

Decentralization, Hybrid Instruction, and Distributed Grading:

How Writing Centers and First
Year Composition Must Grow
Together

Hybridity and the Writing Center

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Writing Centers and Place

Location,

Location,

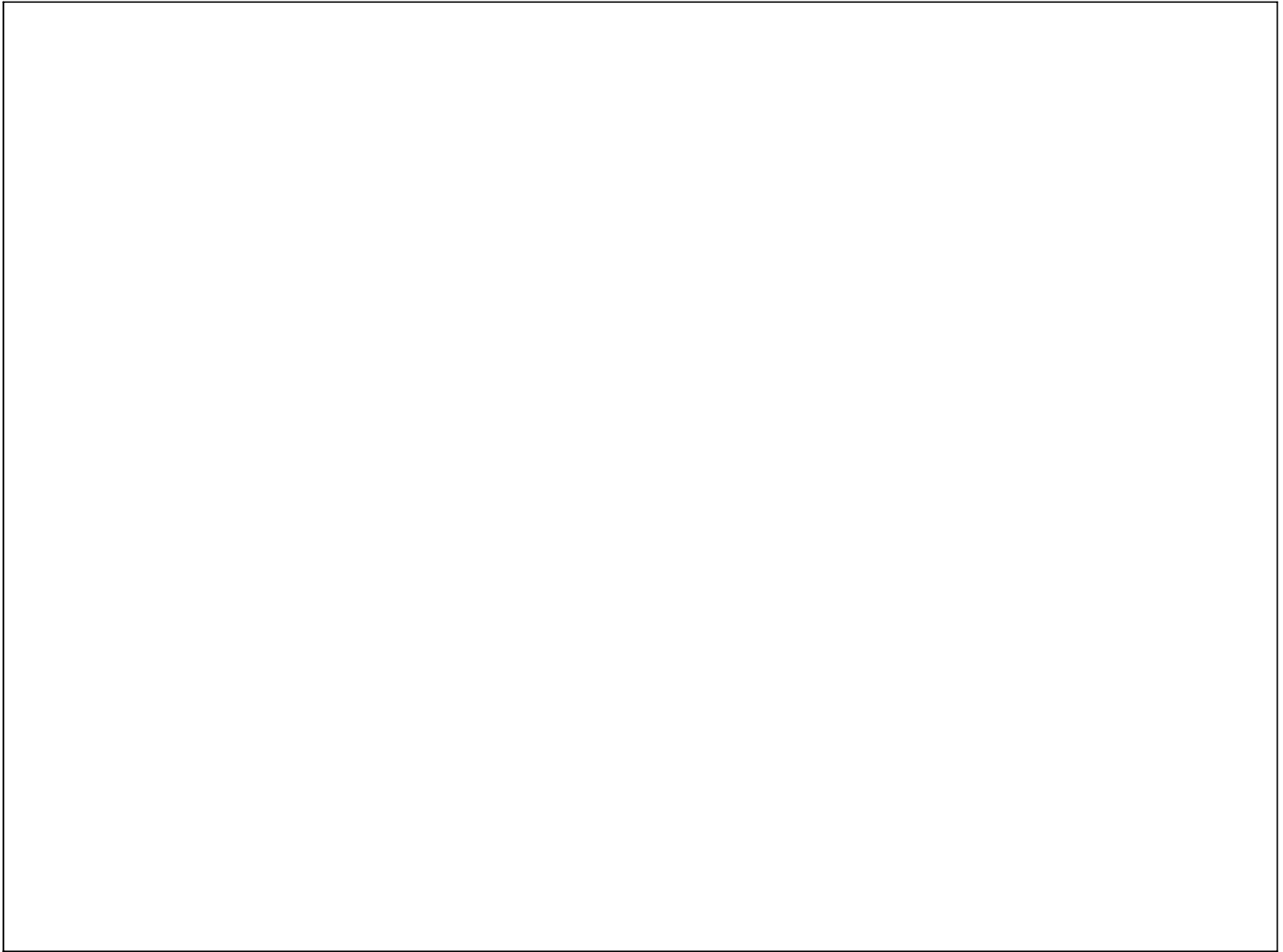
Location!

