

Chapter 2: Analyzing Similarities and Differences in Your Writing Samples

Section One: Identifying Quotations from your Writing Samples

Access your 3 writing samples (on paper or electronically). Then, search for at least 10 phrases from your writing samples that illustrate the Reasons to Appreciate Sameness/Difference (pp 34-40) and the Problems Related to Privileging Sameness/Difference (pp 41-51). Quote your writing samples directly (no paraphrasing). Label each quotation clearly (Religious/Philosophical identity Writing Sample, Majority Identity Writing Sample, Minority Identity Writing Sample). Use the following color code as you type your answers:

GREEN: Responses you see as helpful to your success as an intercultural communicator in light of your reading of Chapter 2

RED: Responses you see as potentially harmful to your success as an intercultural communicator in light of your reading of Chapter 2

Reasons to Appreciate Sameness

Patterns and Pattern Recognition

Abstract Thought and Language I believe in life after death, when I say that I am referring to Heaven.

Stability and Predictability

Social Cohesion Males and females are similar in so many ways.

Equality and Human Rights I believe that if you commit crimes and do wrong things that you can still change your life and be forgiven because that is just how great of a God he is.

Reasons to Appreciate Difference

Diversity and Variety I believe that if you are an atheist that you can still be saved and most often people are atheist because no one has reached out to them and helped them to understand the grace of God and how glorious of a life it is to believe in him.

Creative Thinking If I am wrong (Im not) then what have I lost?

Change, Growth and Progress

Sensitivity and Positive Discrimination Although this is regular for most people to be neurotypical, I think that there is so many people that weren't as lucky as myself to have lived this normal life.

Individual Personhood

Problems Related to Privileging Sameness

Forced Uniformity and Conformity I was fortunate enough to have been blessed with a mostly regular brain and have not had to go to the rough life of having any of these issues.

Monotonous Routine and Stagnation

Stereotyping I strongly disagree with atheists beliefs

Ethnocentrism and Xenophobia

Unconscious Prejudice and Discrimination I believe that Jesus was crucified and God sent his only son Jesus to save this ungrateful world of sin and wrong doing

Problems Related to Privileging Difference

Extreme Relativism and Uncertainty I can not even imagine having my life any other way.

Culture Shock

Dichotomous Thinking and Polarization

Factionalism and Societal Disintegration Males and females have been seen as different in the past, but as time has evolved I believe that we have grown more and more alike.

Conscious Prejudice and Discrimination

Section Two: First steps toward helpful cognitive restructuring

Answer the below questions that are connected to the Chapter 2 discussion about Cognitive Restructuring (pp 33-34). Type your answers in this section in PURPLE (except for any quotations you choose to copy directly from Section One, leave the quotations the same color you coded them in Section One).

1. Look at your quotations. What commonalities do you see between your GREEN responses?

The green writings that I have are more reasonable when responding to other peoples opinions. I think that in these responses, I showed appreciation for the other co-culture rather than just my own. It showed that even though the other culture is so much different from mine, it still has the right to be heard and accounted for.

2. Look at your quotations. What commonalities do you see between your RED responses?

The red responses that I have are more negative and selfish. I think that on these I did not show

appreciation for any other culture but my own. I discriminated against the opposite culture for the reason that it is just different from mine. I need to think about how each culture is different and it does not matter what I believe because everyone else has their own situation.

3. List 3 questions you might ask yourself in order to “supplement and enrich your beliefs and values with other ways of thinking about and viewing the world” (p 34)?

Do you believe that other peoples views are not worthy?

Do you believe that you are right and everyone else is wrong because it is your culture?

What similarities and differences are there between your culture and the others?