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 Eng 1102

Quote:	My Takeaway:
<p><u>“But to me, my mother’s English is perfectly clear, perfectly natural. It’s my mother tongue. Her language as I hear it, is valis, direct, full of observation and imagery. That was the language that helped shape the way I saw things expressed things, made sense of the world”</u></p>	<p>Due to the author’s mother not being a native english speaker, her english forced her daughter to use context clues to try to understand her. Thus developing his imagination and view on the language. I believe that it could have made her appreciate the language more.</p>
<p><u>Like others, I have described it to people as” broken” or “fractured” English. But I wince when I say that. It has always bothered me that I can think of no way to describe it other than “broken” as if it were damaged and needed to be fixed.</u></p>	<p>The term broken to her is seen in a negative light due to the fact that her mother does not fully understand the language, and the structure behind it. She just has her own interpretation and means of saying the language. I can relate to the author in particular to this quote seeing as my mother is of caribbean descent. She understands english, however, sometimes things just don’t click for her. To me it is normal but to outsiders looking in, it may appear to be “broken” english.</p>
<p><u>“And I had plenty of empirical evidence to support me the fact that people in department stores, at banks, and at restaurants did not take her seriously, did not give her good service, pretend not to understand her, or even acted as if they did not hear her “</u></p>	<p>Being a witness to her mother’s mistreatment due to her “broken” english could have played a role in the author developing or perfecting her ability to code switch as mentioned in the second paragraph. She didn’t want to be in a similar position.</p>
<p><u>“I think my mothers English almost had an effect on limiting my possibilities in life as well. – I do think that the language spoken in the family, especially an immigrant families which are more insular, plays a large role in reshaping the language of the child. – English could not be considered my strong suit. –“</u></p>	<p>The fact that the author was surrounded by this type of language consistently did start to impact the way she performed academically in school. She saw the language through the eyes and experiences of her mother seeing as she had to be her advocate in many situations.</p>
<p><u>I began to write stories using all the Englishes as I grew up with: the English I spoke to my mother, which for lack of better term might be described as “simple”; the English she used with me, which for lack of a better term might be described as “broken”; my translation of Chinese which can certainly be described as “water down”; and what I imagined to be her translation of Chinese if she could speak in perfect English and internal language</u></p>	<p>I admire the authors ability to integrate her culture, her mother, her experiences and combine all seamlessly into her writing. It is truly admirable seeing as it is not commonly seen within writing.</p>

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