Writing Centers and Space

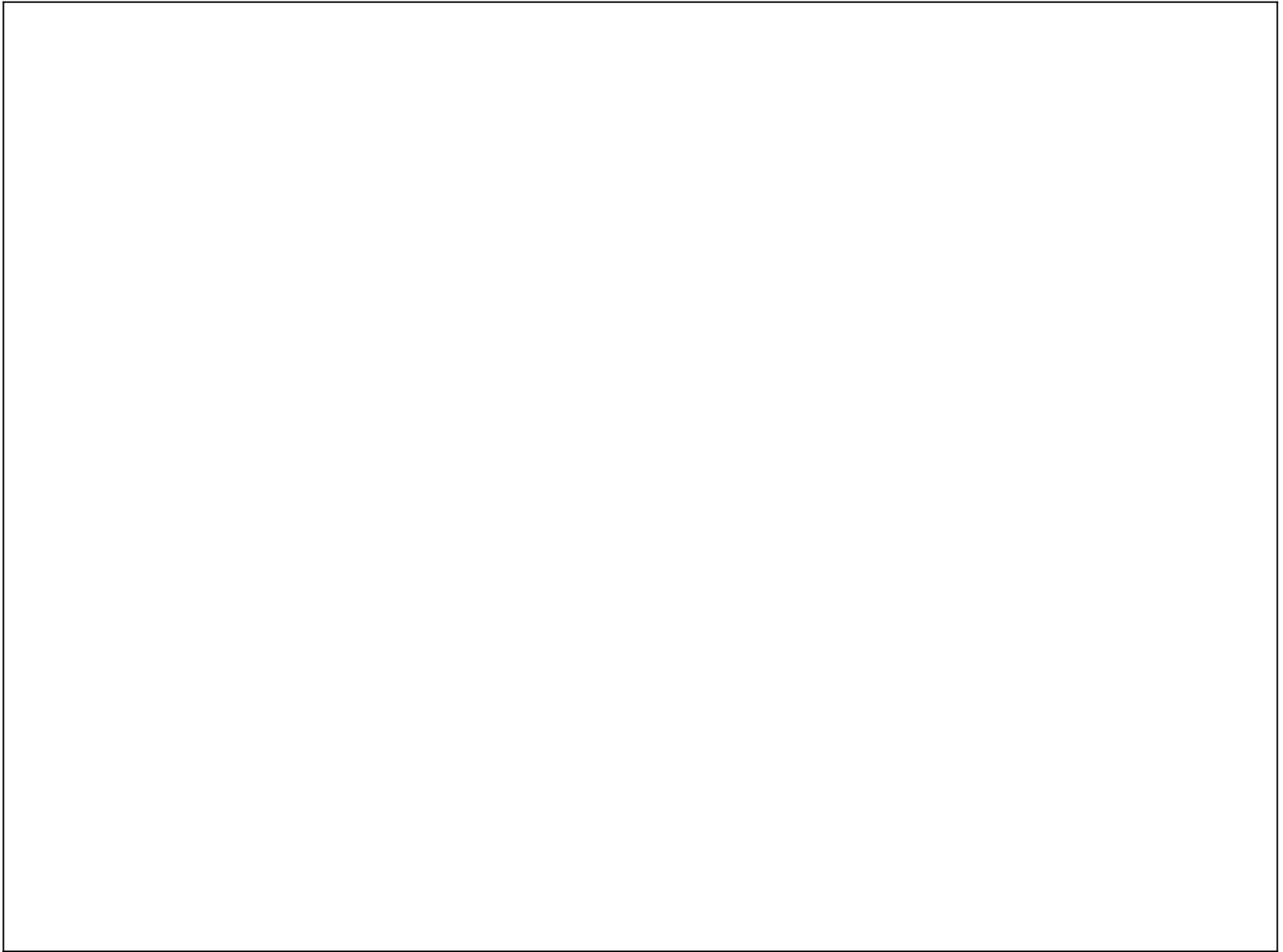
Be where the students are writing

Be De-Centered

And now, a presentation on
“marginalization” by Janna Stotz



Marginalization



Who draws the margins?

Those at the center of power push others

to the margins of society

The others?

homosexuals
women immigrants the working-class bisexuals the poor
racial minorities the disabled the transgendered religious minorities lesbians

“The next morning, we walked toward the station, where a convoy of cattle cars was waiting. The Hungarian police made us climb into the cars, eighty persons in each one. They handed us some bread, a few pails of water. They checked the bars on the windows to make sure they would not come loose. The cars were sealed. One person was placed in charge of every car: if someone managed to escape, that person would be shot.”

