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by S R

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AUDIENCE:

Malcolm X's audience is the people who like reading and therefore becoming educated. It is evident at the beginning when he says that the letters he wrote assisted him in acquiring a homemade education. He was thus addressing the people interested in education and reading.

PURPOSE:

The piece's purpose is to describe how he educated the self. He makes the audience understand that he did not attend school but learned to write on his own. Malcolm X says that most people see him on television and think that he learned beyond the eighth grade. He aims to dismiss this idea and prove that he learned to write as he educated himself.

CONTENT:

The writing's content is on how he educated himself. He begins by saying that he was motivated by Bimbi, whom he met at Charlestown Prison. He then describes how he copied words from the dictionary to the tablet and pronounced them loudly to learn. He concludes by saying that he spent all his prison time reading, which made him an expert in the field (Malcolm, 1965).

MOOD:

The writer uses a reflective mood, making the audience learn about his reading journey. He reflects on the journey, identifying the significant milestones and the present position in the journey. The writer reflects because he is proud of the stages that made him feel free despite being in prison.

STYLE:

A narrative style is evident in the piece, whereby Malcolm X faces the problem of being in prison by reading. He narrates the source of motivation and the steps he took to implement the

idea, and, in the end, he succeeded as he utilized the prison sentence well. The narrative style makes the audience understand his journey and the efforts to become a better person after leaving the prison.

STRUCTURE:

The piece's structure is cause and effect. Malcolm X indulged in reading because he was motivated by Bimbi and was in prison. The effect is learning how to communicate, making him a professional in giving speeches and writing.

Reference

Malcolm, X. (1965). Learning to Read. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X. Ed. Alex Haley. New York: Ballantine*, 353-61.

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