

Service to Self before Others:

Experiencing the Self through Narrative Analysis

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Understanding Oneself = the beginning of a Growth Process

- Learning one's **qualities, strengths and weaknesses**
- Designing a **life plan that will nurture** those qualities, **make the best use** of the strengths and **seek help** from others in areas of weakness
- Clear **map/direction to indicate one's place** in the society/community/world
 - What (profession, life, relationship, values) will give you satisfaction/happiness
 - How to work with others to achieve that satisfaction/happiness together

Outline of sharing

- **Experiencing Narrative Analysis:**

- Service Leadership Education (SLE) workshop I - Exploring Service Leadership in YOU (Jan 19-20, 2019)

- **Self-understanding through role-play:**

- “The Great Automatic Grammatizator” and what is human

- **The autobiographical project:**

- *Memories of a Catholic Girlhood* and the difficulty of writing the self

Experiencing Narrative Analysis 1

- Content of Leadership: 3 Cs
 - Competence (expertise)
 - Character (moral)
 - Care (compassion)

Experiencing Narrative Analysis 2

- Personal Qualities of Service Leadership: Using Narrative Analysis

1. Paired interview

- A peak experience in professional life
- Feeling pride and power of self as leader
- **Recollection of a moment/an experience in professional life for focus**
- **Constructing a narrative**

Experiencing Narrative Analysis 3

2. Structure the information to identify

- Role in the event
- Position in the event
- Other members/stakeholders in the event in relation to the leader/self
- Leader's actions and the rationale behind
- Expected results of the above actions

Experiencing Narrative Analysis 4

3. Mutual reporting of leaders' stories

- Rest of the group will suggest key words that can describe the leadership qualities as exhibited from the stories
- Key words being captured and reported on a flip chart

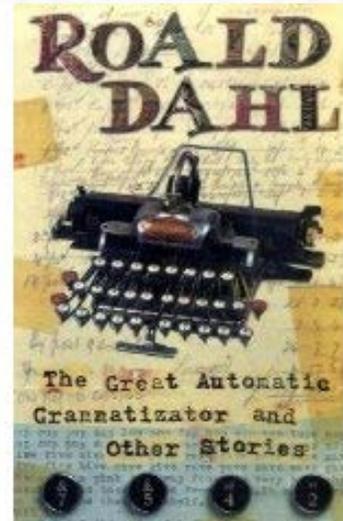
Experiencing Narrative Analysis 5

4. The group will read out the key words/agreed leadership qualities as identified and suggested by the group

- **Experiential learning**
 - **Reliving the experience**
 - **Having a structured narrative for focus of reflection**
 - **Confirmation and endorsement by others**

Self-understanding through role-play 1

- “The Great Automatic Grammatizator” and what is human
 - A short story about a person whose dream is to become a creative writer
 - Ends up inventing a machine that writes fiction
 - Sets up a business representing creative writers – and stopping them from writing their own works
 - Final point of story is an unknown creative writer still to decide whether to sign the contract in front or not (with hungry children howling next door)



Self-understanding through role-play 2

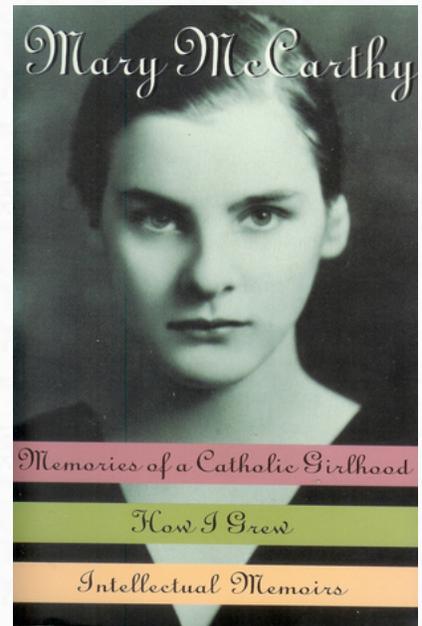
- The unknown creative writer's (thoughts and) decision through role-play
 - 2 roles – the creative writer and the literary agent
 - Each role/group comes up with a list of conditions/terms to be included in the contract
 - Report and explain the rationale behind

Self-understanding through role-play 3

- **An experience of reflection**
 - **Significance of creative expression (in different forms) for oneself (in-role)**
 - **Negotiation and compromise between creative writer and agent (in-role)**
 - **Compromise between need to create and need to survive (out-role)**

The autobiographical project 1

- *Memories of a Catholic Girlhood* and the difficulty of writing the self
 - Autobiographical text famous for its debatable “honesty”
 - For discussion of the possibility of a true autobiography
 - Memory
 - Readership
 - Self as a narrative



The autobiographical project 2

- In-class exercise: Writing an autobiography (10-15 minutes)
 - Expectations about the genre
 - **Experiencing the considerations/problems in starting this project**
 - **Language**
 - **Structure/ organization**
 - **Content (how and what to choose to re-present the self)**
 - **Re-calling and re-living important experiences**

Concluding remarks

- Teaching and learning to create an **“understanding” of the self**
 - Using narratives
 - Personal identification with different roles in the narratives
 - Living the thoughts and reflections in-role
 - Extend the reflections to outside of role
 - Sharing and endorsement