Elie Wiesel

Night

But . . .

Are the margins a position of weakness . . .

“I’s big and black and I say ‘Yes, suh’ as loudly as any burrhead when it’s convenient, but I’m still the king down here. . . . The only ones I even pretend to please are big white folk, and even those I control more than they control me. . . . That’s my life, telling white folk how to think about the things I know about. . . . It’s a nasty deal and I don’t always like it myself. . . . But I’ve made my place in it and I’ll have every Negro in the country hanging on tree limbs by morning if it means staying where I am.”

Ralph Ellison

Invisible Man

. . . Or are the margins a place of power and resistance?

Pretty women wonder where my secret lies . . .

It's in the reach of my arms,

The span of my hips,

The stride of my step,

The curl of my lips.

I'm a woman

Phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman,

That's me.

Maya Angelou

“Phenomenal Woman”

The attitude of your voice . . .

. . . depends on your choice.

“As a Chicana, I felt invisible, alienated from the gringo university . . . I rebelled . . . in an autobiographical politically engaged voice rather than in the dispassionate, disembodied language of academic discourse pushed on graduate students.”

Gloria E. Anzaldua

Forward, [This Bridge Called My Back](#)

Where is your voice?

What does your voice sound like?

Is your voice full of power and resistance?

Or is your voice one of weakness?

Or . . .

. . . do you help to draw these lines?

The End

Marginalization

by Janna Stotz

The Margins

Fear

Helplessness

Power

Authority

The Sword of Damocles

Richard Westall
British,
1765 - 1836

oil on canvas,
1812



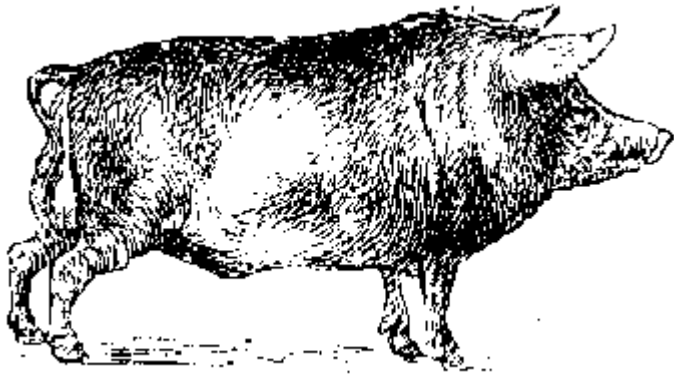
HYBRIDITY

What is Hybridity?

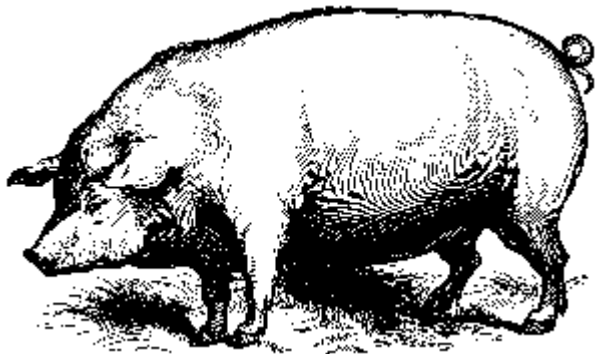
- **hybrid** 1601, from L. *hybrida*, var. of *ibrida* "mongrel," specifically "offspring of a tame sow and a wild boar," of unknown origin but probably from Gk. and somehow related to **hubris**. A rare word before c.1850.
- **hubris** 1884, from Gk. *hybris* "wanton violence, insolence, outrage," originally "presumption toward the gods," of unknown origin.

<http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=hybrid>

From the Online Etymology Dictionary



+



“Tomorrow, tomorrow, and tomorrow creeps in this petty pace from day to day until the last syllable of recorded time. And all our yesterdays have lighted fools their way to dusty death. Out! Out! Brief candle! Life’s but a walking shadow, a poor player who struts and frets his hour upon the stage, and then is heard no more. It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.”

