

Introduction

This course requires that you read an ethnography called *Nunavut Generations* by anthropologist Ann McElroy. This ethnography is meant to complement your textbook and the course lectures by offering an extended example of one anthropologist's research with Inuit people.

For this assignment, you are required to summarize one chapter from the book (one of chapters 1 to 8). Please read the epilogue DO NOT review it. Specific details of what to include in the reviews are given below.

Note: Read all chapters in the book according to the reading schedule. Do not review all of them.

Administrative Details

The review is due in class on October 24. Each review is worth 15% of your total grade. I will take off one point / week starting after the class on October 24.

Specific Requirements

Reviews are limited to 500 words or about two pages double spaced. Do not exceed this limit. It is conceivable that your review will be shorter than this. Your review must be written in sentences and paragraphs. Please indent your paragraphs. Do not write a one page paragraph; such paragraphs are very difficult to read. It is not necessary to use a cover page but please put your name on the top of your paper. Get someone to proof-read your paper.

For each of your reviews:

1. Read the chapter.
2. Note or highlight interesting features of the text in the margins. These features might relate to: the 'content' of the chapter, or what is being described by McElroy; the position and role of the anthropologist; the way in which the chapter is written; questions that the chapter raises for you. Your observations may be about other things too. **You might also refer to the questions on the sheet I handed out; they should give you some idea of what I think is important in the chapter.**
3. On a piece of scratch paper, write out the main points and arguments made in the chapter. What is the chapter about, and what are the major conclusions? Write out in skeleton form how each argument is developed and how a larger conclusion is reached.
4. Now that you have identified the main points, write an outline of your short summary. Tip: in making the outline, be analytical, not chronological. That is, do not reproduce each point as it is written chronologically in the chapter. This always obscures the larger argument. Instead, think of how the main points are related and try to integrate them into your paragraphs.

5. Write a 500 word review of the chapter. Your review should include three paragraphs:
- a. A statement of what the chapter is about (ie. the summary).
 - b. A note about how the chapter relates to the class or to anthropology in general.
 - c. A question that the chapter raises for you and a potential answer to the question. The question should be generated by the chapter and answered with reference to the chapter.

(Note: do not use the questions that I have written for you! Do not ask and answer a question that McElroy answers for you. Your answer will be informed by McElroy, but shouldn't be covered explicitly in the book.)

Tips

The three 'Cs':

Comprehensiveness: the summary should summarize all of the main points of the chapter. Points will be taken off if there are important points that are missing. Pay attention to the details, but make sure they are used in support of the main points and they do not cause the reader to lose focus on the main themes of the chapter.

Clarity: try to cover the main points in the limited space, without vague or imprecise language. Use straightforward and direct language, like you were explaining each point to a classmate.

Cogent organization and writing: organize your summary points and use good essay structure. Use topic sentences for each paragraph and make sure order of each paragraph makes sense.

(Kudos to Dr. John Alderete, SFU Linguistics.)