



This is a ***raw*** representation of my
own theory of writing developed
throughout the last 10 weeks~
Subject to change.

Theory of Writing

The Beginning of My Theory...

Journal Entry #1

What is Writing?

9/19/2020

The first journal entry I wrote in this theory of writing class was answering the question “What is Writing?” One thing I did know was that the definition of writing would depend on who you asked. It could be so many different things. But since I was the one being asked, my definition was broad as I said, **“It is a way to express yourself in ways speaking does not allow. It is scary, challenging, fun, exciting, and everything in between”**.

Only Three.

By: Allison McKenna

Did you ever stop,
stop to think.
About anything really.

I stopped to think once.
About how large our world really is,
how diverse it is.

Our world is quite large.
In terms of number of people,
7.8 billion large to be exact.

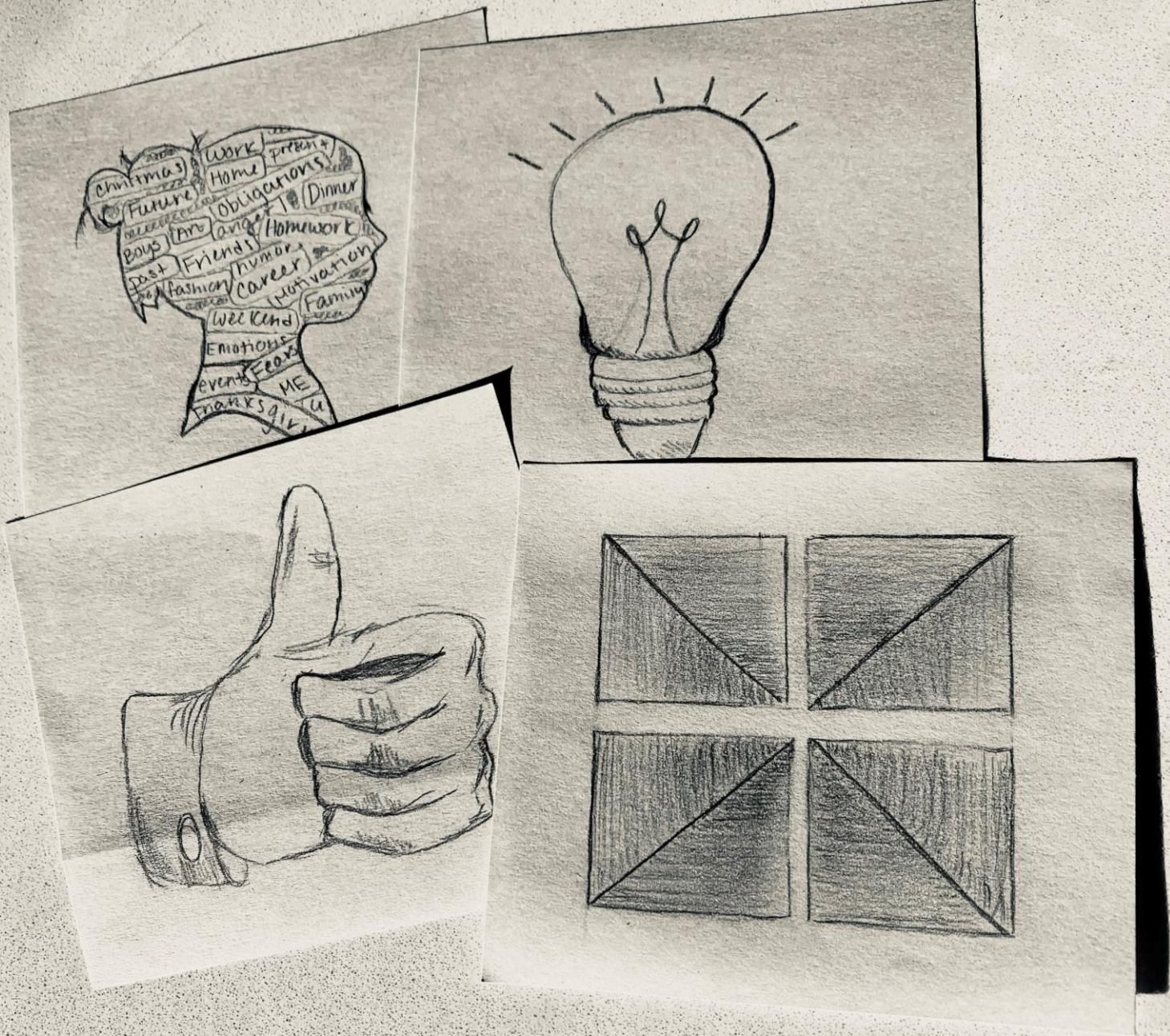
In terms of level of diversity
7,117 languages diverse to be exact,
and **3,982** literacy systems diverse to be exact.

3 numbers later,
Only~ 3 numbers later.
Only~ the beginning of an explanation.

The beginning of the possibilities,
that lie within those numbers.
that lie within orality and literacy.

Pause... Draw It Out.

- Thoughts
- Ideas
- Opinions
- Perspectives



The Middle of My Theory...