--William Shakespeare



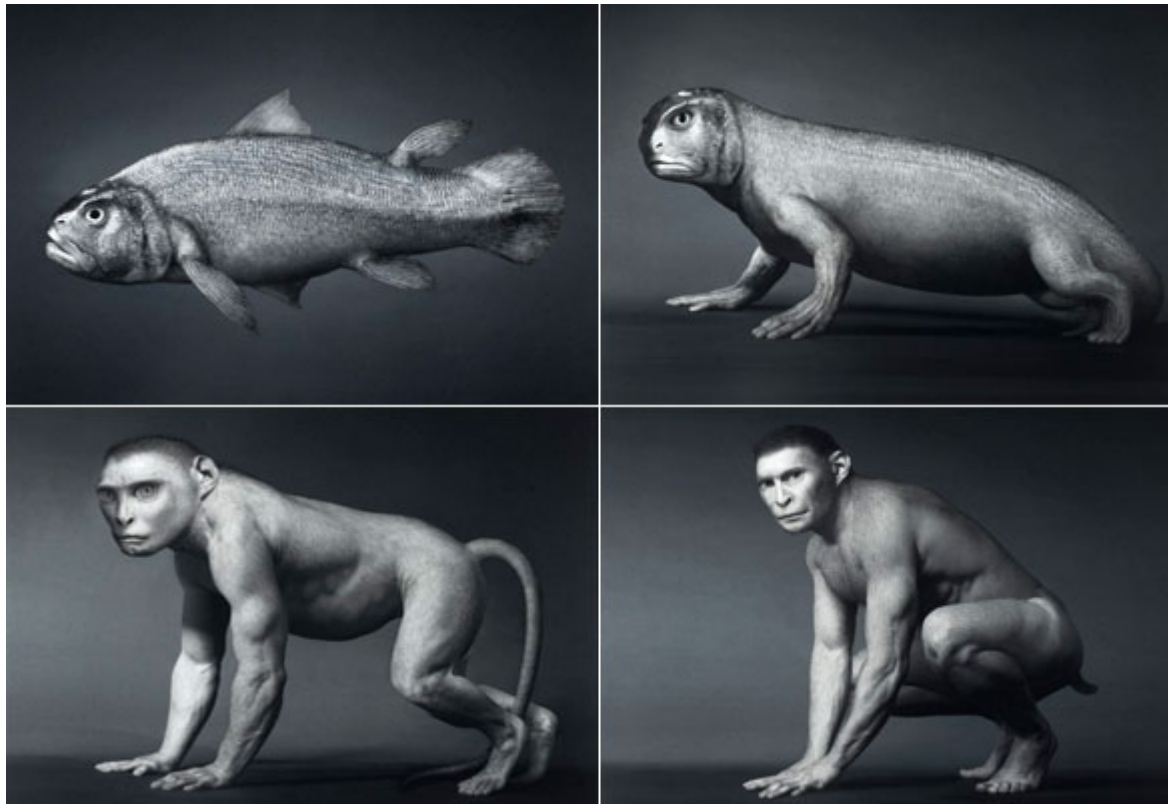
RU goin 2 go 2
freds hous im not.

