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Professor Poe.

Self-assessment assignment.

Poetry is the easiest and strongest form of self-expression. Having developed strategies for drafting, editing and using key rhetorical terms through class discussions, I began writing my free verse poem called “Wake up”. By using imagery, such as “Waking up in a lucid dream”, “I am begged to stay blind”, I aimed at establishing an emotional connection with the socially and politically aware audience. My self-image is greatly influenced by social norms, so as the narrator, I expect the audience to resonate with my experience. Furthermore, in line 6, “Blue, purple, green”, the use of ambiguity is intentional. The audience might perceive these colors as the setting of the lucid dream or symbols. Blue is a representation of faith in oneself. Purple is a depiction of sadness. Green is a portrayal of the balance of good and evil. Moreover, using similes, such as “Destined to stay silent / Like a slaughtered lamb.” and metaphors, “Dissolving slowly into figures”, I emphasize how destructive silence has been to my character. Also, my diction, specifically in lines 35 and 36, “Shedding my skin twice / It must be hard”, not only indicates that I have already failed once but also reassures a reader that growth has no limits. The first person perspective used in the poem further deepens the bond between me and my audience because I share my own struggles.

“Hopelessly complex, deeply flawed farms” is a result of combined powerful words from the article¹. The found poem successfully portrays the apathetic view on factory farms’ horrible conditions and treatment of animals. The poem is shown as a dialogue between meatatarians and vegans. The exclamation marks, “Causing millions of people to die!” , “Make us sick!”, reflect the significance of the issue to me as a narrator, creating a gloomy mood. The gloominess prevails in “The Bay”, a haiku poem, consisting of three interconnected parts. Using the 5-7-5 syllable structure, I recreated my profound experience at Emmons Avenue, located near the Sheepshead Bay station. At that time, I and my friend saved two fish, caught and left on the ground by a fisher. All three poems are based on my personal experience, contentedly shared to bring attention to global issues, such as consumerism and animal exploitation.

¹ Baur, Gene. Kill this Farm Bill: America needs agricultural policy that counters animal cruelty and promotes healthy living.*New York Daily News*. Apr 26, 2018.