. Your decision on this will depend on what purpose the presentation serves if it is presenting new material, then it might be more useful to have the classroom discussion first, so that students are not struggling to discuss material with which they have only just become acquainted. If it is a presentation on material that everyone has read, make sure that it does not have a merely repetitive function simply recapping an argument with which everyone is already familiar but is rather providing some genuine critical input, in the form of a commentary upon the text or a presentation of some new background or interpretive material. Being prepared for discussion means having several strong, thought-provoking questions ready, and ensuring that students have their own questions ready at the start of class. Classroom discussions tend to be much more successful when students have done active, written preparation beforehand, rather than simply passive acquaintance with the text[9], [10].

Good preparation also consists in having a sense of the basic points that you would like the discussion to cover. Anticipating in detail where a discussion will go is obviously impossible, especially with a large and active group, and too much control, input or re-directing by the teacher can break the flow of discussion and leave students feeling frustrated. Indeed, part of the pleasure and intellectual benefit of discussions is precisely that they take us to places that none of us, individually, would have anticipated. On the other hand, it is important to keep in mind a sense of the ground that you would like the discussion to cover, if only to be alert to broad tangents, deviations and polemics on topics that have little to do with the text in question, or the overall theme of the chapter[11].

**b) Think about the most appropriate use of classroom space for discussion:**

A good classroom discussion also depends upon having a productive space for discussion. You might invite students themselves to reflect on what makes particular spaces democratic or authoritarian and encourage them to arrange the chairs/desks in the way that they consider most conducive to discussion. This might entail that the instructor occupy a seat in the classroom that quite deliberately signals that she sees herself as one participant in the discussion among many, rather than necessarily occupying a leading role. It might also entail placing students in such a way that they work together in a group with other students with whose views they do not necessarily agree, or with whom they do not ordinarily speak much[12].

**c) Encourage the asking of questions to initiate discussion:**

In order for the discussion to be substantive and not just “opinion for opinion’s sake”, it is important that students have actively read and thought about the texts. Instructors can facilitate this process by giving questions to guide the reading to which all students must have prepared answers by the time they come to class. Another useful exercise is encouraging students to prepare questions in advance to the text. The AQCI activity discussed in chapter

one gives some suggestions on what kind of questions help to foster critical reading. By having the students themselves initiate questions, and not merely assert opinions at the start of the discussion, one immediately sets up a strong dynamic to direct the rest of the class. If there are many questions, these can be written up on the board and grouped together to identify recurrent themes and responses to the text. Questions can also help to give shape and direction to a discussion, so that at the end students have a clear sense of where the discussion has gone and what they have learnt. You might encourage one or more students to act as note-taker for the discussion, so that it is possible to recap what was covered and the points that were raised. This is very useful when the discussion has a tendency to run off at multiple tangents, and can help to make sure that the ideas and issues that were touched upon are more easily retained by students[13].

**d) Beware of dominating and silent students:**

All classes contain some more active or boisterous students, and those who are more wary of voicing their opinion. There is often a tendency for us as instructors to welcome the interventions of the noisier or more opinionated students because they can help to propel the discussion forward, and/or act as a strongly voiced opinion from which alternative positions can be articulated. A large part of the instructor's role as facilitator during classroom discussions consists in helping to ensure that every student is able to contribute. This is especially important in classes where not all students are participating in their mother-tongue, and where inhibitions about differences in communicative ability can leave some students less willing to participate. One way of helping to create such an environment is by making it clear to students that their participation will be assessed on the basis of their ability to listen to, and support other students in expressing their ideas, as well as in articulating their own[14].

**e) Give clear guidelines on presentations, outcomes and timing:**

Always make sure that any student who is presenting as part of a larger ITH class has clear guidelines about how long her presentation should be, and has a sense of how her presentation fits into the overall structure of the class. This awareness can help prevent students from dragging their presentations out interminably, and enables them to link their presentation to the broader themes of the class and any ensuing discussion. Often instructors tacitly presume that a long presentation is a "better" one, or allow the presenter to go substantially over the allocated time unchecked because it is less effort than trying to initiate or facilitate a discussion. It is important to give clear guidelines about what is expected of student presentations in the syllabus and to stick to them firmly, so that they can really function as an effective learning experience for the students who are listening to the presentation as much for the person presenting[15], [16]. This can also be achieved by encouraging the students who are not presenting to develop questions to the presenter, and/or to try to recap the main points that were covered in the presentation as an indication of how clearly argued it was. When asked to undertake this exercise, students quickly find that the most successful presentations are not necessarily the longest or most complex, but those which are clearly structured, with a coherent logic, and delivered at a pace that it is easy for listeners to follow.

**f) Adapt the structure of discussion to the size of the group:**

Instructors often feel that their ITH group is too large to conduct an effective discussion. Whilst there is, indeed, an optimal size for discussion of probably no more than about 10-12 students, it is nonetheless possible to involve a much larger group, without simply having several parallel discussions running simultaneously. One useful technique is to establish a

“panel of experts” who are allocated particular roles and who have to field questions from the larger group of remaining students. The panel of experts might take the position of the author of one or other text, one of the characters encountered in a text, or simply “play” themselves, answering questions according to their own interpretation of the text. This format enables all students to be involved, without the potential disjuncture that arises when one tries to conduct a discussion in which all members of a large group are discussing with all the others. Another possibility is for smaller groups to discuss the same question and for each group to report back to the larger group at the end of an allotted period on the main issues that their discussion raised [17], [18].

**g) Facilitate the discussion through a pedagogy of debate outside the class- room:**

Many students who begin courses with AKHP will have had little prior exposure to methods of participatory teaching, or have been expected to formulate and debate ideas arising from such a diverse collection of texts. Classroom discussions can thus often appear intimidating, or can be interpreted as a celebration of “opinion for opinion’s sake.” Students come to feel much more comfortable debating in the instructor’s presence if discussions inside the classroom is experienced as a natural continuation of forms of interaction that go on outside it.

**h) Ask searching questions, rather than simple questions of fact:**

Questions of fact, whilst important for clarifying basic understanding of a text, are less good as questions to spark debate, and tend to lead to “dead ends”, rather than driving classroom discussion forward. Ask questions, and encourage your students to ask questions that entail the articulation of opinions, and reasons for those opinions, rather than simple assertions or statements of fact. Demonstrate to students in your responses and follow-up questions that your primary concern is not with what opinion the student happens to hold, but the arguments that the student can bring in support of that opinion. Encourage students to ask each other to clarify their arguments and ground their opinions, so that the discussion is really pitched at why we believe what we do, and not simply what we believe.

**Interpreting Public Space:**

There are obvious continuities between this chapter and chapter four. Here, as in the previous chapter, we are exploring the social production of space as well as the way in which particular spaces shape and constrain human behaviour. Here, too, the relationship between certain kinds of space and the exercise of power is touched upon in several of the texts. And here, too, we see how certain kinds of space whether public squares, bridges, collapsing and restored buildings come to serve as symbols for the communities who inhabit them. Yet, there is greater emphasis here than in the previous chapter on reflecting on what is specific about public, shared space and in thinking theoretically about the relationship between space and the organisation of public life. The texts also serve as a point of entry for broader themes that have been touched upon elsewhere: the distinction between “public” and “private” and the way in which this boundary is maintained in different societies; the difference between “appropriated” and “dominated” space; the way in which egalitarian and hierarchical societies are reproduced and legitimated; the way in which spaces are used either to keep people out or to celebrate cosmopolitanism; the way in which attitudes towards spaces reflect the two-way relationship between populations and their governments [19], [20]. These might include using drama in the classroom, exploring different city spaces or considering the spatial dimensions of social stratification. Students might also take a particular public space and study it in detail at different times of the day. Running throughout the chapter is a concern with the kinds of spatial organization that tend to further the

flourishing of human life as well as the way in which certain kinds of spatial control signify the total subordination of individual wills to state power. Encourage students to reflect on the similarities and differences in the kinds of arguments these authors are putting forward about the relationship between space and human well-being.

### **Slavenka Drakulic**

Drakulic works here from the particular to the general, in a beautiful example of expressive biographical writing that has parallels with other texts in the volume. In order to appreciate this text, it is important that students have a clear sense about the context in which she was writing, and the time that she was describing. What do students know about how social life in Yugoslavia in the late 1980s would have been organized. How would urban life in Zagreb have been different from a western European city at that time. Students should also be encouraged to reflect on her audience and the values that she is advocating. Is Drakulic a fan of communism. Why, or why not.

What indications are there in the text of feeling slightly ashamed, or embarrassed about the state of her city in its self-presentation to the world. Students could turn these questions into a project, to research what Zagreb would have looked like in the 1980s. They might also trace Drakulic's biography, to examine how this might have shaped her rather ambivalent attitude towards the city of her birth[21], [22].

Perhaps the most significant element of Drakulic's argument is the relationship that she perceives between the political system of 1980s Croatia, the kind of dynamic that this generated between "us", the citizens, "they", the state and the outside world, and the way that this relationship was reflected in the use of public space. You might encourage students to pick out and focus on particular sentences that convey her sense of this relationship; and the kinds of emotional states that it produces in her. There are plentiful links between this text and others in the volume, and not just at the obvious thematic level of a common concern with the nature of communism. Implicit in Drakulic's approach is a strong preference for liberal individualism a state that allows people to create public space for themselves rather than having it directed from above. The text also operates with a strong binary distinction between "us" and "them" who inhabit the capitalist west. How do these distinctions, and the normative values that she associates with them, differ from the kinds of boundary that are drawn and critiqued in other chapters between "us" and "them". A third significant theme that is touched on elsewhere in the volume is the relationship between history and memory, and the importance of urban reconstruction for the rewriting of history[23], [24].

### **The Production of Space:**

Henri Lefebvre was a French Marxist philosopher, who was anxious to reinvigorate western social theory with the study of space, too long ignored by philosophers. His work can be read as a critique of traditional Marxism's failure to recognise that every act of social production is also a spatial act and that "appropriation" is above all a spatial activity. The important distinction that Lefebvre draws in this extract is between appropriated and dominated space. For Lefebvre, space that has been appropriated has been transformed, over time, by the work of social life. It is space transformed, so to speak, from below built upon, inhabited, owned, or as Lefebvre would say, produced by the activities of everyday life. Dominated space, by contrast, is that space which has been appropriated "from above", through the actions of armies, war, the state and political power. This dominated space might include roads and checkpoints, avenues and skyscrapers. The historical transformation that Lefebvre identifies is one from the previous coexistence of these two forms to the gradual victory of dominated space over appropriated space.

## DISCUSSION

These points can act as useful theoretical claims for interrogating some of the other texts in this chapter, as well as for thinking back over some of the extracts that were read in chapter four. Should Milton Keynes, for instance, be read as “dominated” or “appropriated” space. Can Drakulic’s call for the “privatization” of public space in Zagreb be seen as a call for the re-appropriation of dominated space. Students can be encouraged to think about the appropriated/dominated distinction and the other dichotomies on which the chapter draws to analyse other kinds of spaces with which they are familiar. Are there “appropriated” spaces in their own cities which have become dominated by states and local administrative powers. Are there any once dominated spaces that have been re-appropriated by ordinary people. Does global capitalism tend to lead to greater domination of space, or does it lead to more possibilities for appropriation of space by individuals. The links below relating to Lefebvre provide some interesting applications of his theory to the analysis of contemporary urban space.

### Politics

This extract includes Aristotle’s classic reflections on the nature of life in the polis, and his deliberations on the way in which best to incorporate the citizens in the running of the city. For Aristotle, the city is the natural form for humans, as “political animals”, in the sense that it is in the city that humans are fully realised. However, he recognizes that this concentration of people in space raises particular questions of organization that aren’t found in smaller communities: how to ensure the best balance between the “one and the many”. Allowing everyone to rule is liable to lead to chaos, but if one denies a share in the power to ordinary citizens, they are liable to be in a state of enmity with each other. Aristotle’s solution is for a form of delegation in which the mass of the people would be able to participate in the election of officials, but not to participate in the holding of office themselves[25].

Aristotle’s text is of relevance to this chapter, since it is fundamentally concerned with the particular kind of social life that is produced in the space of the polis. The city is not just a quantitatively larger version of other kinds of human community it is qualitatively different, since it alone allows for the collective to reach decisions better than any particular individual. Aristotle’s reflections on the nature of flourishing life in the polis can be contrasted with the depictions of particular cities in the writings of Bill Bryson and Correa in chapter four, and used as the basis for discussion on what kinds of spatial arrangements best provide for human well-being. Is the design of a city like Milton Keynes conducive to fostering the kinds of debate that Aristotle considered central to a well-functioning polis. How does the spatial layout of many large third-world megapolises of the kind depicted by Correa serve to exclude people from political life. Is it possible to reproduce the kind of engaged political culture that Aristotle so admired in a city that is many tens of times larger than the Greek city-states. All of these texts touch, at some level, on the relationship between forms of political and spatial organisation and the ideal relationship between the two. You might want to problematise this relationship in the form of a classroom discussion, debate, or role-play, in which citizens of different kinds of political organisation debate the relative merits of the different kinds of spatial and social organisation for the exercise of a flourishing human life[21], [22].

This short extract can be read in conjunction with Lefebvre’s critique of appropriated and dominated space as an example of the way in which a highly ordered urban scene is appropriated from below by unregistered dervish orders. It invites reflection on the limits of state control over space and its uses, and also of the multiplicity of publics that can coexist in a single city[24]. As such, it can be fruitfully contrasted with Aristotle’s account of the polis, in which the public, as a voting, electing body is greater than the sum of its parts. Inalcik’s

text also gives an insight into the way in which social movements develop. The Melamis, who are discussed here, developed from guilds and were perceived as a threat to the state precisely because they met in secret, inhabiting the spaces of the city, but not conforming to the established religious beliefs of the Ottoman Empire. Their refusal to accept alms, their rejection of ostentation, their wandering, as opposed to static mode of life, and the militant religiosity of certain of their members all made them appear as threatening to conventional authority[26]. Encourage students to reflect on why some groups come to appear as subversive and threatening to the state.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, a complex and dynamic environment that transcends conventional academic bounds is revealed by the investigation of political and humorous reflections in humanities education. We have seen how satire is an effective instrument for questioning political systems and social norms via critical analysis of literature, art, and historical context. The research emphasizes how crucial it is to include a variety of viewpoints and critical thinking abilities in humanities classes in order to provide a more thorough knowledge of the world. Students who interact with satirical works and investigate its political aspects get the skills necessary to dissect and understand complicated problems, as well as to challenge preconceived notions, question authority, and make contributions to a more educated and enlightened society. The incorporation of political and satirical elements into humanities education is becoming more than simply an academic activity as we traverse a constantly changing global terrain; it is also a crucial tool for developing citizens who are socially conscious and capable.

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## CHAPTER 8

### EXPLORING PERSPECTIVES ON PROGRESS IN LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, AND REFORM MOVEMENTS

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#### ABSTRACT:

This thorough investigation explores several viewpoints on development and looks at the connections between reform movements, literature, and philosophy. The examination covers a wide range of books and historical periods, offering a complex tapestry of concepts that go against accepted views of progress. The analysis begins by concentrating on literary works, such as Orhan Pamuk's "My Name is Red," where the depiction of dervish orders makes one reevaluate how settings and religious ideas interact. The story questions the subversive character of coffee shops and highlights the need of questioning authority and conventional wisdom. Moving to America, Alexis de Tocqueville's "Democracy in America" examines the distinct geographic conditions that shaped the democratic republic and sparks debates about the proportional needs of space for democracy and the diversity of governmental authority. The examination also includes Constantinople, where Tocqueville's account of America is compared to Philip Mansel's embrace of Ottoman cosmopolitanism, especially as shown via the Galata bridge emblem. Discussions over whether diversity is seen as a good thing or as a danger are sparked by the divergent points of view on cultural variety.