Wht do u mean u
rock

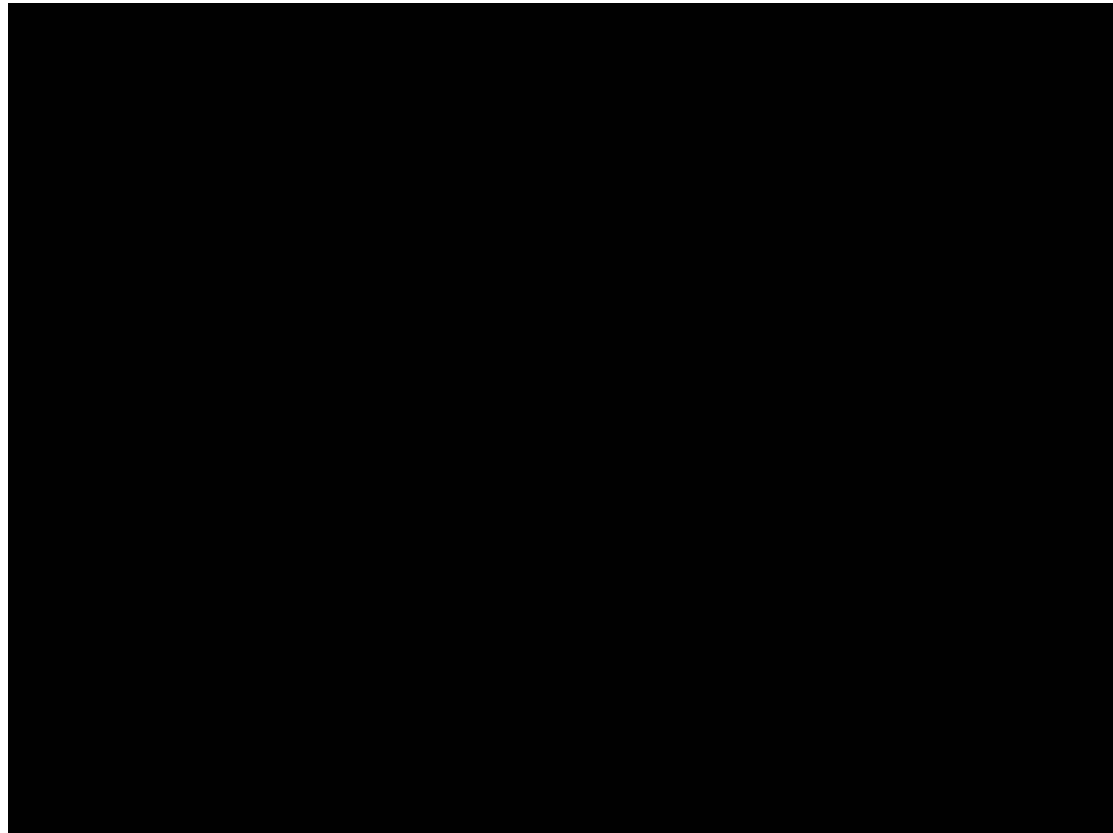
l8r!!!!!

--cell phone IM

Daniel Lee, an Internet Artist,
created “Origin” from a set of
photo-shopped images from
photographs....



....Later, Lee used animation software to “morph” the images, showing his idea of how man might have “evolved”.





