
Paper related activity #3: Crafting a Skeletal Draft

Task

Create a **skeletal draft** of a paper on “The semiotics of X”, where X is something that you would really like to explore. In doing so, it is required that you adhere to all of the following rather unusual constraints:

1. Write a meaningful title, not too long and not too short, which artfully references both the field of semiotics and your topic of choice.
2. Structure your paper by means of 8 to 12 section headings, the first of which you must call “Introduction”, the last of which you must call “Conclusion”, the rest of which must be meaningfully titled, and all of which must, when read one after the other, suggest a reasonable narrative flow.
3. Within the introductory section, write a page of two of introduction, like you mean it. Your introduction should say something about the nature and character of your paper, and should suggest what the reader can expect in terms of content. It should incorporate references to a number of your most reputable/relevant resources, without overwhelming the reader with a resource dump, and it should incorporate a number of semiotic terms which appear in your glossary of semiotic terms, without overwhelming the reader with a vocabulary dump. Some people like to foreshadow sections to come in their introduction, in an enumerative style. Others like to be more abstract their articulation of the subsequent content of their paper. Either way is fine, just so that you address the issue of what lies before the reader.
4. Your conclusion should ultimately be a short, compelling wrap-up of all that comes before it. For this skeletal draft, write just a paragraph or two, imaginatively filling in all of the gaps left in the previous sections by virtue of the “skeletal constraints” imposed upon this draft.
5. The content of the remain sections, for this skeletal draft, must **not** reference resources or terms from the glossary. That said, it will be expected that these sections will ultimately reference your annotated bibliography and your glossary of terms. In fact, they will need to do so to the extent that your final draft references all of the elements in your annotated bibliography at least one time, and so that your final draft references at least 30 terms from your glossary of semiotic terms.
6. Within each of the sections other than the introduction and the conclusion, you are to do these two things:
 - (a) Write a three sentence paragraph, the first sentence of which answers the question “What do you want to explicate in this section?”, the second of which answers the question “What semiotic ideas will you feature in your semiotic explication?”, and the third of which answers the question “What would you like your reader to take away from this section?”
 - (b) Write a sequence of 4 to 8 single sentence “paragraph stubs”, where each paragraph stub foreshadows a refinement into a paragraph.
7. In fact, please instantiate the following template, complete with the bold text, when writing each opening skeletal draft paragraph:

I want to write about <rest of the first sentence>. **I plan to focus on** <rest of the second sentence>. **I would like my reader to** <rest of the third sentence>.
8. Reference your resources by means of an expression of the form ((N)), where N is the number of the resource appearing in your annotated bibliography. Or, for convenience, ((N1, N2)), or ((N1, N2, N3)), or ..., where the N-variables are numbers corresponding to resources in your annotated bibliography. Note that in this skeletal draft it may be the case that you will not reference all of the resources in your annotated bibliography. But, as previously mentioned, it will be expected that your final draft will reference each resource in your annotated bibliography at least one time.

9. Reference terms in your glossary of terms by means of an expression of the form $[[N]]$, where N is the number of the associated entry in your glossary of semiotic terms. In this skeletal draft you might reference just a handful of glossary terms. Maybe more. But, as has been mentioned, your final draft will need to reference at least 30 of the 65 terms.
10. You may embed hypertext references within your document for purposes of enrichment, and you are encouraged to do so. But only if you can do so without subjecting your readers to tripping over long URLs as they read.
11. Render your document as a **PDF file**.

Note: In this draft, you are contributing to the creation of a puzzle that you will be asked to solve in the next draft. Mindful of this, please be careful to craft a puzzle that you can actually complete in a satisfying manner!

Due Date

Wednesday, November 17, 2021.

Simply submit your glossary, **as a PDF file**, by replying to the appropriate email that I sent to you, the one with both the specification of, and the model for, this assignment. (The email in which I requested a response with your work on this assignment attached)