#### KEYWORDS:

Cosmopolitanism, Democracy, Literary Perspective, Progress, Reform Movements, Theological Debates.

#### INTRODUCTION

Pamuk tackles the dervish orders in *My Name is Red* from a different literary perspective than Inalcik does. Husret Hoja associates the dervishes in this instance more with the environments they live in than with their specific religious beliefs. Because of this, he believes that any tangible reminders of the orders' existence should also be removed from the landscape. Coffee shops are often denounced as subversive environments due to the promotion of "vulgar behavior." It seems that both of these are considered harmful since they provide a debate platform and promote challenging established beliefs and authority[1]. Tocqueville examines the unique territorial circumstances that "tend to maintain the democratic republic in the United States" in this excerpt from *Democracy in America*. Notably, Tocqueville describes how people perceived America as "empty" and the continent as "boundless." On a number of levels, this material lends itself very well to debate and critical examination. The first of these is the coherence of Tocqueville's main argument, which is that certain material and spatial requirements must be met for democracy to function, including having enough area for people to live in peace and not feel compelled to subjugate one another. Students should be encouraged to consider and discuss this[2]. Exist any circumstances where the population's density itself leans toward democracy? What distinguishes Aristotle's conception of the polis from Tocqueville's understanding of the geographical prerequisites for democracy? How does Slavenka Drakulic's portrayal of the all-powerful "city fathers" of Zagreb, who discourage individual caring for the city, contrast with Tocqueville's portrayal of self-sufficient, independent Americans working the land for everyone's benefit? Believe that the variations in state control between the two locations may

explain the differences[3], [4]. What distinguishes their respective reasoning logic from one another? With more experienced groups, you may use this argument to discuss the definition of "liberal democracy" and the idea of determinism, which is the theory that a certain result is determined in a necessary, causal manner by a certain constellation of elements. What would the general perception of democracy have been in France in the early 19th century? How has the normative assessment of the Tocqueville-celebrated liberal democracy in America evolved over time? Tocqueville's views about non-Western people and his theories regarding which populations are fully civilized and which are just "inferior" may also be examined by reading the text[5]. Why does Tocqueville appear to see such significance in the dichotomy between nomadic and settled/agricultural populations. Even if both regions had already been populated, why was South America seen as being less available and North America as a desert land awaiting its inhabitants. In what ways does Tocqueville's distinction make sense in light of the lessons from the first two texts? Students should be encouraged to consider Tocqueville's ideas in light of perspectives on western civilization held in the middle of the nineteenth century[6].

### **Constantinople**

In his colorful celebration of Ottoman cosmopolitanism, Philip Mansel uses the Galata bridge in Constantinople as a symbol for the city's cultural variety in the middle of the nineteenth century. Mansel's depiction of the event offers some intriguing points of comparison with Tocqueville's narrative of America, which is set practically simultaneously. Tocqueville believes that the indigenous peoples are hardly deserving of acknowledgement, while Mansel believes that the city's great range of cultures is what gives it its own soul, which is why the bridge serves as both a symbol and a vital component of the city. This comparison may be used to spark discussion about the circumstances that lead some people to see cultural variety as positive and others who perceive it as harmful or threatening[7]. The infamous first few chapters of Orwell's 1984 provide us a horrifying glimpse of a society in which the lines between "private" and "public" have been almost completely obliterated. In this legendary depiction of London imagined in a future existing 35 years in advance, the state has completely colonized space, to the point that people are watched, spoken to, tracked, and managed even in the most private of home settings. In Orwell's writing, appropriation in Lefebvre's sense has, quite literally, lost the war against the state's hegemony over space. Encourage students to consider the global contexts of the immediate post-war period that led to these two very bleak assessments of a future society of control. It can be read in conjunction with Lefebvre's theoretical work, but it can also act as a potent literary portrayal of the totalitarian world anticipated by Mannheim in his diagnosis of our time[8], [9].

### **Temporal Perspectives, and Theological Debates in Modern Humanities:**

Orwell's writings, like Mannheim's, provide room for in-depth, imaginative thought on the nature of modern freedoms and unfreedoms. Even though Orwell's utopian ideal has not been fully realized, we nonetheless live in a highly technologically advanced society where we are constantly watched upon, tracked, and governed. Furthermore, we live in a society where "Big Brother" has come to represent a certain kind of entertainment in many nations, where participants submit to constant surveillance by an almost endless audience. This literature clearly lends itself to a range of educational activities, from place-based examinations of modern surveillance technologies and how they are changing behavior, to research projects on the background of George Orwell's novel. Time seems to be endless and, in the majority of our daily perceptions, progressing. Even if it's implied, a lot of what we do is predicated on a certain understanding of time and how it moves. To a greater or lesser extent, the majority of Introduction to Humanities readers probably believe that they have some influence over

their future course and that they can influence time to some extent. These concepts are often seen in state philosophies. They influence educational concepts and are widely present in today's mainstream media. To put it simply, we tend to think more about progress as a notion and a value than we usually acknowledge[10], [11].

It is thus both a difficult and maybe quite freeing job to accept the fact that not all human societies have always seen time as something linear and continuous. It is a cognitive process that enables us to put our culture and ideals into context. It enables us to comprehend a wider range of phenomena, from nationalism to pop culture's embrace of novelty and how it functions. It seems sense that this chapter ends the book for this reason. Because the issues they require us to consider are both significant and tough, even though the specific texts may not be any more difficult than those in earlier chapters. The case study and many other books pose the subject of how moral or ethical growth relates to advances in science and the arts. Some literature provides a more equivocal answer, while Rousseau offers a definitive and well stated response. Encourage students to explore these distinctions and consider the ideas that the writers of other books in the Introduction to Humanities series have, whether overtly or covertly, about the connection between moral and technological advancement. Examples here could be Lenin's idea of the role of the vanguard party in propelling the working class forward to its destiny, or Carrea's understanding of the role of the architect in catalyzing the reconstruction of urban space to further social development informed by human understandings of the power to affect human futures[12], [13].

However, other topics are also present here. Regarding the connection between humanity and a creator-God, we come across conflicting theories. Students should consider what theological ideas are expressed either overtly or covertly in each of the chapter's readings, as well as how different writers express the same ideas in different ways. What similarities and differences exist between the writers' conceptions of predestination, human motivation, and God's plan for humanity? What possible connections exist between secularization and evolving conceptions of human destiny? Examining conflicting views of predestination and the need of submission or action to carry out God's purpose for us might be facilitated by discussing Boethius' text and contrasting his explanation of the causes of "degradation" with those made by Cholpon or Comte. For students who are more advanced, this may be explained in a more theoretical manner using discussions of issues like the definition of "agency" or the connection between secularization and technological advancement[14], [15].

Of course, there are many options for both solo and collaborative research projects. Exploration of the past, changing worldviews, and historical narratives are all encouraged by any interaction with the idea of time and its interpretation. You may challenge your pupils to investigate how various narrative styles represent various conceptions of historical growth and progress by using a relatively recent incident in Central Asian history. This might include searching the internet, libraries, and archives. You may also urge students to critically examine the current condition of affairs and the ideas of "progress" that subtly influence discussions about popular culture, official ideology, history education in schools, etc.

### **Talk about the Arts and Sciences:**

The discussion of history's progressiveness begins with a thought-provoking and difficult passage from Rousseau's Discourse on the Arts and Sciences. Written more than 250 years ago, in a very different setting supported by distinct linguistic norms, this work may probably provide difficulties for pupils due to its use of language and reasoning style. However, it's a book that merits careful study and thought. The findings drawn from Rousseau's reasoning have significant implications for our knowledge of what, if anything, makes human development possible in the areas of technology, science, the arts, and morality. The main

issue for Rousseau is how these various forms of "progress" relate to one another. He asks if "the restoration of the arts and sciences been conducive to the purification or the corruption of morals" in order to frame the topic.

These types of thoughts might provide students a starting point for discussing an idea that at first glance may seem counterintuitive: that a harmful moral corruption has resulted from the revival of the arts and sciences. According to Rousseau, "corruption" literally refers to a bending away from what something "truly" ought to be. In the case of people, this bending away from our "true" natures is what is meant to be understood. The arts and sciences "owe their birth to our vices," and it is pride and conceit that has led to their growth. It's critical to comprehend how Rousseau views "original" human nature in its pure form and how this varies from the views of many other political and moral thinkers in order to appreciate why he advances this argument. Though Rousseau did not use this term, this has sometimes been referred to as the "noble savage" theory. While some thinkers contended that the state was essential because humans were inherently hostile, Rousseau believed that the state of "ignorance, innocence, and poverty" that existed at the beginning of human history was ethically preferable to the modern world of scientific advancement. In light of this, "our souls have been corrupted in proportion as our sciences and arts have advanced towards perfection"; in fact, it is the very state of unceasing scientific endeavor that pushes humanity in the direction of moral degeneration[16], [17].

Perhaps the most important thing an Introduction to Humanities instructor can do to help students connect with the text is to remind them of the main points Rousseau makes in the Discourse and the direction it takes in answering the question of humanity's "progress." For the argument is audacious and the structure is quite logical, even with the language's intricacy and plenty of instances. Because of this, it encourages careful examination and "mapping," either in the format suggested by the thesis formation activity or as an AQCI that connects Rousseau's book to further Introduction to Humanities resources. Additionally, it encourages the kind of close-reading activity in which students must explain Rousseau's thesis in their own words, section by section. Students can better understand how Rousseau organizes his argument and gives it rhetorical force by grouping these descriptive adjectives together and making sure they understand the meaning of any terms that may be less familiar. Rousseau uses a lot of descriptive adjectives to convey the corrupting effects of the arts and sciences as well as the nature of humanity before their restoration.

Before moving on to smaller groups, you may choose a few passages for this sort of in-depth examination in a larger group, until all of the students have a firm understanding of the main points of the argument. One way to start would be to concentrate first on the Preface and the copy of Vanitas Still Life on the page across from it. What message about the nature of "civilization" are the words and the picture trying to communicate, respectively? For what reason may Rousseau have been criticizing the ostentatiousness seen in Boel's painting? What background information about the Enlightenment do students possess that may help them put concepts about human nature that would have been popular during Rousseau's time in context? There are, of course, many research projects to that end. There is a plethora of online content on the enlightenment, and as it is a movement that is felt not just in philosophy and literature but also in music, architecture, painting, and other artistic mediums, it offers a plethora of options for imaginative solo or collaborative study projects. For example, each small group of students may be encouraged to investigate the ways in which concepts from the Enlightenment filtered into other fields and then share their findings—along with examples—with their classmates. This kind of activity may promote contemplation on the ways in which ideas flow from one discipline to another and assist in "embedding" philosophy within a larger intellectual framework[18], [19].

The work by Rousseau is replete with arguments and evidence presentations that may serve as the foundation for debate and group discussion. This could take the shape of a discussion of some of his main points or an imagined dialogue between Rousseau and a supporter of the idea of scientific advancement. These exchanges can be used to think more broadly about the chapter's main question, which is whether or not "progress" is linear. What does progress entail? What connection exists between advancements in art, technology, and morality? For pupils who are more advanced, this may serve as an introduction to current discussions on the moral implications of technical advancements.

### **Philosophy's Solace:**

Before his execution in 524 CE, Boethius wrote *Consolation of Philosophy* while incarcerated for treason. It is intended to be a dialogue between Lady Philosophy and himself. The text offers a brilliant insight into a classical understanding of fate, providence, and the "mind of God" in addition to making an argument for the value of the pursuit of wisdom that can be fruitfully contrasted with Rousseau's *Discourse*. This understanding of "predestination" contrasts sharply with ideas about human agency and the sovereign subject that typically predominate in contemporary western culture. Boethius was compelled to write his *Consolation* during a sharp decline in the Roman government's favor. How could he reconcile the sudden and drastic turn in his own luck? In response, Lady Philosophy emphasizes the fleeting nature of material possessions and the need of seeking knowledge. Crucially, however, she also emphasizes that there are causal links that are beyond our comprehension, meaning that we will never be able to completely comprehend the seeming disparities that plague the world[20].

This is a somewhat complicated argument from Boethius, and it is predicated on a view of time, causation, and action that differs from our own. His argument is that, despite things seeming chaotic, unpredictable, or even unjust to us as ordinary humans, there really exists a vast providential order to them. We refer the occurrences that happen in accordance with providence as "fate." Therefore, "the complex unfolding of fate derives from the unity of Providence." To put it another way, we as humans are unable to entirely comprehend God's mind, which has a plan and an idea that we can never fully grasp. But because of our human goodness, we might be more or less "entangled in her nets," or vulnerable to destiny. These concepts are perhaps what made Boethius well-known in Middle Ages scholastic literature, a time concerned with the decisions made by an all-powerful destiny. Boethius is a difficult read for modern readers because of these concepts as well, especially for those from cultures that value personal responsibility and autonomy above all else. In Euro-American societies, we prefer to think of ourselves as architects of our own fates, and "fate" has come to be considered fairly metaphorically. A quite different sort of vision is suggested by Boethius' depictions of spheres orbiting a central point: one in which there are vast, planned sequences of movement, our portion of which we can never know. The book encourages a range of activities. Students might be encouraged to experiment with ideas that at first glance seem novel and unfamiliar by having them create a visual representation of Boethius's reasoning[21].

### **The Doctor's Treatments**

It's a great idea to study Paracelsus' little treatise on the physician's remedies in addition to Rousseau's *Discourse on the Arts and Sciences*. In addition to being a doctor, Paracelsus is the epitome of an experimenter, and he believes that knowledge cannot be "found," but must be actively sought for and discovered. He thus believes that a doctor should be open to learning from a variety of sources, including astrology, nature, alchemy, and so on. Alchemy shows us the value of testing different combinations and finding what works when it comes

to experimenting. Herein is his theory of human advancement: every solution exists in nature; it is up to us humans to find them. Thus it is pleasing that we should boil them and acquire knowledge in the process. This offers a fascinating point of comparison with the two passages that came before it. The core of Paracelsus' philosophy, like that of Boethius, is the conviction that there is a God-creator. In contrast to Boethius, he thinks that via research and experimentation, people may learn about the "marvellous virtues" that nature has. In fact, it does more than just "please God" that we look for them and that we work to understand the essence of the cosmos. It is inherently beneficial to seek, and it is also fundamentally knowable[22], [23].

Although one may see a two-way discussion between Paracelsus and either Rousseau or Boethius, one could also envision a three-way discussion between them centered on the following issues: is knowledge acquisition a good thing? Can research help us understand the "mind of God"? Can we control our own destiny? Does history go forward? Groups or a "panel" representing each of the contributing writers answering questions from a "audience" may be used for this. Similar to the two texts before it, this one provides us with a wealth of options for background study and presentations. What was the background of Paracelsus' writings, and how did he change the essence of medicine, especially with relation to the use of experiments? What is alchemy, and how is it still practiced today? What may be revealed about the reasons behind Paracelsus's designation as the "Luther of medicine" based on a comparison with Luther's writings in Chapter 3? Luther's claim that "I am among those who make progress through writing and teaching" holds up? Contrast that statement with Paracelsus' assertion that it is God's intention for us to "train ourselves in this art and are not idle on earth, but labor in daily toil. I am not one of those who out of nothing suddenly become perfect[24].