In Class Activity

What is Writing? 4 Weeks Later...

10/8/2020

An in-class activity we did in this theory of writing class was answering the question “What is Writing?” BUT 4 weeks later. 4 weeks after reading various pieces and writing various pieces in various ways. With those experiences under my belt, I said, **“Writing is a way to transfer your internal or external oral thoughts into a more powerful or permanent piece of literature. It is physical.”**

Something Happened.

By: Allison McKenna

Something happened to me today- something extraordinary, I would say. Would everyone say this something is quite extraordinary? Probably not, but anyone who is a writer would most definitely say this something is quite extraordinary. And what exactly happened you ask? I'd be happy to answer that, but let me introduce myself first. My name is Jane, Jane Williams. I am often referred to as Janie, though. I grew up in a crowded home in the center of London. It was my parents, my 4 siblings, myself, and 2 crazy dogs in one small home. The only way I survived was through my invisibility shield which honestly wasn't even a shield. It was more of a secret little hideout in my home that only I seemed to know about. That and my journal allowed me to become invisible and sail away into my own world. Until I had to emerge for dinner that is. Flash forward 10 years and my shield has now become a coffee shop, and my journal, well, it is still my journal but sometimes it is shared with the whole world if I become inspired enough.

Speaking of inspiration, that is what happened to me today. I was walking my same route to my same coffee shop to order my same drink and do my same brainstorming. Do you see a pattern yet? But today I managed to break that pattern when I came across a small, white, folded piece of paper stuck on the side of the walkway. I didn't think much of it at first but decided to do a quick 180 and pick it up. And boy am I glad I did. After diligently unfolding the piece of paper, I discovered 3 simple words written on the inside in light pencil marks that read, "I love you". Was this not delivered? Was it lost in the process? Who wrote it, and for whom? My once blank mind was full of creativity, colors, thoughts, and ideas. Once I finally got to my same coffee shop, ordered my same drink, and sat in my same place, I started to write.

Before I go any further with my story, I want to provide a little insight into my point of view of writing. For me, **writing is not something specific. It is not necessarily abstract, concrete, nor tangible, but it can be any of those or even all of those at once (or separately).** In my experience, it usually starts as an abstract thing then turns into something more concrete and maybe, just maybe, it turns into something that is tangible- but that is, if I am lucky enough, of course. My writing is free. It is anything I am feeling it to be on that particular day. And today, well, I turned something concrete and tangible into an abstract idea back into a concrete thought. And from those thoughts, I wrote words today, and it felt amazing. I felt alive again. I felt unstoppable. I felt like a writer.

As much as I would like to share with you what I was writing that day, I cannot. I am quite superstitious and private when it comes to what I do. So, you'll just have to wait, and wait, and wait. Then maybe one day you will read something by me, Janie Williams, that is concrete and tangible. But until then, please excuse me- I must get back to my writing.

The Alliy Show.

By: Allison McKenna &
Allison Zimmerman



A Review.

By: "Not" Allison McKenna

The Alliy Show- Episode 1 was a short, but very informative, detailed, and entertaining episode to say the least. They briefly introduced themselves before diving into a question- "What is the most valuable thing about writing?" Ally answered that question by saying it's a way to express yourself, and for her, no one will ever have to read or know what her thoughts, ideas, opinion, etc. are. Both revealed they have written down feelings in different ways including texts, journaling, and letters. They also wondered how people used to express their feelings and emotions before there were texts, pens, paper, and computers.

Being the first episode, I believe it was done well, but they do have room for improvement. For example, they didn't spend enough time introducing themselves to their audience. Again, this is the first episode so no one knows who they are, what they are doing, and why they may be doing said things. Why did Alli and Ally decide to do a podcast? They also should have made the podcast a touch longer as it was only about 4 min. That is not enough time to discuss everything in detail and it is hard to fully engage in such short snippets.

Even though they must work on some things for their next episode, I will point out some great aspects of Episode 1. The audio was fantastic. It was easy to hear and understand them. They also had great chemistry, but that did not come as a surprise considering they are best friends, roommates, and they share a name. Ally and Alli were able to successfully discuss a topic that could have been quite serious and deep in a fun, engaging, and entertaining way. Not to say they didn't take it seriously, but they had the perfect balance of seriousness and lightheartedness.

Overall, *The Alliy Show- Episode 1* was a great start to their series. I believe there is potential to expand their thoughts and turn this idea and hobby into something great that listeners everywhere will want a piece of. If they open up about themselves more, spend more time discussing, and continue having great chat, they will find success. I give this episode a 6/10, but I strongly believe it will reach a 10/10 in no time. I recommend this podcast to any young souls out there who want to listen to a real, down to earth, thought provoking, entertaining pair of best friends who aren't afraid of what anyone thinks or says about them.

I look forward to the next episode and to eventually see the evolution of not just the podcast itself- but the evolution of Ally and Alli as people trying to navigate through this messy thing we called life. I will conclude with one simple question posed by both girls: Are podcasts going to completely take the place of books, or no?

The temporary End of My Theory...

What is Writing? 10 Weeks Later...

11/20/2020
