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Reflection of U3 Multimodal Project

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Reflection on poetry and within gentrification

I picked poetry to talk about gentrification because it's like creating a song with words, a way to connect beyond just putting words on paper. I want to talk to teens and adults who know what it's like to find a place to live that won't cost an arm and a leg, especially when new, richer people move in and change everything.

This poem is for those who've been through gentrification, who know the struggle of finding a home when the neighborhood suddenly looks different. Let's break down why I chose poetry and what makes it work for talking about gentrification:

1. Feeling Things: Poetry lets me dive deep into feelings. It's like sharing the emotions tied to gentrification so others can really get what it's like.
2. Evocative Imagery: With poetry, I can use words that create pictures. It helps show the effects of gentrification and how it feels to be pushed out of a place you call home.
3. Expressive Language: Poems have a kind of rhythm and expressive language. They're like songs without the music, making the message stick in your mind.

4. Easy Words: I can use simple words in poems, so everyone can understand, whether they're into fancy writing or not. It's about keeping it real.

5. Deep Thinking: Poetry lets me think hard about gentrification. I can share those thoughts in a way that makes people really think about what's going on.

Now, let's get into gentrification. It happens when richer folks move into a neighborhood, and things start to change. Finding a good place to live becomes tough, especially for those who've been there a long time. My poem is like a chat with those who know what gentrification feels like. It's not about impressing with big words; it's about sharing the realness of the situation.

In simple terms, gentrification is like when a new crowd comes in, and suddenly, everything is different. My poem isn't about using fancy language or trying to sound smart. It's about telling it like it is and making sure everyone understands.

So, why poetry? Because it's like telling a story through a song, and that's the kind of connection I want with the people who've been through the ups and downs of gentrification. I'm not trying to complicate things; I'm trying to keep it simple, relatable, and real. Gentrification is a big deal, and my poem aims to capture that realness in a way that hits home. With each verse, I want to paint a picture of what it's like when the neighborhood changes, and you're left searching for a place that still feels like home.

Gentrification isn't just about buildings changing or rents going up; it's about communities transforming. It's like your favorite spot, the place where you feel a sense of belonging, suddenly becoming unfamiliar. Imagine your go-to local place turning into a high-end coffee shop, or your neighbor who's been there forever having to leave because they can't afford it anymore. That's what gentrification does—it reshapes the soul of a neighborhood.

In the rhythm of my poem, I want to capture the heartache of those who've had to leave, the frustration of seeing the familiar disappear, and the struggle of finding a new place that feels like home. Gentrification isn't just a problem on paper; it's a real-life puzzle that people have to solve. Each verse is a snapshot of the impact, like looking through a window into the lives of those affected. It's not about blaming or pointing fingers; it's about understanding. I want the audience to nod their heads and say, "Yeah, I've felt that too." It's about creating a shared moment where we all recognize the challenges of gentrification, even if we've experienced it in different ways. Poetry allows me to be a storyteller, weaving together the threads of experiences, struggles, and hopes. It's a conversation starter, an open invitation for everyone to join in. Whether you've faced gentrification or not, I want the words to resonate, to make you pause and think about the spaces we call home and how they change.

The power of poetry lies in its simplicity. It's not about fancy language or complex structures; it's about finding the right words that touch hearts and minds. My poem is a vessel for these words, a bridge between the personal and the universal. So, let's talk about gentrification, not with complicated words, but with the straightforward honesty of a conversation between friends.

On a site note I would like to include some articles that I've looked at that helped me write this reflection:

Citation:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/17/realestate/black-homeowners-gentrification.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/29/nyregion/gentrification-in-a-brooklyn-neighborhood-forces-residents-to-move-on.html>