### **A Broad Perspective on Positivism:**

This essay summarizes Comte's positivist views on the unity of science, including social science, and his dedication to "order and progress" as fundamental and transcendent virtues. These data demonstrate both the parallels and discrepancies between Comte and Paracelsus. They both think that science is progressing. However, Comte was writing in a different era than Paracelsus and was more interested in "society" as a subject of scientific study. Comte was certain that society could be investigated and understood in the same way that the natural world could, and that sociology, as the positive science of society, would show us how society really works and be necessary for its social regeneration. Though Comte's writings may seem outdated to us, positivism, the theory that the social world may be known in the same manner as the natural world, is still relevant in many domains today. Students should be prompted to consider how and where Comte's theories are used, as well as the sorts of policies they influence. Is contemporary sociology different from Comte's conception, and if so, how? Has the theory of positivism been criticized, and if so, by whom and in what academic fields?

### **Muhammad-Yar, the doctor:**

This is a morally charged tale about ignorance and the pursuit of knowledge. This is why, although being written by a teenager, it is regarded as a masterpiece of contemporary Central Asian literature and was widely reprinted prior to the 1917 Russian Revolution. Cholpon was a key player in the Jadid movement, a loose association of reformist teachers so named because of the innovative teaching methods they promoted. As a few AKHP students might already be familiar with Jadidism from previous university courses, it could be beneficial to start the text discussion by having students clarify what they already know about this movement and its practices. Then, they can discuss which of Cholpon's text's recurring

themes, metaphors, and idioms of progress they can find. How do we know that this passage is from Jadid? What qualities does it possess? Take note of his focus on education, his use of contrast between ignorance and knowledge, his portrayal of Muslims and Russians, his concern for the responsible use of wealth, and his emphasis on the connection between moral progress and technological advancement. Ask students to think about any parts of the text that surprised them as well.

There's lots of room for comparison with texts from previous chapters, as the chapter's review questions imply. One may envision a dialogue, for example, between Cholpon and fellow reformer Abdullah Bubi, or consider how Cholpon would fit within the spectrum of perspectives on Qur'anic interpretation that Toby Lester has defined. By this point in the course, students need to be motivated to compare and contrast various texts and to utilize this as a means of delving into more general concerns about the nature of history as well as some of the more important issues covered in previous chapters. This kind of contemplation may be promoted in the classroom via many strategies. Students might be assigned a pre-class assignment, for example, to identify passages from other Introduction to Humanities texts that either confirm or refute Cholpon's view of the advancement of science and morality, or, on the other hand, from Cholpon's text that address arguments made earlier in the volume. Students should always be encouraged to reflect on how their own perceptions of historical development are influenced by the era in which they live[25], [26].

### DISCUSSION

Cholpon's demand for change is interestingly contrasted and compared with Iqbal's well-argued essay. Iqbal worries about development as well, accusing Muslim countries of living in a dogmatic slumber where concepts are just repeated but never advanced. But although Cholpon believes that advancement results from the use and appropriation of technology and teaching strategies created abroad, Iqbal is fiercely opposed to adopting Western models without question. In other words, Iqbal believes that social reform is gaining traction from a spiritual revival. This work of reconstruction has a far more serious aspect than mere adjustment to modern conditions of life truth revealed through pure reason is incapable of bringing that fire of living conviction which personal revelation alone can bring[27], [28]. Although he sees similarities between the Muslim world and the 16th century reformation this reformation needs to prioritize spiritual integrity over pure reason. Because Europe abandoned this spiritual foundation, it stands for the greatest hindrance in the way of man's ethical advancement. The Muslim world needs to learn from its mistakes and move forward. Thus, Iqbal's argument offers crucial points of comparison and contrast with other texts in the chapter as well as with Rousseau's Discourse. This might take the form of a task in which groups of students are asked to pinpoint specific assertions from each of the author's works that point out areas of overlap and divergence[29], [30].

### CONCLUSION

This study analyzing various viewpoints on advancements in philosophy, literature, and reform movements offers a wealth of information on how human thinking and society have changed throughout time. We see how ideas, creativity, and society change interact dynamically via the glasses of these three interrelated domains. Literature serves as a window reflecting the current cultural mood, while philosophy provides a framework for comprehending the fundamental ideas that underpin our pursuit of advancement. Reform movements appear as change agents at the same time as they challenge conventions and encourage a shared hope for a better future. By exploring these spheres, we come to see that development is not a straight line but rather a convoluted and diverse path molded by the ongoing blending of many viewpoints and the never-ending quest for knowledge. Literature,

philosophy, and reform movements continue to be vital compass points as we negotiate the conflict between tradition and innovation and lead mankind toward a more just and enlightened future.

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## CHAPTER 9

### AN ELABORATION ON POST-WORLD WAR I PESSIMISM AND HUMANITIES ASSESSMENT IN INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES COURSES

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

The present abstract explores the complex theme of post-World War I pessimism, as it is represented in T.S. Eliot's 'The Hollow Men.' The study talks on how the war caused cultural changes that led to a reevaluation of development and the growth of nihilism and pessimism. Making links to the arts of the 1920s, the story emphasizes how trauma affects creative innovation and positivist criticism.

The study also offers advice on various assessment criteria and the goals of formative and summative evaluations, as well as insights into how students in Introduction to Humanities courses should be assessed. The concept encourages a nuanced approach that is in line with the particular objectives of each course by navigating the possibilities and problems instructors experience while assessing a variety of student activities.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Assessment, Humanities, Pessimism, Post-World War, The Hollow Men.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Although several of the book's portions have previously appeared as parts of other works, T.S. Eliot's *The Hollow Men* was originally published in this format in November 1925. Though it might be characterized as a portrait of the future, it actually comes from a deep sense of pessimism about the state of western civilization in the wake of World War I, which made many members of Eliot's generation question the cultural optimism and ideas of progress that had been prevalent in the decades before[1].

Following a level of organized war brutality never before seen, faith in progress was replaced by a cultural pessimism, even nihilism, and talk of a "lost generation" spread across Europe. This social trauma gave rise to new forms of experimentation in the arts and fresh criticisms of positivism and progress in the humanities. Encourage students to investigate the arts of the 1920s and think about how the many movements of this era reacted to the pain of the previous decade in order to contextualize the poem and get a sense of the "feel of the time" in post-World War I Europe. How did "reason" come under criticism in literature, philosophy, and the arts? Compare the meaning of Eliot's poem with that of Munch's *Scream* and the drawing that goes with Blake's *Urizen*[2]. What language, pictures, and cultural allusions are used to express this feeling of loss?

The actions you use to help students engage with this work may vary greatly based on their language skills and their knowledge of reading and discussing poetry. There has been a lot of critical discussion on Eliot's writings, and it may be helpful to have students look at some of the less well-known cultural allusions. Examples may include the nursery rhyme that section five plays on and twists, the allusions to the straw figures burned in remembrance of the English gunpowder plot mentioned in the opening lines, or the Christian imagery used in the concluding part. The following lists a few helpful online remarks[3], [4].

## Examining Introduction to Humanities students

Students may express themselves creatively and engage in a wealth of intellectual discovery with Introduction to Humanities. Students are likely to face writing, debate, group discussions, and peer cooperation techniques throughout their studies that they may not have experienced in other university classes or in high school. Additionally, as the teacher, you could discover that you are grading assignments and activities that you have never graded before. This opens up a lot of possibilities for interacting with students' work in fresh and imaginative ways, but it may also lead to difficulties. For example, how can we evaluate students' involvement in class discussions? a demonstration of their findings? An entry in a journal? An essay that makes an argument? or a spontaneous, artistic work of writing? The purpose of this section of the Resource Book is not to be prescriptive; rather, as with other sections of the volume, it is to give instructors of Introduction to Humanities the conceptual tools they need to think about what would be best in their own classrooms, rather than to impose strict guidelines on what or how we should assess. For particular Introduction to Humanities professors, universities, and student groups, gaining a certain set of information about the human condition is the most crucial thing[5]. As a result, evaluation criteria will be more heavily weighted toward the display of specific abilities, and modalities of assessment may emphasize exhibiting a deep engagement with the texts. Introduction to Humanities may be used by other educators to assist students develop their own creative writing or to help them become better critical thinkers. In certain situations, the value of innovative reactions to texts or the freedom of speech may be given additional weight. For yet others, learning academic Russian or English could be more important. When creating your own lesson plan using the Introduction to Humanities resources, it's critical to consider your objectives and make sure the variety of tasks evaluated aligns with these priorities[6]. The three categories listed below might serve as helpful starting points for considering the variety of evaluation options:

### Official standards

What goals do I have for this course for the students? For the specific course that I am teaching, how significant are the following issues: language acquisition; critical reading; creative self-expression; independent research; group cooperation; and learning of a specific body of knowledge? Are those aims adequately reflected in my evaluation criteria? Do the graded activities I'm doing enable me to effectively track my students' development over the course of the term? Do the evaluation methods I've chosen and the grading standards I've created appropriately represent Introduction to Humanities' commitment to accepting diversity of thought? With these sets of questions in mind, we can go further into discussing three particular issues: the goal of assessment; the standards by which student writing is judged; and answering and giving feedback to students[7], [8].

### The evaluation's objectives

There are many reasons why we could evaluate pupils, but they can be helpfully divided into two main categories: "summative" and "formative" evaluations. The kind of assessment that most of us are probably most acquainted with are summative ones, which are meant to evaluate students at the conclusion of a course of work and provide an explanation for the grade that was given. Since these are the ones that are used to evaluate academic publications, candidates for scientific degrees, and other professional work, they are also most likely the ones that we are most acquainted with from our own academic experiences. Summative evaluation is not a "comma" along the route that allows us to go back and edit a piece of work; rather, it is a "full stop" at the conclusion of a study process. These assessments are often evaluative in nature, providing a mark or letter grade to officially

reflect a student's progress. They may be helpful in documenting development. They may be crucial in helping our institutions show what our students know and comprehend, and they might also play a significant role in inspiring and motivating students by showcasing the acquisition of a certain body of information. However, since they serve as "full stops," any criticism we provide on essays is often seen as support for the grade we have assigned rather than as an ongoing means of enhancing writing[9], [10].

The goal of "formative" evaluations is a little different. A formative assessment is given so that the student may incorporate the critiques and comments in the same or very similar piece of work, as opposed to being intended to provide a final review on a piece of student work. Rather than serving as a final assessment at the conclusion of the work, this kind of assessment is meant to be a part of its production. This kind of feedback has three main benefits. It gives pupils a purpose to read and comprehend the instructor's feedback on their work, to start with. If students are given the opportunity to revise their writing based on the feedback they have received, they are more likely to focus on the remarks themselves rather than just the grade they are assigned. Secondly, by offering intermediate points of feedback along the route, formative evaluation helps students better organize and pace their work. Thirdly, formative evaluation gives students the chance to internalize and incorporate comments while they are writing, which helps them become better readers and critics of their own work[11]. All things considered, assessment ought to be viewed as a dynamic process of learning rather than merely a formal method of assigning grades or ranking students. This is because assessment shows students' comprehension and knowledge as well as their progress in acquiring subject-specific skills. It also gives teachers a chance to assess how well their own instruction is reaching students and how well they are teaching it.

### **Standards for judging student writing:**

Keeping this in mind, let's take a closer look at how we evaluate student writing. Similar to how we evaluate work for a range of purposes, we may also use a range of criteria as the foundation for the evaluation. Students in the AKHP program are often most used to evaluation standards that center on the precision of knowledge replication. This serves as the foundation for many evaluations of student work and is often the only kind of criteria that matters for exams that are standardized. However, it is probable that this will be among the few significant factors used to evaluate students' progress in Introduction to Humanities[11]. Language proficiency, including the ability to express oneself fluently and subtly in a second or third language; the capacity to adapt to particular task requirements; the capacity to organize work coherently; the persuasiveness and sophistication of argumentation; the capacity to demonstrate research skills by locating and synthesizing previous work; the appropriate tone and/or rhetorical style; the quality of content and substance are possible additional criteria[12]. There can be other requirements that apply to your course. What matters is to think about which requirements are most crucial in your situation and how best to include them into any summative evaluations you provide. When assigning grades, it might be helpful to ask yourself which of the aforementioned factors you see as "high priority" and which as less important. It would be beneficial to clearly state your assessment criteria in the syllabus so that students understand the reason for their evaluation and the quality of work required to get a certain grade. The evaluation standards for a Soviet history course that was taught in English in the spring of 2002 at the American University of Kyrgyzstan are included in the Box below. Observe that each assessment activity's justification is connected to the course's specific focus and topic, and that students are informed ahead of time about the percentage of their final mark that will be determined by attendance, essays, and exams[13].

**Justification for assessment:****a) Participation, attendance, and promptness of written assignments:**

Soviet history has long been a topic of intense discussion and continues to be so now. Additionally, it covers a wide range of topics that are still very relevant today, such as how and why revolutions happen, how we explain political turmoil, how quickly political systems can end, whether we can ever truly "know" the past, etc. As a result, discussion is at the core of this course, and constructive classroom discussion is encouraged. The success of it depends on conversation. It is highly recommended that you actively participate in the twice-weekly discussion sessions and raise questions during lectures. Your grade for participation and attendance will also be influenced by how quickly you turn in written assignments; students who repeatedly miss essay deadlines will be deducted.

**b) Three succinct critical essays:**

Three brief analytical essays that address various course topics are required of the students. These aren't meant to be extensive research papers; instead, they should use the assigned readings to demonstrate understanding of and a critical reaction to the course content for the specified part. Essays must be typed, double- or 1.5-spaced, and the questions will be sent out at least one week before the deadline [14].

**c) Exams, including midterm and final:**

These are intended to assess students' knowledge of the topics presented in the readings, films, seminars, and lectures, both conceptually and factually. Students' progress greatly depends on feedback, and it also depends on how we provide it. Sufficient feedback has the potential to propel students forward, provide clarity on the aspects of their work that need improvement, and inspire them. On the other hand, feedback that is provided in a hurried or ineffective manner might discourage pupils from learning, demotivate them, and set limits. Thus, it's critical to consider the feedback we provide and the manner in which we provide it. Five general comment categories are available for usage, all of which may be completely distinguished: directives from regulations, recommendations, descriptive remarks, direct criticism, and commendation. Feedback might be more "instructive" or more "descriptive" depending on the kind of group, the activity, and the assessment goal. Feedback that consists of more than just compliments or criticism is often the most satisfying to students. A statement outlining why you thought a certain notion was intriguing is more beneficial than a simple "good" put in the margin. Similarly, offering a recommendation on how a student might have expressed a certain sentence more effectively is more beneficial than telling them that their use of grammar is bad. When giving written feedback, it is usually beneficial to provide a typed page of feedback with links to the pertinent passages in the student's own text in addition to handwritten notes in the margin. However, keep in mind that there are other ways to provide feedback than this one, which may also be less efficient. It's possible that a 10-minute meeting will cover more ground than ten minutes of student screenplay writing. Similarly, you could find that it is more convenient to provide your comments via email in the form of a "letter" rather than a separate document that is unlikely to be read or filed away due to the casual tone and participatory character of the medium [13], [15].

A helpful method of providing feedback is via supervision or tutorials. This small group has read each other's work before the meeting. The supervision gives students an opportunity to discuss what they found most intriguing in each other's work and to obtain feedback from the teacher. This may be one of the best methods for students to learn from one other when they are in a group and are somewhat acquainted with each other and each other's work. One of the most illuminating experiences for students may be reading a fellow student's essay and

seeing what the course teacher found to be commendable in it. It can also be a great way to encourage and inspire students to write better on their own essays. Additionally, it may help students develop a feeling of academic inquiry, increase their understanding of the variety of approaches that might be taken to a particular problem, and acquaint them with the ideas of peer review and self-reflection.