Bluegill



Photo: Scarola

+



Green Sunfish

Photo: Mike Porter

=

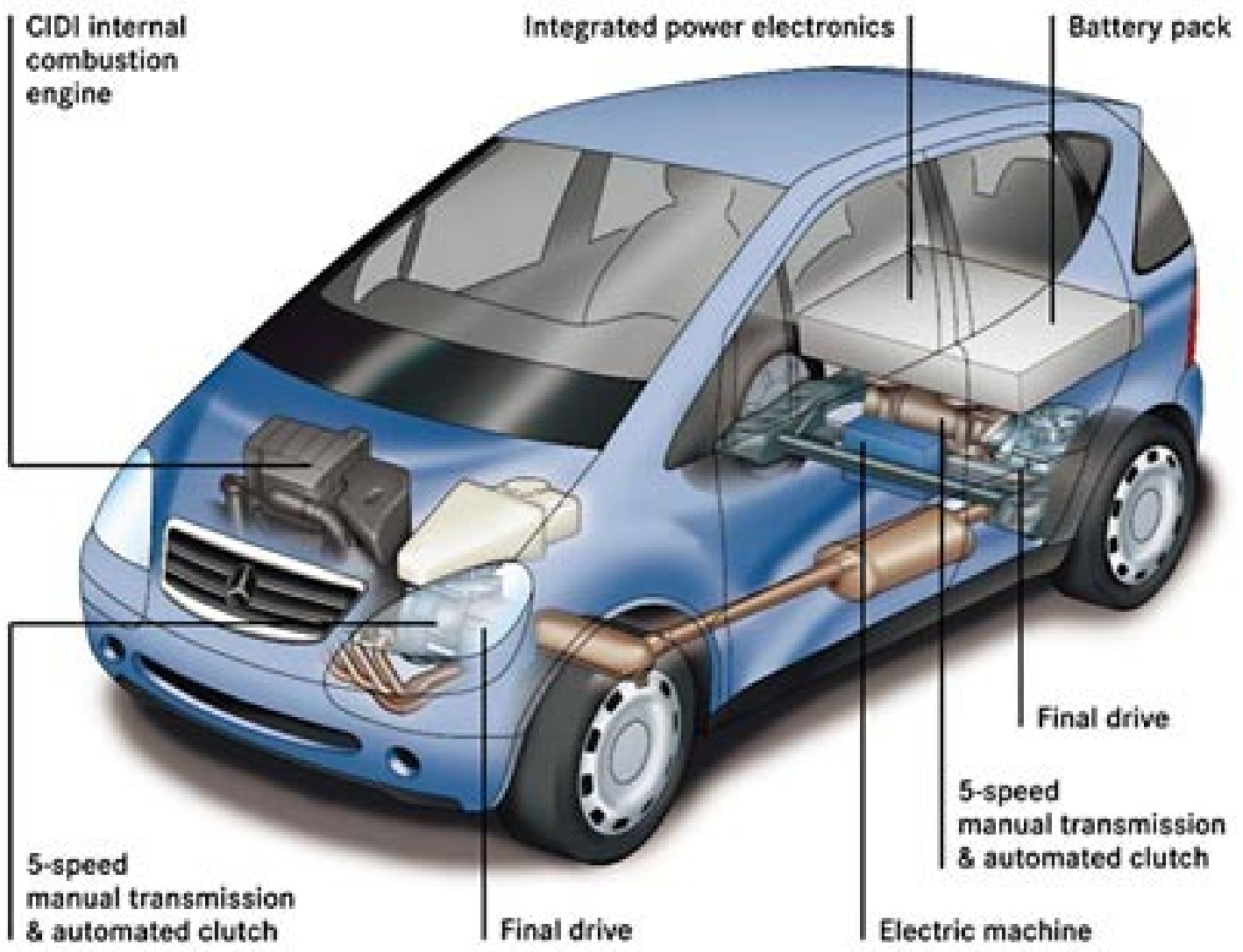


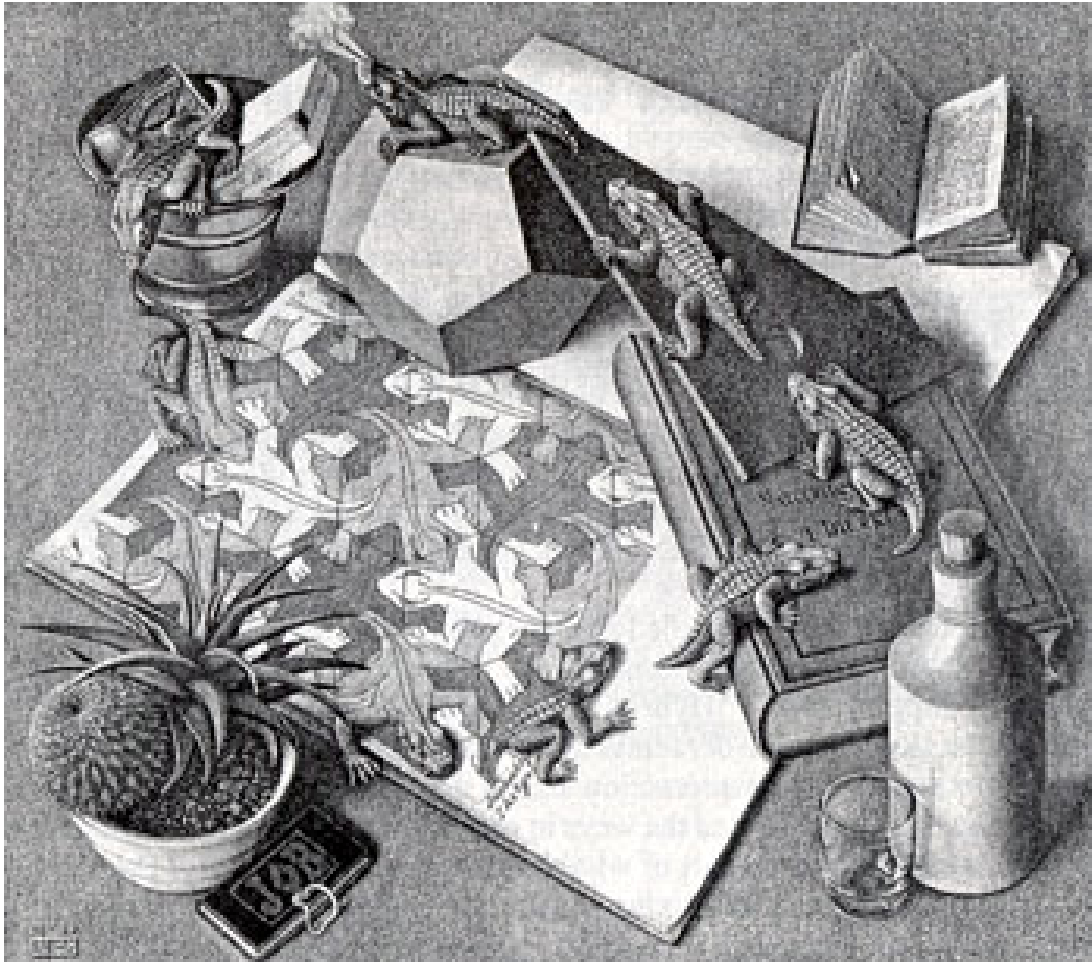
Photo: Mike Porter

Hybrid Sunfish









Reptiles **by M C** **Escher.**

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Writing Centers and Hybridity

- Writing Centers as Hybrid entities
 - Location
 - Staff
 - University sponsorship (rather than disciplinary)
 - Increasing familiarity with marginalized communication

Writing Centers and Hybrid Media

- Writing Centers inhabit space where writers write
- As writing changes (becomes visual, etc.) so too the spaces will change
- Writing Centers must continue to embrace communicative hybridity

Writing Centers and Hybrid Courses

- Hybrid courses: courses that are a mix of online, f2f, or other media
- As Distance Education becomes more common, Writing Centers will need to address hybrid education
- We cannot be intimidated by our lack of training; we need to operate as rhetoricians

Rhetoric

