

Jesse Abarro
Professor Monroe Street
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ESSAY 1

Interpretation is a way to understand a story, events, and a situation in a way that can help other people understand. It is an understanding of things to be carried out for understanding. There are many types of interpretation, there are the religious, moral, political, and scientific interpretation. They are intended to make the interpreter understand the meaning of the information given upon them. It is also an action of the mind on processing and internalizing all information that is absorbed by the brain.

Interpretation is important because it does not only make a person understand the information obtained, but to broaden the mind of the person in making decisions. Interpretation is basically comprehending what the content of the story, whether it is metaphorically, retrograde, precision, and many more. Queneau's "*Exercises In Styles*" is describing how a person should decide on what he or she should interpret the information in order for it to be processed. Interpreting things helps the mind to be sharper, and improves the intelligence by processing the precise information. Interpretation is imposed as well on how parents discipline their children. For example in Junior Diaz's "*The Money*" the poor immigrant family that works in the United States sends money back to their country to help relatives. The understanding is that the money sent to the home country is a huge help. This is a kind of moral interpretation because the children should help their aging parents when they have jobs. The interpretation of the immigrants also had placed them in fears of being subjected to racial attacks, discrimination, and violence. It came to the understanding of Diaz that immigrants are always victims of violence because of the fact they are not from the country.

Because of what was instilled on the children, the children interpreted understands that the money their parents worked for needs to be returned. The interpretation that Junior Diaz has is a moral and ethical interpretation. The setting plays an important role because the reputation of the location is what people interpret. If for example, the location is the place where all crimes, drugs, and violence occur, the people who do not reside in the area will avoid that area. In the South Bronx, people think of it as a place of violence, drugs, and crimes. There are good people and bad people, it is often the bad people that are noticed all the time, and the good people are not doing anything that led to the interpretation of other people that it is a bad place.

There are many things that contribute to interpreting a story and event, it may be location, attitude, and traditions. In Diaz's article, the people that were treated as friends are the ones who did a bad thing that destroys the trust of a person who gives them the trust. In which can be interpreted that betrayal never comes from the enemies. The article is exposing how the neighborhood needs improvement in terms of security.

I myself can relate because my parents that work here, and send some money back home to the Philippines to help our relatives who are in need of help. We as immigrants also feared for our lives because of the fact that people here in America always have racial tensions towards immigrants. As a child from an Asian heritage, the values are instilled in us, on which respect and honor should be lived out at all times. The greatest lesson instilled in us is to honor the property of others, because the owner had worked with sweat and tears just to obtain certain things. While growing up in the Philippines, I experienced things like how people accused me of stealing and vandalizing things in my school in the Philippines. But it was later found out that I was not me who did such things.

Even things that a person is accused of, can make people interpret things differently about your personality. The saying about if you are going with the crowd, you will be judged as a crowd also. It happened to me because of the fact that I went with the wrong crowd, but later redeemed myself because of the fact that I did what is right. As it is described in the article, Diaz did what is right by taking back what belongs to them. Same thing happened when I was in high school, people bullied me for being Asian. At this time, I decided to learn Martial Arts. In which I fought back all bullies, until they feared me, and did not touch me anymore.

As time passes, I myself am becoming more used to how things work in the United States. How time is important, people who play an important role should be valued because time and important people cannot be replaced by anything else. Trust is important because it is making things work in a way it was intended for. Like in Diaz's article, trust is instilled on the heart and minds of the people especially when they are young. Respect for everyone is instilled as well. Immigrants like myself just want something better for our lives, that is based on trust and respect. My stepmother and father are the ones that instilled me the sense of respect for people of all races, religion, culture, and gender.

As my parents are working in the medical field, my father is making only hourly wage, while my stepmother who I treated as my real mother is making more money. But it all goes to taxes because they are making above \$100,000. Despite the financial situation, I was taught that I should be content with what I have, and strive for better things like education and career. Education is important because it is treated as money, in terms of being well-mannered, respectful, and living with dignity.

Immigrants always fear for their lives, in a way that they may become victims of racial discrimination and cultural barriers. They work to feed their families, and send help

back to their home countries who are in poverty. The immigrants worked like two or more jobs to sustain their families. They are the hardworking people because they are willing to take all kinds of jobs without any hesitations. Some of them are professionals like nurses, doctors, engineers, architects, accountants, and many more who contribute to the economic growth of the United States.

Some people think that Asian Immigrants do not speak English well, and have only use in menial jobs. When I was new in this country, I myself also feared for my life on being judged by other people for being an immigrant. Yes my life in the Philippines is different from what I have in the United States. People back home think that because I am in the United States, I am rich, which is not true because every dime earned is the result from toiling whether it is a professional job or a menial job. The interpretation of the people back in my country is that every dollar earned is a lot of money in Philippine Pesos. Because \$1 is equivalent to ₱50, having two dollars in the Philippines, a person can eat a meal. It is the reason why Filipino families living in the United States always think that every single dime is important.

There are two interpretations for Asian, especially Filipinos. In the home country, people think that they are rich because they are working in the United States because they make hourly wages in dollars. In the United States, people think that the immigrants are uneducated and illiterate. This kind of interpretation always makes Filipinos look bad both in the Philippines and United States. It is degrading the dignity of a person, because of the fact they are doing what they can just feed their families, and there are people who are thinking negative things about them.

In conclusion, interpretation can have a positive and negative effect on a person. Yes, immigrants are professionals as well, and they can be in the working class in the United

States. The fact that the people need to understand that everyone is working to feed their families regardless of location. Respect for each other is important because by giving respect, it will increase trust, and to get the job done according to the nature of the working environment.