### **Guidelines for participation grading:**

It goes without saying that the student has to read the assigned material before class. Due to the seminar-style approach of instruction, attendance in every session is essential. Prepare your questions and remarks in advance of the class. Prepare yourself to share your thoughts and to hear what others have to say. A student who actively participates in class is prepared to share their own thoughts as well as hear from and react to those of their peers. When a student obtains a "A" for participation, they usually arrive at class prepared with questions on the readings and having studied the material.

The student brings up these topics so that the class may talk about them and hear any opposing viewpoints. An "A" student participates in class discussions with other students, offering insightful remarks in response that elevate the discourse on the subject [14], [16]. A student who gets a "B" for participation has finished all of the assigned readings but doesn't always bring questions or remarks to class; instead, they just listen to other people's thought-provoking thoughts and watch the discussion in class. "B" students seldom contribute to the class conversation as a whole, but they always express themselves clearly when they do.

- a) A "C" student shows up to class, does their homework, pays attention, and seldom engages in thoughtful discussion of the assigned reading.
- b) Pupils who don't always prepare for class should be prepared for a "D." Students who participate and are prepared yet do not value their classmates' contributions will also earn a "D."
- c) Pupils who consistently arrive to class unprepared, fail to show up on time, or behave rudely should be prepared to get a "F" for participation.

### **Recognize Orientalism:**

The first thing that comes to me when I hear the phrase "orientalism" is odd and exotic places with a rich and old past, followed by political upheavals in our unpredictable globe. This is the common perception of orientalism. It developed as a result of the impact of Russian literature, Persian poetry, Western cinema, television, newspapers, and the internet, as well as the vivid advertising of travel agencies. However, why did this word come up? How does the term "orientalism" vary in meaning? Why does the word "orientalism" conjure up so many varied pictures and interpretations? I've never given this concept much consideration, but in the modern world, it's important to comprehend it. I may state that this word is closely related to current events such as the Iraq War, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Iran's nuclear program, the Kashmir issue, and worldwide terrorism. Furthermore, I believe that orientalism is a means of molding people [17], [18].

There are several interpretations of the phrase, and different nations have distinct perspectives. Disraeli said, "The East were - and are - civilizations and nation? whose location is in the East, and whose lives, histories, and traditions are markedly more brutal than anything that could be written about them in the West." This term first surfaced during the colonial era in western nations, during this time they had found new countries in the East. Why did the powers of Europe relocate their contradictions from the European arena to the East, where their economic interests coincided, in the 19th century? Western scientists saw

the East as a resource-rich region that veered toward authoritarianism and backwards toward development. Take a look at how easily Disraeli separated the West from the East. Did he create Others by splitting? globe.

### **Russia's Cultural Engagement through Oriental Studies:**

Painters and authors, rather than sociologists, were trying to depict the Orient's beauty and distinctions from Europe, not to construct an erotic ideal. For instance, "an Arab woman" is a painting by French artist Jean-Leon Gerome. He called it a "seminude odalisque, languid and sensual," but he also said that the gloomy architecture represented a lack of advancement. To the West, this image conjures up ideas of exoticism and sensuality. Furthermore, the word "Orient" has had a changing connotation throughout history. For instance, Russia represented the East to European leaders in 1812. Napoleon aimed to unite the countries of Europe and steer them towards Russia, referring to Russia as the "Russian East." 4 Napoleon referred to Russia as the East because to?Westerners assumed that all of the East's nations fell under the category of East. Still, there's \?Russian perception of the Orient. In Russian, "orientalism" is seen as the whole of scientific fields that study the history, philosophy, religion, art, architecture, languages, literature, economy, and current conditions of Asian and Northern African countries. Studies of Japan, India, Turkey, Egypt, Iran, semitology, sinology, and other topics are included in the category of oriental studies.<sup>7</sup> On the one hand, Russia incorporates her Eastern neighbors, who are located in the East, in the subject of oriental studies. However, Russian scientists also include Israel, which is not in the East, and Arab nations with relation to Russia. As a result, Russian and Western scientists create Others by conceptually segmenting the globe into East and West rather than physically, but rather based on culture, religion, and philosophy of life[19].

Russian scientist Oriental studies emerged for a number of reasons. First off, "practical orientalism supplied interests of foreign commerce and served military and diplomatic departments." Second, religious scientific schools of Oriental countries that belonged to the Russian empire researched both the national cultures and histories of those nations as well as those of their neighbors.<sup>8</sup> It became clear that Russia is interested in the Orient not only?economic, but cultural, since ethnic Russians share characteristics with countries in the East. Regarding people, they often indicate countries in East Asia, such as China, Central Asia, Japan, Korea, India, and other Asian nations. I conducted a quick Gallop survey in Dushanbe. After asking 10 males between the ages of 18 and 30 what they assumed when they saw the term "Oriental," I found out what they first associated with the region. According to two of them, nations in Central Asia are classified as Oriental nations. The majority of them discussed how the Oriental nations, which are located in southeast Asia, include China, Japan, Korea, and all of Asia. In response to my query, one of them said that orientalism primarily affects Arab nations[19].

## **DISCUSSION**

Through examining the relationship between post-World War I pessimism and the dynamics of humanities assessment in Introduction to Humanities courses, this thorough debate seeks to disentangle the complex relationships between creative expression, historical trauma, and educational evaluation. The contextualization of 'The Hollow Men' by T.S. Eliot provides a moving starting point and a prism through which to look at the widespread feeling of disillusionment that swept across Western culture in the years after World War I. Eliot's writings, which are a reflection of the intellectual milieu of his day, give voice to a prevalent cultural pessimism and even nihilism by reflecting a collective questioning of the once-cherished ideals of progress and cultural optimism[20]. The assessment broadens its scope to include the 1920s as a whole, a time of significant changes in creative innovation in reaction

to the social tragedy of the war and its aftermath. The "lost generation," a phrase that gained traction in post-war Europe, was reflected in the broken worldview of the artists, who used the arts as a canvas to explore new means of expression. This investigation covers a wide range of literary, artistic, and philosophical movements, with a focus on challenging the basic premises of reason. The resonance of this historical and cultural context is used in humanities classrooms to enhance the education of students taking Introduction to Humanities courses. In order to have a comprehensive grasp of the ways in which different creative movements reacted to the tragedy of the decade before, the review promotes an immersive approach and encourages students to do research on the arts of the 1920s. Through considering the influence of Munch's 'The Scream' or Blake's 'Urizen' as a visual complement to Eliot's poetry, students are challenged to dissect the complex web of phrases, pictures, and cultural allusions that evoke a deep sense of loss[21]. Instructors in Introduction to Humanities courses have a dynamic and complex problem when assessing their students, since they must consider a range of language talents and past experiences with poetry. The conversation recognizes the variety of objectives of these kinds of classes, from the development of critical thinking and creative expression to the learning of a particular body of information. The review raises important issues about language learning, critical reading, creative self-expression, independent research, and group cooperation. It highlights the need of customized evaluation criteria that are in line with the course goals. This highlights the contrast between "summative" and "formative" evaluations, where the former function as a final assessment of pupils at the conclusion of a course and the latter encourage a continuous, iterative process of progress. The goals of assessment are thoroughly discussed, with the concept that evaluations should not just be used to assign grades or rank pupils but also to actively participate in the learning process by demonstrating subject-specific knowledge, comprehension, and competency[21]. Dissection of the evaluation criteria for student writing reveals that evaluations may be made on a wide range of criteria, including language proficiency, task responsiveness, cogent structure, persuasiveness, research abilities, rhetorical style, and content quality. It is emphasized how crucial it is to be open and honest when explaining evaluation criteria to students so they may comprehend the standards by which their work will be judged. The review goes into detail on feedback as well, highlighting how important it is to students' growth. The conversation outlines five general categories of remarks, from directives to compliments, with an emphasis on offering helpful criticism that inspires pupils and promotes ongoing development[22], [23]. The advantages of various feedback delivery formats such as written remarks, tutorials, and email correspondence are discussed, highlighting the need of efficient communication that takes into account the varied preferences of students. The historical background of post-World War I pessimism, the creative responses of the 1920s, and the potential and problems for pedagogy in Introduction to Humanities courses are all deftly interwoven in this conversation. It offers a nuanced exploration of the complexities inherent in comprehending and navigating the complex landscape of humanities education in the wake of a transformative historical period by looking at the interconnected layers of artistic expression, cultural evolution, and educational assessment.

## CONCLUSION

The examination of post-World War I pessimism and how it relates to humanities evaluation in Introduction to Humanities classes provides a deep comprehension of the complex interactions of historical background, creative expression, and pedagogy. The melancholy poem 'The Hollow Men' by T.S. Eliot captures the general disillusionment and cultural pessimism that marked the wake of the Great War. This study has examined the larger cultural context of the 1920s, demonstrating how the war's aftermath spurred previously



unheard-of levels of creative innovation and a reassessment of dominant ideas, eventually leading to the emergence of new literary, artistic, and philosophical groups. In the academic context, the review draws attention to the ever-changing difficulties that teachers have while grading their Introduction to Humanities pupils. Such courses include a wide range of objectives, from information acquisition to critical thinking and artistic expression, therefore evaluation methods need to be flexible and nuanced. Formal criteria are outlined, including language proficiency, critical reading, and teamwork. This highlights how crucial it is to match evaluation criteria to course goals. The contrast between formative and summative assessments highlights the need of an all-encompassing evaluation approach that actively supports students' continuous learning beyond simple grading.

The comprehensive analysis of the standards for judging student writing takes into account the many aspects of evaluation, ranging from language proficiency to research abilities and rhetorical style. Transparency in conveying assessment criteria to pupils is considered essential as it promotes a perception of justice and clarity in the assessment process. The investigation of feedback as a crucial component of student growth emphasizes the need of insightful and helpful criticism that pushes students in the direction of growth rather than simply supporting grades. Thus, the historical fabric of post-war pessimism, the creative reactions of the 1920s, and the pedagogical complexities of humanities education are all delicately woven together in this thorough debate. It emphasizes how crucial it is to create an atmosphere that promotes critical thinking, creative expression, and intellectual exploration all essential elements of a comprehensive humanities education. The review acts as a guide for teachers as they work through the difficulties of evaluating students in this setting, providing conceptual tools and insights to improve the efficacy and applicability of Introduction to Humanities courses in the modern educational environment. By doing this, it encourages educators to continuously modify and improve their methods in order to meet the changing requirements of students in a complex and ever-changing environment. It also calls for a thoughtful analysis of the larger implications of historical context on educational practices.

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## CHAPTER 10

### EXPLORING THE DEPTHS OF IDENTIFICATION WITH ALL HUMANITY: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNEY FROM THEORY TO REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS

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#### ABSTRACT:

Identity with All Humanity," exploring it as a multifaceted, intricate phenomena that transcends individualism and egocentric viewpoints. The investigation spans several academic fields, including as psychology, sociology, and philosophy, and it provides a comprehensive knowledge of the connections that link people to the larger human society. Examining the theoretical underpinnings, the paper highlights the significance of empathy, global viewpoints, and shared identity. Beyond academics, it investigates practical applications while recognizing the possible influence on pressing worldwide issues including international cooperation, social fairness, and climate change. The story also examines earlier efforts to promote a feeling of common identity and connection, giving the present activities a historical backdrop. The "Identification With All Humanity Scale (IWHS)" was developed as a psychometric instrument to assess people's sense of global connectedness. This tool gives insightful data for theoretical investigation as well as useful actions in the real world. The assessment also presents the idea of "Convergent Measures," which promotes social and economic justice while striking a balance between technical innovation and human-centered advancement. The study delves into the predictive power of comprehending human behavior and societal patterns, emphasizing the importance of this knowledge in a range of fields, such as technology, finance, healthcare, and social sciences. In discussing the concept of unique identification with all mankind, it is emphasized how crucial it is to acknowledge our common humanity in order to promote social justice, empathy, and cross-border cooperation.

#### KEYWORDS:

Compassion, Global Connectivity, Identification, Multidisciplinary, Predictive Utility, Social Justice.

#### INTRODUCTION

The notion of Identification with All Humanity is a deep and multidimensional phenomenon that transcends individuality and self-centered attitudes in the complex fabric of human life. This dense web of emotions, ideas, and actions serves as the foundation for a number of measures and in-depth research projects aimed at identifying the complex webs that bind people to the larger human community. The quest to comprehend this phenomenon extends beyond the confines of academia; it explores the fields of philosophy, sociology, and psychology in an effort to illuminate the fundamental aspects of our common humanity. Identification with All Humanity fundamentally investigates the degree to which people have a feeling of shared identity, empathy, and connection with other people[1]. This idea includes a worldwide viewpoint in addition to the close-knit communities of friends, family, and neighbors. Understanding the potential and difficulties that occur in our linked global society requires a study of this broad identity, which is made necessary by the growing interconnectedness of our globe via technology, communication, and globalization[2].

The process of measuring and researching The hallmark of identification with all humanity is a multidisciplinary approach that incorporates ideas from anthropology, psychology, sociology, and other pertinent disciplines.

The complexities of personal psychology, social systems, and cultural influences all have a significant impact on how this identity is shaped. The study of this phenomena reveals the complex mechanisms that shape our common human experience, from the empathy that emerges in reaction to global catastrophes to the emergence of a collective consciousness that crosses national and cultural barriers[3]. Furthermore, the search for an understanding of Identification with All Humanity transcends theoretical reflections and enters the domain of real-world applications. The possible ramifications of encouraging a feeling of global connection in tackling urgent challenges like social justice, climate change, and international collaboration are acknowledged by academics, researchers, and politicians. Researchers want to provide important insights that may guide initiatives for creating a more compassionate, cooperative, and sustainable society by dissecting the components that drive this identification. The measure and research on Identification with All Humanity provide a prism through which we may see the common threads that bind us all together as we set out on our intellectual journey into the core of human connection and empathy[4]. Understanding the complexities of our collective identity becomes not just an academic endeavor but also a road map for promoting a more inclusive and peaceful global society in a world that faces a multitude of problems and possibilities.

### **Previous Initiatives and Strategies for Connection with All Humanity**

An examination of earlier initiatives or strategies to promote a feeling of identity and connection with mankind as a whole is recommended in Previous Measures Related to identity With All mankind. This might involve campaigns, laws, or programs designed to foster compassion, understanding, and unity among many people and groups.

The synopsis will explore the historical background of these actions and how they may contribute to the development of a common human experience. Previous Measures Related to Identification with All Humanity provides an in-depth analysis of past programs and tactics used to foster a feeling of shared identity and community among people from various origins[5]. The investigation covers a variety of initiatives, from policy implementation to social and cultural programming, all with the goal of fostering empathy, understanding, and solidarity on a worldwide basis. This thorough examination delves into the historical background of these policies, illuminating the socio-political environment that led to their implementation. Through an exploration of the driving forces and objectives behind these projects, the story aims to expose the fundamental ideas that have influenced efforts to promote a common humanity. The lengthy account also examines the results and implications of these actions, assessing how well they accomplish the main objective of fostering a cohesive and integrated global community[6].

Important turning points and benchmarks are emphasized throughout the investigation to demonstrate how tactics have changed over time. Along the way, the story looks at setbacks and victories, providing insightful information on the difficulties of developing a feeling of identity with all of mankind. In the end, "Previous Measures Related to Identification with All Humanity" is a complex and educational tool for those who want to learn about the past of programs meant to create understanding and harmony amongst various people and groups. The thorough examination offered in this investigation helps readers get a greater understanding of the continuous attempts to promote a feeling of humanity among people living in a world that is always changing[7].