Rhetorical Thinking

Hybrid Thinking

“Voice” by Mark Ranario

v o i c e

past present future

past

CCCC

The shift from the five stage classical style of writing made way for the introduction of composition as a means of self-expression.

The concept of voice would be explored as an important aspect of student composition.

v o i c e

composition

new ways of thinking were approaching

voice could be a window into the human mind

Walter Ong

“Because it consists of silent words, writing introduces a whole new set of structures within the psyche.”

The study of books
gives meaning to life.

ethos!
It was the best of
times and the worst of
time. Alas poor Yorick!
I knew him well. Once
upon a midnight dreary
because I could not
stop for Death –I took
the path less traveled.

Peter Elbow and Walker Gibson framed
voice in composition as a unique space for
expression . . .

Walker Gibson

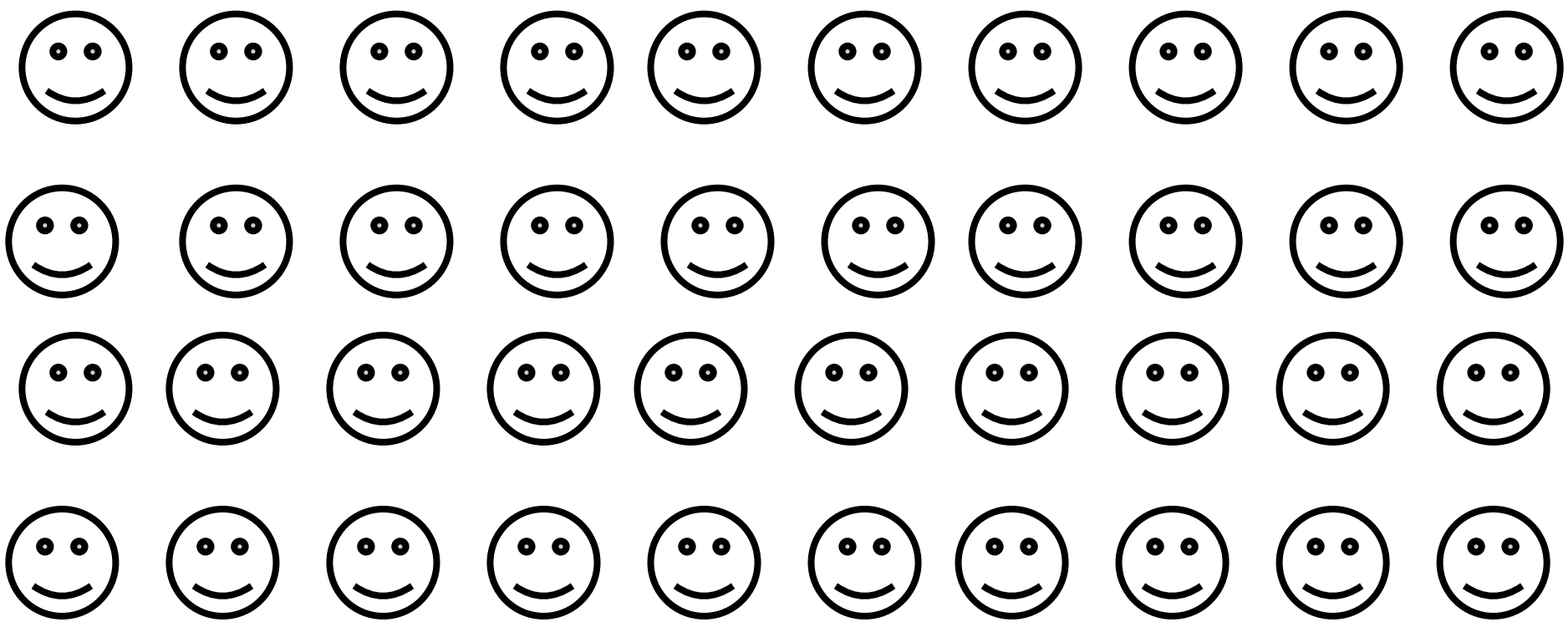
“One creates and shapes one’s situations by the very language one chooses on the spot.

