

Omid Jalali
ENGL 102
October 29, 2005

Critique on Organization of Kei Sato's Essay

Hello Kei,

I read your essay and I think it is one of the best essays that I have read in this group so far. It had all the necessary parts of a good essay. The song that you chose made a lot of sense to me even though it was written for a different culture. Your description of each part of the song helped a lot in understanding the meaning of it. Therefore, I should say that you did a nice job in this essay. However, I have a few suggestions for you that could help you when you revise your essay. Most of these suggestions are about the organization of your essay.

The first thing that I noticed was how you started your essay. I think it looks much better if you could start the essay on a new page and not right after the end of your lyrics. I liked how the introduction paragraph gives enough background information about the song in a few sentences. You used short sentences in your introduction as well as the rest of the essay, which makes it easier to follow your essay. This, I think, is one of the strengths of your essay regarding the organization.

The second paragraph, although longer than all other paragraphs, is organized very well. It starts with the first verse and finishes that verse without leaving any of details unnoticed. However, when you mention a word like "sneaky" that is a part of the song, it would be better to show it distinctively from your own essay. To do this, you can use quotation marks. Some people italicize or underline the word as well.

The third paragraph, where you explain the chorus, looks like it is shorter than other paragraphs although it has five sentences. However, I think the length of the paragraph is enough considering the length of the chorus. The fourth and fifth paragraphs have good and detailed explanations of the song. They have an appropriate length, not too long, and do not jump from one subject to another. This helps the reader understand each part of the song easier. However, if you could use more samples of the song, as single

sentences or a verse as a whole, it would make it even easier to follow your descriptions without having to look back at the lyrics. The last paragraph gives a good overview of the song. It describes the song one more time without going into details, which is the characteristic of a good conclusion paragraph.

There is one more thing that I think should be mentioned although it is not really related to the organization of your essay. I think that you need to use articles more extensively in your sentences. At first, I thought that the missing articles are a mistake from you in your essay. However after I read the lyrics, I realized that even in the translation of the lyrics there are missing articles. For example, in verse three there is a missing article in “I am still same” and “a” should be converted to “an” in “It is just a impulse”. So I think this is something that has to do with the Japanese language. If you could read your essay again and make sure that you are using the correct article in each sentence, it would fix a lot of errors.

Overall, I think you did a really nice job in your essay. Although it needs minor revisions regarding the organization, it still explains the meaning of the song very well. You have good transitions between paragraphs and each paragraph contains a single verse. That helps a lot in following your analysis of this song. Also the song and your essay are both of appropriate length. Finally, I believe that the choice of a Japanese song was a good idea since you have a lot of background knowledge about it. I hope my suggestions could help you while revising your essay. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this critique. Good luck with your revision.

Omid Jalali