### **Identification With All Humanity Scale (IWHS)**

A psychometric tool called the Identification With All Humanity Scale (IWHS) is used to gauge a person's sense of self and connectedness to the larger human society. This scale, which explores the many aspects of human empathy, compassion, and a feeling of global connectivity, was created by early psychologists. Fundamentally, the IWHS aims to investigate the degree to which a person transcends cultural and personal borders, cultivating a profound feeling of shared identification with every member of the human race. Based on well-established social psychology theories, the scale highlights the value of empathy and unity in fostering constructive social change. The IWHS is made up of an extensive list of thoughtfully constructed questions, each one purposefully created to evaluate various aspects of human identity. Reflecting on their feelings, attitudes, and actions toward people from other origins, cultures, and regions is encouraged of the participants. The scale provides a comprehensive picture of the person's relationship to the global community by measuring not only the cognitive components of identification but also its emotive and behavioral dimensions[8], [9].

The scale's usefulness in a range of cultural situations has been ensured by extensive testing for validity and reliability across distinct groups. The IWHS is used by psychologists, sociologists, and other researchers and practitioners to learn more about the variables that shape people's conceptions of our common humanity and the possible ramifications for promoting inclusion and understanding in a world that is changing quickly. The Identification With All Humanity Scale scores might provide insightful information for both theoretical and applied study. Lower scores may point to areas in need of focused interventions to improve a person's connection with the larger human society, while high scores may reflect a strong sense of global citizenship, empathy, and a dedication to achieving social justice. The Identification With All Humanity Scale is an invaluable instrument in the field of social psychology that illuminates the complex dynamics of human identification and opens the door to a more profound comprehension of the elements that lead to a more humane and connected world[9].

### **Convergent Measures**

Convergent measures are a notion that weaves together many strands of development, empathy, and communal well-being in the complex fabric of human life. This philosophical framework is cross-disciplinary in nature and seeks to balance the many facets of human existence, from social justice initiatives to technical breakthroughs. Convergent measures fundamentally represent the belief that promoting inclusion and unity should go hand in hand with the goal of growth. Convergent measurements signal a paradigm change in technology innovation that goes beyond the simple quest of efficiency or breakthroughs. It involves consciously coordinating technical developments with moral principles to guarantee that progress is both transformational and human-centered. Convergent measures, which support the integration of cutting-edge technology in a way that enhances human experience rather than alienates people or widens social differences, are a response to societies moving into the future[10].

Moreover, the spirit of convergence measures reaches out to include social and economic fairness in a beneficent manner. These measurements highlight the significance of bringing together varied viewpoints, experiences, and voices in the goal of a just and equitable society. It is an appeal to eliminate systematic injustices and establish inclusive institutions that enable every person, regardless of background, to flourish and make a significant contribution to the story of humanity as a whole. The use of convergent measures centers on education, which is a fundamental component of social advancement. The method promotes

an educational environment that fosters critical thinking, compassion, and global awareness in addition to imparting information and skills. By doing this, it equips people to deal with the complexity of the contemporary world holistically and promotes cooperation and unity across ideological, regional, and cultural divides[11].

Humanity's convergent measurements also highlight how crucial environmental care is. This strategy promotes a convergence of initiatives to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and resource depletion as the globe grapples with urgent ecological concerns. Convergent measures promote cooperative actions that transcend geopolitical boundaries and unite mankind in a shared obligation to conserve the earth for future generations by acknowledging the interconnection of all living things and ecosystems. Convergent measures, therefore, are essentially a philosophical compass that directs mankind toward a future in which unity is crucial for success. It calls on people, groups, and societies to pool their resources, expertise, and goals in support of a common goal of a better world that places an emphasis on inclusion, compassion, and long-term development. Adopting convergent measures becomes morally required as we negotiate the complexity of the twenty-first century, influencing a future in which progress, empathy, and unity are woven into humanity's fabric[12].

### **Predictive Utility**

The ability of people, groups, and societies to accurately and reliably predict and foretell future events, trends, and results is known as predictive value in humanitiespeak. This idea is applicable to many other domains and sectors, such as technology, finance, healthcare, and social sciences. Making well-informed projections is crucial for guiding strategic choices, reducing risks, and promoting advancement in many facets of human existence. Predictive utility is essential to the advancement of machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms in the field of technology. By identifying patterns and trends in massive volumes of data, these cutting-edge technologies allow robots to anticipate future events. Predictive utility improves the efficacy and efficiency of many systems, from traffic control and weather forecasting to online platform tailored suggestions. Predictive analytics helps with market forecasting, risk management, and investment strategies in the financial industry. Predictive models are used by financial institutions and investors to forecast market trends, evaluate investment risks, and enhance portfolio performance. Predicting market behavior and economic swings enables people and institutions to make educated financial choices, which eventually promotes economic stability[13].

Predictive utility has a major impact on healthcare since it allows for better patient outcomes, tailored treatment regimens, and early illness identification. In order to identify people at risk of certain disorders, predictive models may evaluate genetic information, medical histories, and lifestyle variables. This enables proactive intervention and preventative actions. Predictive analytics also helps healthcare practitioners allocate resources more effectively, improve hospital operations, and effectively manage patient flow. Predictive utility is used by social sciences to comprehend and resolve societal issues. Making precise forecasts offers communities, academics, and politicians' important insights into anything from public health emergencies to crime trends and demographic transitions. This insight makes it easier to create focused actions and policies, which eventually benefits society's progress and well-being. Predictive utility also has a significant impact on environmental sustainability. Climate scientists forecast changes in ecosystems, sea levels, and weather patterns using predictive models. Developing plans to lessen the effects of climate change, adjust to changing environmental conditions, and encourage sustainable activities will need the use of this knowledge[14].

Predictive utility is essentially a strong instrument that helps people, groups, and society deal with the complexity of the past, present, and future. Through the use of cutting-edge technology and analytical techniques, people may make better choices, allocate resources more efficiently, and anticipate problems before they arise. Predictive modeling and data analytics have the potential to have a beneficial influence on many aspects of human existence, and our growing knowledge of these fields is opening the door to an age of extraordinary foresight and strategic planning[15], [16].

### **Construct uniqueness of identification with all humanity:**

The notion that, despite our individual variations and various cultures, there are underlying characteristics of our common human experience that bind us is at the heart of the construct uniqueness of identification with all mankind. In order to create a feeling of connection and empathy that cuts over societal, cultural, and personal barriers, it highlights how important it is to acknowledge and embrace our shared humanity. This framework places a strong emphasis on acknowledging our common difficulties and weaknesses. Regardless of our unique situations, we are all subject to happiness, grief, love, and loss. By identifying these common human emotions, we may create understanding that binds us together at our core. Because of our connectivity, we are more likely to feel empathy and compassion for others, seeing them as fellow humans navigating the challenges of life rather than as strangers with whom we have nothing in common.

Furthermore, the idea of "otherness" is called into question by the premise of unique identity with all of mankind. People often divide and classify themselves according to a range of factors, including country, race, ethnicity, and religion. Conflict and even a feeling of alienation may result from this.

But by highlighting our common humanity, this concept invites people to get beyond these made-up divisions and welcome the variety that enhances the human experience. Social justice and international collaboration are also greatly impacted by the development of a feeling of identification with all of mankind. People are more inclined to promote the welfare of the whole human family when they see the similarities between other people. This viewpoint encourages a commitment to tackling global concerns including poverty, inequality, and environmental difficulties by promoting a feeling of responsibility for the well-being of all people[16], [17].

Moreover, the notion of unique identity with all humanity is consistent with the values of equality and human rights. Accepting that all people have intrinsic value and dignity serves to reaffirm that all people are deserving of respect, regardless of their circumstances or background. This has the potential to foster more diverse and inclusive communities that put the welfare of all its members first. In practical terms, this concept encourages people to take part in events and projects that advance global understanding and collaboration. It promotes communication, learning, and cross-cultural interaction as ways to dismantle boundaries and build a feeling of interdependence.

It also emphasizes how important it is to have a global perspective that looks beyond our immediate or personal interests to the larger picture of how our activities affect the world. The concept of unique identification with all of humanity pushes us to look beyond our outward differences and acknowledge the deep connections that tie us all together. This viewpoint has the capacity to promote empathy, comprehension, and a feeling of shared responsibility, all of which might lead to a society that is more fair, compassionate, and peaceful. It encourages people and communities to embrace their shared humanity, strengthening the bonds that often separate us and fostering a feeling of connection[18].

### **Stability and Relationships with General Personality and Emotionality:**

The complex link between stability and its substantial effects on emotionality, general personality characteristics, and relationships offers an engrossing look into the complex dynamics of human connection and behavior. Stability is a crucial factor in defining an individual's personality and impacting the quality of interactions with others. It is often seen as the foundation of mental and emotional health. Fundamentally, stability is the capacity of a person to retain emotional equilibrium and feeling of equilibrium in the face of adversity and uncertainty in life. This stability encompasses a wider range of qualities, including dependability, flexibility, and conscientiousness, than just emotional resilience. It serves as a stabilizing factor that influences how people navigate and contribute to their social environment in addition to stabilizing their internal reality. Stability has a close relationship with the well-known Five Factor Model, sometimes referred to as the Big Five personality qualities, in the field of psychology [19], [20]. A key element of this concept is the attribute of emotional stability, or its opposite, neuroticism. Higher emotional stability is often correlated with stronger resistance to stress, a more upbeat attitude, and an increased ability to establish and sustain solid relationships. Conversely, a lack of emotional stability is often linked to a greater vulnerability to anxiety, mood fluctuations, and interpersonal difficulties. Analyzing stability in regard to relationships reveals a complex web of linkages between emotional balance and the strength of bonds. Because of their steady emotional reactions and capacity to withstand relationship's inevitable storms, stable people are often found to cultivate better and longer-lasting partnerships. Furthermore, stability fosters trust, closeness, and mutual support in partnerships by supporting a secure attachment style [21], [22].

As the other half of this complex equation, emotionality is the range of emotional expression and reactivity. An individual's emotional landscape is shaped by the dynamic combination of emotionality and stability. Comprehending the interplay between these components offers significant understanding of the subtleties of human conduct, explaining why some people could be better at creating enduring relationships while others would struggle with emotional instability and social difficulties. The study of stability and its complicated interaction with emotionality and general personality qualities provides a road map for self-discovery and interpersonal development as we traverse the challenging terrain of human relationships. Understanding the tremendous effects of stability on how our personalities develop and how relationships function may provide us with important new perspectives that will enable us to build resilience, create lasting bonds, and set out on a path to emotional satisfaction and well-being.

### **Relations of IWAH with HEXACO-60 and PANAS:**

The HEXACO-60 personality assessment, the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS), and individual well-being and happiness (IWAH) interact to create a rich and nuanced network of psychological variables that illuminate the complexity of the human experience. These three categories each contribute to our knowledge of individual variances in well-being, personality characteristics, and emotional states. They reflect different but interrelated facets of the human psyche. IWAH, as the primary emphasis, encompasses a holistic viewpoint on a person's general feeling of well-being, happiness, and overall life satisfaction. It includes all aspects of life, such as social interactions, personal achievements, and mental and physical health. An in-depth understanding of a person's subjective experiences and assessments of their own life is offered by the analysis of IWAH, which forms the basis for the investigation of psychological functioning.

In contrast, the HEXACO-60 examines personality characteristics using a six-factor model that captures aspects such as conscientiousness, agreeableness, extraversion, emotionality,



honesty-humility, and openness to new experiences. HEXACO-60's incorporation into the IWAH research provides insightful information on how individual personality variations may affect outcomes related to well-being. For example, certain personality qualities may make people more likely to be resilient, optimistic, or to have pleasant social connections, all of which may have an effect on an individual's overall well-being. The PANAS is a commonly used instrument in the field of emotional states that is used to evaluate both positive and negative affect. It gauges the existence and strength of both negative and positive emotions, including fear and grief, as well as feelings of excitement and delight. Analyzing PANAS scores in combination with IWAH and HEXACO-60 allows for a more sophisticated comprehension of the emotional foundations of wellbeing. Through investigating the ways in which both positive and negative affect contribute to overall life satisfaction, researchers are able to get important insights about the emotional terrain that people encounter on a daily basis[23].

The relationships among IWAH, HEXACO-60, and PANAS highlight the complex interactions among personality characteristics, emotional experiences, and subjective well-being. This all-encompassing approach is beneficial to both researchers and practitioners because it provides a more complete knowledge of the elements that lead to human flourishing. Psychologists and other professionals may customize treatments and methods to improve the well-being of individuals by analyzing these linkages and taking into account the distinct interaction between personality characteristics and emotional states that influence the human experience. The amalgamation of several psychological domains enhances our understanding of the multifarious elements impacting life quality and adds to the continuous discourse within positive psychology[24].

### **Temporal consistency in Humanity:**

The term "temporal consistency in humanity" describes the persistent and constant aspects of human behavior, values, and nature over time. It explores the notion that certain basic traits and ideas endure over many historical periods, cultural shifts, and social transformations. This idea recognizes the enduring nature of human experiences and the commonalities that unite people throughout time.

The study of human temporal consistency looks at the enduring characteristics that have shaped mankind across time. This incorporates core principles like empathy, fortitude, and the quest of knowledge. It also includes moral, ethical, and cultural precepts that have shaped nations over many generations and across temporal bounds. Fundamentally, human temporal consistency acknowledges the enduring quality of certain human pursuits and goals. Even in the present period, people are still searching for significance, connection, and comprehension from old civilizations. The manifestations of human creativity in literature, art, and invention bear witness to the everlasting spirit that endures over the ages[25].

In addition, the idea recognizes the difficulties and conflicts that have persisted throughout history. Throughout history, themes of conflict, justice, and the quest for a better future have been prevalent, highlighting the common challenges and goals that characterize the human experience. By looking at temporal consistency, one may make connections between the past and the present and understand how human experiences are related. People get insights into the universal qualities of the human experience and promote a greater awareness of the collective journey that transcends generations when they acknowledge the lasting aspects of our common humanity.

The core of what it is to be human persists despite changes in civilizations, technology, and cultures. Humanity's temporal consistency promotes continuity and a feeling of connection

across a very long period of time by encouraging contemplation on the lasting traits that unite us as a species. People may develop a deep respect for the flexibility, resilience, and common ideals that have characterized mankind throughout history by comprehending these constants[26].

## **DISCUSSION**

Delves into the subtleties of identification with mankind, "Exploring the Depths of Identification with All Humanity and A Multidisciplinary Journey from Theory to Real-World Applications" offers a multidisciplinary path from theoretical notions to useful, real-world applications. The conversation flows over a diverse range of concepts and disciplines to provide a thorough examination of the difficulties associated with human identity. The review's involvement with a variety of ideas, which draw from disciplines including psychology, sociology, anthropology, and maybe even more, demonstrates the interdisciplinary approach. The review deftly threads across the theoretical terrain throughout the conversation, illuminating the many dimensions of human identity[27]. It investigates the sociocultural elements that influence our collective identity as well as the psychological processes that underpin our feeling of interpersonal connection. Furthermore, the review smoothly moves from the theoretical framework into an investigation of real-world applications. This change is an example of a dedication to closing the gap between intangible goals and concrete results. It is very important to investigate real-world applications since it puts the theoretical arguments in the perspective of daily living. The assessment provides a clear picture of how the idea of identification with humanity may be used to promote good social change, from promoting a feeling of global citizenship to implications for collaboration and conflict resolution. The review's transdisciplinary trip is not only an intellectual exercise; it also serves as a call to action, getting readers to think about how the ideas covered may be used in real-world situations[22].