We do not select our words simply in recognition of outer circumstances, but also to satisfy inner desires.”

Peter Elbow

“One of the ways people most lack control over their own lives is through lacking control over words.”

through voice ,writing became an act of
empowerment



... and gave writing a sense of individuality

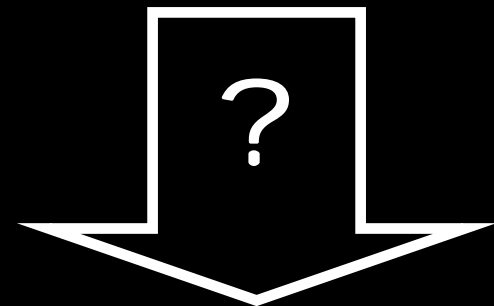
present

voice

if voice is the expression of self,
then how could it be taught?

“I think that the rhetoric of authenticity also sets up a situation where a certain kind of talk or teaching becomes next to impossible.”

Teacher



Student

if an expression of self is evident,
then how is it evaluated?

“I was hungry, so I ate a
cheeseburger.”

F -

is teaching a personal voice
practical in all academic
discourses?

PHYSICS

CALCULUS

BIOLOGY

CHEMISTRY

voice

“It is as easy to fake a piece of personal writing as it is to hide your own voice and feelings in a research paper.”

Who is to say if a voice is authentic?

FRAUD

FAKE

UNTRUTHFUL

DECEIT

voice

MADE-UP

HOAX

LIES

SHAM

DECEPTION

**Irvin
Hashimoto
suggests that
voice is
constructed
by the ~~writer~~ reader.**

“Real voice.
Real self. I am
on slippery
ground here.”

-Peter Elbow

future

Outside the academic debate over voice in written composition, a growing emphasis on the “self” suggests a reconsideration of voice as useful discourse.

voice

voice

voice

voice

voice

voice

voice

technology is stirring a contemporary
ideology of the “self”

“i”

Create with iLife.

iPod + iTunes

“we”

Wii™

“me”



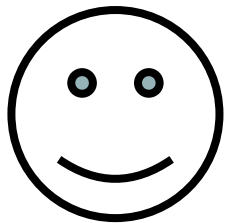
“you”



. . .and looking through any of these sites suggests that a voluminous amount of writing is already being done outside the classroom.



Not only could
academia take
advantage of the
conducive nature
of cyberspace to
writing. . .



but students could
find a practical and
enjoyable
application of their
classes as well.

“inter-glyphic” compositions involve a dynamic interaction of multiple communicative elements

*Power Point for example :)

Within the space of inter-glyphic
composition, students can explore
and discuss the personal voice in
countless ways !

comic
books

videos

blogs

power point

MAGAZINES

flash

film

Music

webpages

sound

pictures

html.

writing

voice can be the discursive catalyst for
writing as a means of empowerment
and as an expression of self*

*this presentation is reflecting
something about “me” isn’t it?



Requirements: creativity, analytical and communication skills

Apply here: composition

Thank you! Efharisto!

Questions? Ask them now, or
contact rebecca.rickly@ttu.edu