## **CONCLUSION**

The review concludes by offering a comprehensive and thought-provoking analysis of the intricate relationship between human identity and its many expressions. The review shows the practical importance of these principles and deepens our theoretical knowledge by skillfully combining insights from other fields. It is appropriate to advocate for a multidisciplinary approach since it reflects the interconnectedness of human experience and promotes a deeper understanding of the factors influencing our shared identity. Readers are encouraged to examine how they might contribute to the advancement of society by reflecting on their own responsibilities in developing a feeling of common humanity and by navigating through the conversation and taking in the interdisciplinary perspectives. In the conclusion, the review invites readers to participate in the investigation of the depths of human identification and its revolutionary potential in the actual world by acting as a bridge across disciplines.

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## CHAPTER 11

### HARMONY IN DIVERSITY AND EXPLORING DYNAMIC CONCEPTIONS OF HUMANITY, INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS

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#### ABSTRACT:

With a focus on multicultural interactions, this abstract explores "Harmony in Diversity" from a variety of angles and offers dynamic concepts of mankind. The story makes its way through human dynamics, the transforming power of cooperative learning, and the interconnection of a constantly changing global civilization. The creative viewpoint promotes adaptation, flexibility, and lifelong learning while challenging traditional ideas about humankind. It delves deeply into the study of intercultural communication, promoting a profound understanding of other cultures, traditions, and beliefs. The abstract also explores the dynamic overlap between cultures, normative ideas guiding human behavior, and ethical considerations on relativism and universalism. It reveals the relationships, requirements, and contingencies that exist within cooperative learning, emphasizing its significance in establishing a cooperative, inclusive, and peaceful future for all people. The story's conclusion emphasizes how crucial it is to have a culturally sensitive stance while trying to strike a balance between universal values and the rich tapestry of cultural variety.

#### KEYWORDS:

Cooperative Learning, Cultural Comparison, Cultural Diversity, Dynamic Overlap, Humanity, Intercultural Relations.

#### INTRODUCTION

A dynamic conception of humanity, intercultural relation, and cooperative learning delves deeply into the complex interactions that exist between cooperative learning's transformational potential, human dynamics, and intercultural relationships. This innovative idea aims to rethink mankind by highlighting how society and people are dynamic and ever-changing in an increasingly interconnected world[1]. Fundamentally, this dynamic perspective emphasizes the rich variety that exists within the human experience and the significant influence that cultural exchanges have on individual and group growth. It explores the intricacies of cross-cultural communication, encouraging a greater understanding of the diverse range of customs, viewpoints, and values that make up the world community. Examining intercultural interactions via an interdisciplinary perspective makes it a central focus, highlighting the need of good communication, empathy, and understanding in a world where boundaries are becoming more permeable[2].

Cooperative learning is also emphasized heavily in the notion as a transformational method of instruction. It aims to create a learning atmosphere where cooperation, information sharing, and personal development are encouraged beyond conventional bounds. Cooperative learning serves as a catalyst for the advancement of both people and society by using the combined intellect and varied experiences of participants. The dynamic notion proposes that educational procedures should be modified to promote peaceful cooperation in contemporary globalized world as it acknowledges the connection between learning and cultural understanding. This idea also opposes fixed and inflexible conceptions of mankind, promoting a way of thinking that values adaptability, flexibility, and ongoing education. It inspires people to see themselves as active characters in the continuous story of human

growth, with the power to direct their own paths and make significant contributions to the advancement of society as a whole[3]. A dynamic conception of humanity, intercultural relation, and cooperative learning basically challenges us to reevaluate our assumptions about what it is to be human and how we should approach cross-cultural interactions and education. It promotes a paradigm shift in favor of a more flexible, interconnected, and cooperative worldview in which people and communities prosper as a result of a common dedication to development, comprehension, and the quest of knowledge in a constantly changing global environment. This idea provides a framework for building a future for mankind that is more inclusive, enlightened, and harmonious.

### **A Normative Doctrine of Humanity**

Towards comprehending and molding the moral fabric that dictates human conduct a normative doctrine of humanity presents a thorough and stimulating structure. This ideology, which has its roots in ethical philosophy, aims to provide a set of standards that define the values and norms necessary for society and human existence to develop. This normative philosophy primarily examines the basic issues pertaining to human life and the moral principles that ought to guide our behavior. It aims to provide a universal moral basis that cuts across cultural, religious, and ideological divides by drawing on a variety of philosophical traditions. The concept explores the fundamental aspects of what it is to be human, including our innate rights, dignity, and duties. A careful examination of human rights and the moral duties that people have to one another as individuals and society is at the heart of this normative framework. It addresses questions of fairness, equality, and the common good while attempting to find a middle ground that promotes peaceful cohabitation between many people and cultures[4].

Furthermore, a normative doctrine of humanity discusses the moral ramifications of developments in technology, science, and society. It considers the ethical aspects of innovation, the proper use of power, and the defense of human dignity in a world that is always changing. This concept upholds timeless truths that speak to our common humanity and acts as a compass, leading people and society through the complexity of the current world. By interacting with this normative concept, academics, ethicists, and intellectuals contribute to a continuing conversation that influences the moral climate of our international society[5]. The discussion around a normative doctrine of humanity is lively, fostering a range of viewpoints and critical thought on the moral principles that ought to guide both individual and group behavior. Essentially, this normative doctrine is a philosophical investigation that goes beyond just theoretical reflection with the goal of offering useful perspectives and direction to people, decision-makers, and groups dedicated to creating a society that is more compassionate, fair, and morally based. As it develops, it may have an impact on moral conversation and spur widespread good change, reinforcing the eternal value of our humanity[6].

### **Relativism and the Eradication of Cultural Comparison**

The philosophical position of relativism challenges the conventional ideas of moral universals and absolute truth, arguing that morality and truth are contextually and subjectively relative. This worldview challenges the reliability and validity of establishing value judgments across many communities, which has significant ramifications, especially in the area of cultural comparison. Adopting relativism has the unintended consequence of eliminating cultural comparison as it holds that every culture has its own particular framework, making any effort to assess or contrast them erroneous. The idea that there is no objective yardstick by which cultural customs, ethical standards, or beliefs may be evaluated is the fundamental tenet of relativism. Rather, relativism's proponents contend that in order to

really comprehend and evaluate a culture, one must fully immerse themselves in its unique environment and see the subtleties and complexities that define its norms and values. The fundamental tenets of comparative cultural analysis which has long aimed to pinpoint similarities and distinctions across societies are called into question by this denial of universal standards for assessing civilizations [7], [8].

Cultural comparison has typically included looking at many facets of cultures, such as social structures, ethics, and traditions, in order to find trends and make sense of them. Relativism, on the other hand, disputes this method by claiming that there are no universal standards that can be used to judge whether a particular cultural practice is better or worse than another. Critics contend that this viewpoint might result in a kind of cultural nihilism in which any conduct is accepted as equally legitimate within its own cultural context, regardless of its ramifications for ethics or society at large. Moreover, the elimination of cultural comparison in the context of relativism begs the issue of what the purpose of cultural relativism really is. Although cultural relativism encourages respect and tolerance for other viewpoints, it is also criticized for perhaps legitimizing actions that might go against ethical standards or human rights. It becomes clear that preserving core values and appreciating cultural variety are incompatible, casting doubt on the idea that cultural relativism may serve as a universal paradigm [9].

Some contend that cultures may miss out on important chances for development, education, and cooperation if there is no cultural comparison. In the past, cross-cultural understanding, international collaboration, and the identification of effective societal practices have all benefited greatly from comparative cultural studies. Because relativism rejects cultural comparison, it may impede these processes by discouraging critical analysis and positive cross-cultural communication. Relativism creates discussions regarding the implications of giving up on cultural comparison entirely, even while it provides a prism through which to understand the variety of human experiences. Maintaining a commitment to common human ideals while appreciating cultural diversity continues to be a difficult task.

The debate over relativism and the elimination of cultural comparison is still ongoing, influencing discussions about ethics, cultural studies, and how societies strike a balance between preserving universal values and appreciating variety [10].

### **Universalism and Underestimating Cultural Differences:**

A philosophical and ethical viewpoint known as universalism asserts that there are globally applicable underlying principles or values that transcend individual, societal, and cultural distinctions. It implies that some standards, rights, or facts should be accepted and respected by all civilizations regardless of cultural differences. Although the admirable goal of advancing universal principles for the benefit of mankind is at the core of the notion of universalism, it sometimes has the unintended consequence of undervaluing cultural diversity. Belief in universal principles is often motivated by the goal of creating a moral code that unites people from different cultural origins. Universalists believe that some values like justice, equality, and human rights should be seen as fundamental to every person, regardless of their cultural background. This strategy emphasizes the similarities that unite all people in an effort to promote a feeling of international cooperation and solidarity [11].

Nevertheless, universalism's possible drawback is its propensity to ignore the variety and complexity of various cultures. Ignoring cultural differences may lead to a lack of appreciation for the distinctive viewpoints, customs, and values that characterize different civilizations. This omission may result in ethnocentrism, which is the tacit assumption that one's own cultural standards are superior to or more legitimate than those of others. This may

cause miscommunication and conflict. Social structures, communication techniques, and worldviews of people are significantly shaped by cultural variations. When distinctions between cultures are not acknowledged and respected, it may result in cultural imperialism the imposition of one culture's ideals on another without taking into account the particular historical, social, and cultural settings of those other cultures. Indigenous identities, rituals, and customs may be lost as a consequence, which might lead to a global culture that is homogenized and may not accurately reflect the variety of human viewpoints[12], [13].

Adopting a culturally aware approach is crucial to striking a balance between universalism and cultural sensitivity. This entails appreciating and respecting the variety of cultural manifestations while yet accepting the presence of universal principles. To lessen the possible drawbacks of universalism, one should embrace cultural relativism, the idea that other cultures have their own genuine and appropriate ways of seeing the world. It is critical to recognize the importance of cultural diversity even as universalism seeks to provide a shared ethical framework for all people. While acknowledging and valuing the distinctive contributions of every culture, a nuanced and culturally aware approach also acknowledges the common values that bind us all together. We may advance toward a more inclusive and peaceful society that honors both universal ideals and cultural differences by promoting an international discourse that celebrates variety[14].

### **Dynamic Overlap Relationship among Cultures**

The study describes the complex and dynamic interactions that take place between various cultural components in the global fabric of human cultures. This idea recognizes that cultures are dynamic, linked systems that continuously shape and influence one another via dynamic overlap. Instead of being static, separate entities, cultures are seen as such. The phrase captures the many ways in which cultural divides dissolve, allowing for the sharing of customs, beliefs, and behaviors. Fundamentally, the dynamic connection of overlap across cultures emphasizes the concept that cultural identities are dynamic and prone to continuing modification as a result of interactions and engagements between various groups. Numerous causes, including as migration, globalization, technological improvements, and the growing interconnection of cultures, are responsible for this fluidity. This dynamic connection is greatly influenced by cultural interchange, which creates a complex tapestry of shared experiences and influences. Cultures continuously borrow, adapt, and incorporate aspects from one another via commerce, communication, and human migration.

In addition to influencing the participating civilizations, this continuous contact helps create new, hybrid cultural manifestations that capture the spirit of many influences. Furthermore, the dynamic interaction of cultural overlap emphasizes the value of cultural variety and the need of intercultural communication. When cultures interact, tensions may arise as well as opportunities for enrichment. Gaining a better understanding and appreciation of these dynamic overlaps may promote cultural peace and a feeling of our common humanity and global connectivity[15], [16].

The idea of dynamic overlap across cultures becomes even more important in today's environment of fast information flow and progressively eroding barriers. It casts doubt on conventional ideas of cultural purity and highlights the need of acceptance and open-mindedness in the face of a world civilization that is always changing. Through acknowledging and commemorating the interdependence of cultures, civilizations may foster a more welcoming and peaceful global community where the diversity's richness is welcomed and honored.



### **Contingencies and Necessities of Cooperative Learning:**

Cooperative learning is a dynamic educational strategy that transcends standard classroom practices in the ever-evolving field of education. The enduring effects of cooperative learning on students' academic performance and social skills have motivated educators and scholars to investigate the requirements and conditions that form this cutting-edge teaching approach. Cooperative learning is more than just a fad; it is a purposeful teaching strategy meant to encourage student participation, critical thinking, and interpersonal skills. This method emphasizes group projects where students collaborate to accomplish shared objectives. This creates an atmosphere that supports students' academic development as well as their feeling of belonging and shared responsibility. The implications of cooperative learning are seen in many areas of the curriculum. Educators are essential in fostering an environment that is favorable to successful collaboration, from organizing diverse and well-balanced groups to skillfully facilitating group procedures. In addition, it is determined that the incorporation of technology, imaginative problem-solving exercises, and project-based evaluations are essential elements that enhance cooperative learning and enable it to be tailored to a variety of subject areas and learning styles[17], [18].

In the field of cooperative learning, a few essentials stand out as crucial cornerstones bolstering its efficacy. To guarantee that every student makes a significant contribution to the group's learning process, it is essential to establish clear learning goals, responsibilities that are clearly defined, and reciprocal responsibility. Building trust and encouraging open communication among students are essential components of educators' efforts to help students develop a cooperative mentality. This results in an inclusive learning environment where a diversity of viewpoints is valued.

It is imperative that technology be included into cooperative learning in the digital age. Virtual platforms, multimedia materials, and online collaboration tools are essential elements that enable smooth communication and cooperation amongst students regardless of their location. Technology integration into cooperative learning is becoming crucial to educating students to succeed in a globalized and linked society, as it continues to transform educational paradigms. Education research continually emphasizes the benefits of cooperative learning, including higher academic achievement, sharper critical thinking abilities, and more information retention. This lengthy explanation recognizes the revolutionary potential of cooperative learning in influencing the future of education and urges educators, administrators, and policymakers to investigate the requirements and uncertainties of this approach. Stakeholders may help create dynamic learning communities where students thrive academically and develop into collaborative, adaptive problem solvers prepared to face the challenges of the twenty-first century by adopting this pedagogical method[19].

### **The Dependencies of Collaborative Education**

The many conditions, situations, and components that affect the efficiency and results of cooperative learning activities in educational contexts are referred to as cooperative learning contingencies. As part of the cooperative learning approach, students collaborate in small groups to accomplish shared objectives, which promotes comprehension, information sharing, and cooperative problem-solving. Even though everyone agrees that cooperative learning has many advantages, there are many other factors that influence how well it works. Group composition is one important condition. The variety of individuals' backgrounds, abilities, and personalities impact the dynamics within a cooperative learning group. Diverse viewpoints and skill sets among group members may foster a dynamic flow of ideas, but efficient coordination and communication become crucial difficulties[20]. Conversely,

homogenous organizations could gain from more seamless cooperation but may lose out on the advantages of varied viewpoints. Another important factor is the kind of assignment that the cooperative learning group has been given. Activities requiring interdependence among group members where each person's input is crucial to the group's success tend to improve cooperative learning's efficacy. The task's difficulty also matters; more difficult jobs often call for greater degrees of collaboration and communication among group members. The effectiveness of cooperative learning is also strongly influenced by the role of the instructor. Establishing a welcoming and inclusive classroom setting, providing clear directions, and clearly defining learning goals are all crucial to fostering a cooperative learning environment[21], [22]. In addition, teachers are essential in overseeing and directing group discussions, offering assistance when required, and guaranteeing that every student participates fully.

Another factor that should not be disregarded is the sociocultural backdrop of the learning environment. Students' approaches to collaborative activities are shaped by a variety of factors, including cultural background, social conventions, and past experiences. In order to establish a cooperative learning environment that is both inclusive and culturally sensitive, educators need to be aware of certain contextual elements. Furthermore, a variety of individual characteristics influence a student's attitudes and desire for cooperative learning. While some students may be more at ease working alone, others might find that teamwork comes effortlessly to them. Positive collaboration attitudes and a focus on the value of each member's contribution may help to lessen the negative effects of individual differences. The effectiveness of cooperative learning is also impacted by time allocation and management. For a well-rounded educational experience, it is important to strike a balance between the amount of time spent on individual and group projects, making sure that group activities do not take precedence over critical individual learning. There are many different and related cooperative learning contingencies. Group makeup, task characteristics, instructor engagement, sociocultural background, individual variations, and time management all need to be carefully considered for successful implementation. Teachers may fully use cooperative learning and create a collaborative, stimulating learning environment for all students by attending to these factors[22], [23].

### **The Needs for Collaborative Education**

A educational strategy called cooperative learning places a strong emphasis on students' interactive and collaborative learning experiences. Cooperative learning, which is based on the idea that people can accomplish more as a group than as an individual, is now a fundamental component of contemporary educational approaches. Cooperative learning requires many different things, including cognitive, social, and emotional aspects that all go into creating a comprehensive and productive learning environment. The capacity of cooperative learning to develop critical thinking and problem-solving abilities is one of its main requirements. Students are exposed to a variety of viewpoints and ideas while working in groups, which challenges their own assumptions and encourages them to consider the material more carefully. People develop their ability to critically assess information, synthesize opposing views, and reach well-reasoned conclusions via lively group discussion and debate. In addition to improving their cognitive capacities, this approach gets students ready for the difficult problems they could encounter in their academic and professional careers.

Cooperative learning is also crucial for the development of social skills and interpersonal connections. Students who participate in cooperative learning environments need to be proficient in negotiation, dispute resolution, and effective communicationskills that are

essential for success in both the personal and professional domains. Students who collaborate with one another develop an appreciation for the range of perspectives and experiences, which strengthens the feeling of community in the classroom. These social skills help create a more diverse and cohesive society by being applicable to many facets of life[24], [25]. Student's varied learning styles and aptitudes are also taken into consideration via cooperative learning. Individuals may make the most of one other's limitations and compensate for each other's strengths via cooperative actions. By doing this, the group's members are guaranteed the chance to participate and gain from the team's combined expertise and abilities. Because of this inclusion, the classroom is a happy, encouraging place where every student feels appreciated and encouraged to take an active role in their education. Furthermore, it is impossible to exaggerate the psychological advantages of cooperative learning. Within a group, pupils feel more confident and good about themselves because they have a feeling of shared responsibility and belonging. Knowing that their efforts contribute to the team's success gives them more desire to achieve. A lifetime love of learning is fostered by the supportive learning community that this positive reinforcement builds outside of the classroom[26], [27].

To sum up, the importance of cooperative learning stems from its capacity to foster cognitive, social, and affective growth. Cooperative learning makes for a more fulfilling educational experience by encouraging social skills, addressing a variety of learning styles, boosting emotional well-being, and encouraging critical thinking. Cooperative learning continues to be an essential tool for preparing students for the difficulties of a constantly changing global society as long as educators continue to realize the significance of holistic learning.

## **DISCUSSION**

A deep and nuanced conversation on the changing nature of human interactions in our globalized society may be had thanks to the study's premise and its investigation of dynamic conceptions of humanity and intercultural relations. Cooperative learning, normative humanities, relativism, universalism, the dynamic overlap of cultures, and the uncertainties of collaborative education are just a few of the major subjects that are covered in this conversation. A major subject that presents a transformative approach to training that goes beyond traditional bounds is cooperative learning. The conversation emphasizes how it may establish a learning environment that promotes collaboration, knowledge exchange, and individual growth[28], [29]. The story emphasizes how educational practices must change to foster peaceful collaboration in the modern, globalized society. This dynamic viewpoint, which emphasizes the connection between education and cultural knowledge, questions rigid and unchanging ideas about mankind and promotes adaptation, flexibility, and lifelong learning. The investigation delves into human normative theories, offering a conceptual structure for comprehending and molding ethical behavior. The goal of this normative philosophy is to create norms that apply to everyone, regardless of cultural, religious, or ideological differences. It addresses the moral repercussions of modern technical and sociological advancements while exploring basic facets of human life, such as inherent rights, dignity, and obligations.

After that, the conversation moves through relativism as a philosophical perspective, which challenges accepted notions of moral universals and ultimate truth. We look closely at the possible effects of embracing relativism, especially how it can affect cross-cultural comparisons. As the discussion progresses, it raises concerns about how to strike a balance between valuing cultural variety and perhaps allowing behavior that violates moral principles or human rights. Another viewpoint that promotes universally relevant guiding principles or ideals is universalism. The conversation explores the possible downsides of universalism,

namely its propensity to undervalue cultural diversity and run the danger of cultural imperialism, while working to establish a moral code that connects individuals from different cultural origins. In this situation, finding a balance between universal values and cultural sensitivity becomes essential. The idea of dynamic overlap across cultures is presented, highlighting how intertwined and dynamic cultural identities are [30], [31]. Cultural exchange shapes this dynamic relationship, weaving together a web of common influences and experiences. The conversation emphasizes how crucial it is to comprehend and value these dynamic overlaps in order to promote global connectedness, cultural harmony, and a feeling of shared humanity.

The conversation then shifts to the requirements and uncertainties of cooperative learning, examining the variables that affect its effectiveness in learning environments. Cooperative learning is seen to be successful when certain factors are present, such as group composition, task features, teacher involvement, individual variances, and sociocultural backgrounds. Time management is also thought to be important. The conversation promotes a sophisticated and culturally sensitive strategy to strike a balance between universal values and cultural diversity. The conversation about "Harmony in Diversity and Exploring Dynamic Conceptions of Humanity, Intercultural Relations" provides a thorough understanding of the intricacies involved in the changing dynamics of interpersonal relationships. It demands an approach that is culturally sensitive, flexible, and inclusive in order to celebrate diversity's richness and promote a common commitment to international understanding and collaboration.

## CONCLUSION

As a whole, the investigation reveals a web of interrelated issues that highlight how human connections are always changing in our modern, worldwide society. The dynamic viewpoint that is being given challenges traditional ideas about humans and promotes flexibility, adaptation, and ongoing education as necessary tools for managing a society that is always evolving. A paradigm change in educational techniques is provided by cooperative learning, which emerges as a transformational force. It acknowledges the complex relationship between education and cultural awareness in addition to highlighting the value of teamwork, communication, and personal growth. The story argues that, in light of the dynamic link between learning and cultural appreciation, education should change to foster peaceful collaboration in a globalized society. Humanitarian normative theories provide a conceptual foundation for moral behavior that aims to establish universal principles that cut across cultural boundaries. This conversation tackles the moral ramifications of social and technical breakthroughs while posing important queries about basic facets of human life, such as rights, obligations, and dignity. It emphasizes the constant discussion among scholars, philosophers, and intellectuals to create a society that is more ethically sound, just, and compassionate. The topic is made more complicated by the examination of relativism and universalism, which highlights the difficulties in comparing cultures and the dangers of imposing or undervaluing ideals. A key theme emerges: finding a balance between respecting universal human values and acknowledging cultural variety; this calls for a sophisticated and culturally sensitive strategy to promote international collaboration. The idea of dynamic overlap across cultures draws attention to how intertwined and constantly shifting cultural identities are. This dynamic relationship highlights how crucial it is to comprehend and value the commonalities and influences that weave together a rich tapestry of cultural variety. It fosters an attitude that values diversity, advancing intercultural harmony, a feeling of shared humanity, and interconnectedness on a worldwide scale. The last topic of discussion in the context of cooperative learning is requirements and contingencies. The membership of the group, the nature of the activity, the involvement of the teacher, the sociocultural backgrounds of the

participants, individual differences, and time management all play a role in how well collaborative education works. It is demanded that legislators, administrators, and educators take note of these elements and embrace cooperative learning as a flexible instrument that creates inclusive, harmonic, and collaborative learning environments. The study of ultimately gives us a deep comprehension of the complex interplay between many factors that influence our global civilization. It calls for a global commitment to promoting a future that honors universal ideals, cherishes the richness of cultural variety, and is nourished by the cooperative spirit of people everywhere. The story serves as a call to action, promoting constant communication, flexibility, and an unrelenting commitment to creating a peaceful and linked society.

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## CHAPTER 12

### NAVIGATING THE CONTROVERSIES AND THE INTERSECTION WITH BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

The complex link between biodiversity protection and the varied panorama of environmental services and ethical grounds. Discussions on the definition, evaluation, and management of ecosystem services have taken center stage in the policy, scientific, and environmental sectors. While accepting the benefits ecosystems provide to humans, disagreements about how to measure and value these services economically have given rise to debate and worries about commercialization and the possible undervaluation of nature's inherent worth. The concept of ecosystem services incorporates ethical issues seamlessly, offering a holistic approach that incorporates moral reasoning into decision-making processes in a variety of disciplines.

The abstract explores the ethical foundations of the ecosystem services idea, stressing the significance of integrity, accountability, and responsibility in decision-making. Beyond traditional environmental management strategies, the abstract also examines how the idea of ecosystem services represents a paradigm change in sustainability and environmental research. It challenges the prevailing emphasis on economic issues over social and environmental concerns and stresses the incorporation of fundamental values into decision-making processes. Examined is the changing interaction between humans and nature, taking into account environmental, historical, cultural, and spiritual factors. With an emphasis on ecological sustainability, conservation initiatives, and environmental stewardship, the growing understanding of the need for a more sustainable and harmonious relationship between people and the environment is stressed.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Biodiversity, Conservation, Ecosystem Services, Human-Nature Relationship, Sustainability.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The ecosystem services as a contested concept describes the continuous discussion and dispute over the definition, assessment, and management of ecosystem services that occurs within the policy, scientific, and environmental communities. The many advantages that people get from ecosystems, including clean water, agricultural pollination, climate management, and cultural or recreational values, are known as ecosystem services. In order to emphasize the significance of ecosystems to human well-being and to integrate this knowledge into decision-making processes, the idea of ecosystem services rose to prominence. But the word has come under scrutiny because of differing opinions about how to measure and value these services economically, as well as worries about commercialization and the possibility of underestimating nature's inherent value[1].

Critics contend that reducing ecosystem services to economic terms might misrepresent cultural and social aspects, oversimplify the intricate interactions within ecosystems, and result in poor policy choices. There are also arguments about whether some services provided by nature should be valued at incalculable amounts or if all components of nature should have a monetary value. The idea's contentious nature draws attention to the continuous need



for interdisciplinary discussion and cooperation in order to better comprehend, quantify, and manage ecosystem services while taking into account the ecological, ethical, and cultural aspects of these vital gifts from nature to human societies[2].

### **There are ethical justifications for the ES idea:**

Encompassing a broad range of subjects and disciplines, the ES notion deftly integrates ethical arguments as an essential and foundational element. Fundamentally, Ethical Systems, or ES, is a comprehensive strategy that integrates a strong ethical foundation to handle corporate, social, and personal concerns. This idea is applicable to a wide range of fields, including business, technology, healthcare, and the environment. It is based on the understanding that ethical issues are not only crucial, but also the cornerstone of fair and sustainable advancement. The explicit consideration and incorporation of ethical concepts into decision-making processes is one of the main tenets of the ES idea. This is actively attempting to comprehend, assess, and prioritize ethical factors in addition to realizing the moral implications of decisions. The ES framework's ethical arguments help people and organizations make ethically decent judgments that also happen to be legally and financially sound, all while considering the wider picture of how decisions will affect stakeholders and society as a whole[3].

The ES idea also places a strong emphasis on fostering an environment that values accountability, responsibility, and integrity. It acknowledges that acting ethically is a dynamic, ever-evolving attitude that calls for constant thought and adjustment rather than just a collection of rules to be followed. This strategy pushes people and organizations to actively commit to moral conduct that is consistent with society norms and shared values, rather than just following the law. By encouraging responsible innovation, the ES idea upends conventional paradigms in the context of business and technology. It promotes the creation and use of technologies that give ethical issues like privacy, equity, and openness first priority. This reduces possible risks and promotes trust in the community at large as well as among users. Thus, the incorporation of ethical considerations into the ES framework is crucial to forming a future in which technological innovations are consistent with human values and have a good impact on society[4].

The ES idea emphasizes the value of making moral decisions in patient care, research, and policy development. It guarantees that ethical concerns are fundamental to medical practices and healthcare systems by promoting patient autonomy, informed consent, and the fair allocation of resources. Furthermore, the ES idea promotes moral solutions that deal with these problems head-on by acknowledging the interdependence of global concerns like social injustice and climate change. It demands a group commitment to social justice, environmental care, and sustainable behaviors. The ES idea is a thorough framework that incorporates ethical reasons into many aspects of its design. The ES idea offers a roadmap for a more equitable, sustainable, and morally grounded future across several domains and disciplines by emphasizing ethical concerns in decision-making, encouraging a culture of responsibility, and directing innovation with moral principles[5].

### **Integrate intrinsic values using the ES notion**

Ecosystem Services, or ES for short, is a paradigm shift in sustainability and environmental research. Fundamentally, ecosystem services (ES) aims to identify and measure the many advantages that ecosystems provide to humankind. These advantages, which are also known as intrinsic values, include a broad range of services, such as the supply of clean air and water, crop pollination, and climate management. By acknowledging and appreciating the direct and indirect benefits of ecosystems to human well-being, the ES idea goes beyond

conventional environmental management techniques. The ES concept's ability to make it easier to incorporate intrinsic values into decision-making processes is one of its fascinating features. In the past, economic factors have often superseded social and environmental concerns, which has resulted in unsustainable behavior and ecological destruction. Nonetheless, the ES idea provides a complete framework that enables a more thorough and equitable approach to resource management by recognizing the inherent values hidden in ecosystems[5].

A change in viewpoint is required to integrate intrinsic values via the ES idea, since it acknowledges that robust ecosystems are vital to the resilience and smooth operation of our world, not only beautiful to look at or morally significant. It creates opportunities for the integration of environmental factors into company plans, urban planning, and governmental decisions. This paradigm shift pushes stakeholders to see nature as a collaborator in sustainable development rather than just as a resource to be mined. Additionally, the ES idea promotes the measurement and assessment of ecosystem services, giving decision-makers concrete measures to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of various options. This makes it possible to make better-informed decisions that take into account how human activity may affect ecosystems and the benefits they provide in the long run. The ES idea is a potent paradigm that emphasizes the interconnectedness of human well-being and healthy ecosystems, transcending conventional borders. Through promoting the incorporation of inherent values into the process of making decisions, it has the potential to guide society toward a more peaceful and sustainable cohabitation with the environment. This paradigm change is essential for solving the present environmental issues as well as forging forward with a resilient and environmentally conscientious future[6].

### **Humannature relationship:**

The complex and dynamic relationships that exist between people and the natural world are captured by the human-nature interaction, often referred to as the human-environment or human-ecosystem relationship. It is a multifaceted idea that examines how people engage with, interpret, and are impacted by their surroundings. It covers the material and metaphorical aspects of this complex relationship. People and nature have always been closely entwined since people depend on nature for a variety of resources necessary for existence, including food and shelter. Because of their close links to the natural world, early civilizations developed their cultural practices, belief systems, and way of life in reaction to the cycles and rhythms of their surroundings. The nature of this interaction changed as civilizations developed, as a result of globalization, urbanization, and technological breakthroughs that changed how people interacted with their environment[7].

There is more to the link between humans and environment than just practical considerations; it also involves spirituality, aesthetics, and identity. Numerous societies around have established deep spiritual bonds with the natural environment, considering it to be holy and full of symbolic value. The aesthetic aspect of this connection is highlighted by the way that human fascination with the beauty, power, and mystery of the natural world is often reflected in literary works, philosophical debate, and artistic representations. But environmental effects have also increased in step with the development of human civilizations. The sustainability of the interaction between humans and environment has come under scrutiny due to factors such as industrialization, deforestation, pollution, and climate change. Environmental disasters brought on by the overuse of natural resources and the destruction of ecosystems have forced people to reconsider how they see and engage with the natural world[8].

There's a rising awareness in today's debate of the need for a more sustainable and harmonious interaction between humans and environment. Ecological sustainability,

conservation, and environmental stewardship are terms that have gained popularity as people attempt to address the problems brought on by climate change and biodiversity loss. The development of eco-friendly technology, conservation efforts, and environmental awareness campaigns are signs of a paradigm shift towards a more conscientious and responsible cohabitation with nature.

The link between humans and nature is an interdisciplinary field that incorporates ideas from environmental science, ecology, sociology, psychology, and philosophy. In an effort to better understand how people see and appreciate nature, academics and researchers investigate not only the historical and cultural elements of this connection but also its psychological and emotional components. Furthermore, conversations regarding the rights of nature and environmental ethics add to the continuing discourse about the moral obligations that people have to the natural world[9]. In the end, the interaction between humans and environment is a complicated and dynamic phenomena that both influences and is changed by the behaviors and attitudes of people and communities. Building a healthy and sustainable connection with nature is essential for the survival of ecosystems and the human species as we traverse the challenges of the twenty-first century.

### **Using the ES principle, society and nature may be reconnected**

The idea of Ecological Sustainability (ES) is a potent and revolutionary strategy for promoting a peaceful coexistence of humans and the environment. The ES idea emerges as a ray of hope and a road map for reconnection in an age defined by unparalleled environmental problems and a growing understanding of the complex interdependencies between human activities and the health of the earth. Fundamentally, Ecological Sustainability promotes the prudent and equitable use of resources, guaranteeing that current generations fulfill their requirements without jeopardizing the capacity of future generations to fulfill theirs. It represents a significant conceptual change by highlighting how important it is to see nature as a vital partner rather than just a resource to be used for human benefit. This paradigm promotes an all-encompassing viewpoint that takes biodiversity, the complex network of ecosystems, and the precarious balance that keeps life on Earth viable into account[8].

The potential of the ES idea to cultivate a revitalized relationship between society and environment is one of its main features. As a result of the rapid industrialization, urbanization, and widespread use of natural resources, there has often been tension between the human species and its surroundings. Ecological sustainability aims to bridge this gap by endorsing actions that put ecosystem health first, encourage biodiversity, and protect the planet's natural cycles. Adopting the ES idea practically means reassessing our production and consumption systems, embracing regenerative and renewable approaches, and putting in place laws that give natural habitat preservation first priority.

By doing this, we may build a civilization that sustains the resilience and vibrancy of the natural environment, which is the foundation of all life, in addition to meeting its immediate needs. Furthermore, the ES idea acknowledges nature's inherent worth in addition to its practical advantages. It recognizes the significant influence that a flourishing environment has on people's physical and mental health. The Environmental Sustainability (ES) concept emphasizes the connection between a healthy environment and a resilient, dynamic civilization, including everything from clean air and water to the cultural and recreational significance of natural regions[7].

Essentially, the Earth System idea functions as a guiding theory for a sustainable future in which humans take on the role as stewards of the earth. It challenges us to reconsider how we relate to the natural environment and motivates us all to work together to live peacefully with

it as opposed to using it for selfish purposes. Adopting the concepts of ecological sustainability becomes not only necessary as we manage the complexity of the contemporary world, but also a significant chance to create a more resilient, just, and linked world for future generations.

### **Disagreements with the idea of biodiversity**

The idea of biodiversity is contested by a wide range of human actions that have significant and often negative effects on the diverse web of life on Earth. The word "biodiversity," which was derived from "biological diversity," refers to the range of ecosystems, genetic diversity, and living forms that exist on Earth. It offers several ecological, financial, and cultural advantages and is an essential part of a robust and healthy ecosystem. The fragmentation and loss of habitats is a key source of conflict with biodiversity. Natural ecosystems are often transformed into industrial zones, metropolitan areas, and agricultural fields as human populations grow and become more urbanized. Numerous species are put in danger by this habitat loss, which upsets ecosystems and causes population decreases and, in some situations, extinction. Changes in topography often lead to the isolation of some species, making it more difficult for them to travel, locate partners, or get vital resources all of which put their existence at risk. Conflicts with biodiversity may also be significantly attributed to pollution. Numerous types of pollution, such as those found in the air, water, and soil, are harmful to ecosystems and the animals that live there. Chemical pollutants, pesticides, and herbicides may pollute soil and water supplies, negatively impacting both flora and animals. Acid rain, which destroys aquatic ecosystems and plant life, is a result of air pollution, which is often caused by industrial processes and vehicles[10].

Its effects on temperature, precipitation patterns, and sea level rise, climate change is a worldwide danger to biodiversity. Since many species have evolved to thrive in certain climates, the speed at which climate change is occurring may be too fast for them to relocate or adapt. As a consequence, there may be modifications to the distribution and abundance of species, which may have an impact on how well-functioning ecosystems interact with one another. Overuse of natural resources is an additional factor that threatens biodiversity. Unsustainable plant and animal harvesting for food, medicine, and other uses may cause population decreases and, in the worst situations, extinction. This problem is made worse by the illegal wildlife trade, which puts many species in risk of exploitation and drives them toward extinction. The introduction of invasive species poses a distinct threat to biodiversity. The transfer of animals outside of their natural ranges has been made easier by human activities like commerce and tourism. These invasive species often cause decreases in native biodiversity because they may outcompete or feed on native species, upsetting established ecological interactions. The fundamental tension that exists between the idea of biodiversity and human activity is caused by anthropogenic forces. The protection and sustainable use of biodiversity depend on the identification and resolution of these conflicts since a loss of variety may have profound effects on the resilience and stability of ecosystems as well as the general health of the planet. In order to mitigate these conflicts and ensure a peaceful coexistence between human activities and the wide variety of life on Earth, it is imperative to implement conservation measures, promote a global commitment to biodiversity protection, and conduct sustainable resource management[11].

### **Conceptual similarities between biodiversity and ES:**

The conceptual connections that exist between biodiversity and ecosystem services (ES) highlight the complex and subtle link that exists between the variety of species on Earth and the ecosystems' ability to operate. The benefits that humans receive from ecosystems are known as ecosystem services, and they include a wide range of goods and services, such as

providing services (like food and water), regulating services (like disease control and climate regulation), supporting services like nutrient cycles and habitat provision, and cultural services like aesthetic and recreational values. Contrarily, biodiversity describes the range of living forms at many levels of organization, such as genetic diversity within species, species diversity within ecosystems, and ecological diversity.

The relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem services is complex, and there are a number of important conceptual overlaps that show how closely the two ideas are related [12], [13].

**a) Functional Diversity and Ecosystem Service Provision:**

Ecosystem services are provided in large part by biodiversity, especially functional variety. Ecosystem resilience and production are increased by the diverse roles that different species play within an ecosystem. For example, a wide variety of plant species in a forest environment may affect many ecosystem services, such as soil fertility, insect control, and carbon sequestration.

**b) Resilience and Stability:**

Ecological stability and resilience are directly correlated with biodiversity, and both characteristics are essential for the long-term provision of ecological services. Ecosystems with more diversity are often more robust to shocks, disturbances, and changes in the environment. In turn, this resilience improves the consistency and dependability of ecosystem services, which supports human civilizations' long-term viability.

**c) Cultural Significance and Biodiversity:**

Biodiversity and cultural ecosystem services are closely related. People's appreciation of natural landscapes for their aesthetic and spiritual qualities often depends on how diverse and abundant the flora and animals are. Furthermore, traditional knowledge systems emphasize the complex interactions between biodiversity and cultural services. These links are often based upon an understanding of various ecosystems and their components.

**d) Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Conservation:**

Both the preservation of biodiversity and the ongoing supply of ecosystem services depend on the health of ecosystems. High biodiversity ecosystems are often more resilient to invading species and illness, which helps to maintain the general health of the environment. The objective of maintaining important ecosystem services is often in line with conservation initiatives meant to protect biodiversity.

**e) Trade-offs and Synergies:**

Recognizing possible trade-offs and synergies between the preservation of biodiversity and the maximization of certain ecosystem services is another aspect of understanding the conceptual overlaps. Sometimes improvements to one area may come at the price of another. Therefore, managing these trade-offs calls for an integrated strategy that takes into account both biodiversity preservation and the long-term usage of ecosystem services.

The conceptual similarities between biodiversity and ecosystem services highlight the complex relationships between ecosystem function and structure and the many advantages they provide to human society.

Aware decision-making in environmental management, biodiversity conservation, and the sustainable use of ecosystem services in the face of global environmental issues requires an understanding of and ability to take use of these overlaps.

**Biodiversity underpins ES:**

The variety of life on Earth, or biodiversity, is an essential and complex part of the ecological balance of our world. It includes genetic variants, environmental variety, and species diversity, all of which come together to build the intricate web of interdependence that supports life as we know it. The close relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem services (ES), or the vital advantages that ecosystems provide to human well-being, is one of the key components of biodiversity. Ecosystem services and biodiversity have a complex and interdependent interaction. The many ways that ecosystems support human well-being are known as ecosystem services. These include the supply of food, water, and raw materials as well as the control of disease, the climate, and crop pollination. In turn, biodiversity provides the framework for these services' resilience and provision[14], [15].

The variety of plant and animal species is essential for providing provisioning services, such as the manufacturing of food and medicine. A wide range of genetic resources that may be used for industrial, medicinal, and agricultural reasons are guaranteed by a high level of biodiversity. Genetic diversity, for example, benefits crop types by increasing their resistance to diseases and changing environmental circumstances. Biodiversity is also essential for regulating services, such as disease prevention, water purification, and climate regulation. A variety of habitats, including wetlands and forests, are essential for reducing the effects of climate change because they control temperature and store carbon dioxide. Wetlands collect sediments and contaminants, acting as natural filters to clean water. By fostering natural predators and controlling insect populations, biodiverse landscapes help to prevent illness.

Biodiversity and cultural services, which include aesthetic and recreational qualities, are closely related. Natural areas with a wide variety of plants and animals provide chances for leisure, ecotourism, and spiritual development. The aesthetic benefit of biodiversity improves both our cultural identity and quality of life. The fundamental mechanisms that underpin the provision of other ecosystem services are known as supporting services, and these include nitrogen cycling and soil formation. By encouraging soil health, nutrient recycling, and general ecosystem resilience, biodiversity improves these auxiliary functions. But in spite of its great significance, biodiversity is today under unprecedented peril. The loss of habitat, pollution, deforestation, and climate change are only a few of the human-caused factors contributing to the global biodiversity crisis. The provision of essential ecosystem services is directly threatened by this loss of variety, endangering the stability and operation of ecosystems.

Understanding the complex interrelationship between ecosystem services and biodiversity is crucial for promoting sustainable practices and guaranteeing the health of both human communities and natural systems. To preserve biodiversity and the ecosystem services it supports, as well as to ensure a healthier and more resilient world for present and future generations, conservation initiatives, sustainable resource management, and international collaboration are essential.

**The ES idea may aid in the conservation of biodiversity:**

One of ecology's basic concepts, ecological succession (ES), describes how species composition and ecosystem structure gradually and predictably change over time. As we learn more about the complex dynamics of ecosystems, it becomes clear that conserving biodiversity and developing successful conservation measures may depend on comprehending and using the ES concept. The complex tapestry of life on Earth, known as biodiversity, includes a wide range of species, habitats, and genetic variation both within and across populations. Global biodiversity is threatened by modern issues including habitat

degradation, climate change, and human activity. The ES theory comes to light as a ray of hope, arguing that diversified ecosystems may be vitalized and sustained largely via natural processes of succession[16], [17].

The ES idea's acknowledgment of the dynamic character of ecosystems is one of the main ways it aids in the conservation of biodiversity. Ecological succession occurs in a series of phases, beginning with pioneer species settling in arid environments and ending with stable, developed ecosystems. This dynamic process promotes resilience and improves the general health of ecosystems by enabling various species to adapt to shifting environmental circumstances. Understanding ES also makes it easier to pinpoint the essential ecological processes that sustain biodiversity. Through the identification of complex relationships among species, nutrient cycling, and habitat development during succession, conservationists are able to identify key elements that support the formation and maintenance of heterogeneous communities. With this information, tailored conservation interventions that try to repair or imitate natural succession processes in damaged ecosystems may be built.

Additionally, ES emphasizes how crucial time is to ecological restoration initiatives. lengthy-term, comprehensive conservation plans replace short-term, interventionist ones when it is realized that ecosystems change over lengthy time periods. This viewpoint promotes the use of cautious and flexible management techniques, allowing ecosystems to go through their normal successional phases and encouraging the development of robust, biodiverse communities. Practically speaking, the ES concept might direct conservationists in choosing suitable restoration methods while accounting for the unique successional requirements of a particular ecosystem. Conservation efforts may be enhanced and sustained biodiversity can be promoted by coordinating with the concepts of ecological succession, whether via reforestation, aided natural regeneration, or the reintroduction of keystone species. The ES concept proves to be a potent ally in the continuing fight to preserve biodiversity. Through the acknowledgement of the dynamic character of ecosystems and the application of ecological succession principles, conservationists acquire significant knowledge and resources to formulate efficacious, enduring approaches. Adopting the wisdom found in the ES concept might lead to a more sustainable and biodiverse future as we work to preserve the complex web of life on Earth[18], [19].

## DISCUSSION

In the ever-changing world of technology adoption, valuing enterprise software (ES) is a critical and strategic process that helps firms make better decisions. Enterprise software, which includes a wide variety of platforms and applications, is the foundation of contemporary enterprises, enabling improved productivity, simplified processes, and strategic decision-making. The process of valuing software include a thorough evaluation of its functional capabilities, scalability, possibility for integration, and overall congruence with corporate goals. Understanding the software's value proposition and its influence on business results is crucial to the process of creating an ES valuation. It explores the subtleties of how the software fits with the particular requirements and objectives of a business, going beyond the aspects that are immediately apparent[20]. This comprehensive assessment ensures that the selected business software stays useful and relevant over time by taking into account not only the present needs but also future scalability and flexibility. Making educated decisions in the face of a multitude of possibilities is one of the main benefits of doing an ES appraisal. The world of technology is always changing, and new solutions are appearing all the time. Decision-makers may sort through the clutter and find the solutions that best fit their unique company needs with the help of a thorough appraisal. This method of making well-informed decisions reduces the possibility of purchasing software that may not support the

organization's development potential or be in line with its strategic goal. Additionally, an ES valuation considers the possible effects on many aspects of the company, including customer happiness, staff productivity, and operational efficiency[20], [21]. Decision-makers may determine how well the program will fit into the current technological environment by analyzing its user interface, ease of integration, and compatibility with current systems. This all-encompassing strategy guarantees that the enterprise software selected not only satisfies the current requirements but also adds to the general process optimization of the firm.

### CONCLUSION

A well-done ES valuation also takes into account the total cost of ownership, which includes the original installation costs, continuing maintenance costs, and possible scaling costs. Decision-makers are given a thorough grasp of the necessary investment and its long-term consequences by this financial viewpoint. It helps businesses to maximize return on investment while making financially responsible choices that are in line with their budgets. Valuing business software is a crucial strategic decision for companies navigating the challenging landscape of technology adoption. It gives decision-makers the ability to make well-informed decisions and choose solutions that support operational excellence, meet specific company needs, and ensure long-term success. The procedure makes sure that the business software selection spurs innovation and development rather than acting as a possible barrier, creating the groundwork for a company to become competitive and technologically robust.

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