

Response # 3

Watching Villeneuve's movie *Arrival* made me contemplate even more on my already chosen research topics, and to think of new ways of how I envision my projects. After a wise evaluation of all exciting ideas arisen from *Arrival*, I got the sense that my already chosen topic of research focusing on languages, education and sports, matches perfectly with the message of the movie on how communication happens and the way language shapes thought.

Furthermore watching *Arrival* gave me new ideas on how to approach my research going forward with my projects. The movie inspired me to engage in additional research on the aspect that the world itself is different for people coming from different cultures. Acquiring a new language is not only a process of learning new words and grammar, it's also about imagining and perceiving the world differently. Language is not just about learning how to say things to someone, but to also assign meaning to what is said back. Language gives sense to our environment, and language has consequences.

The entire struggle of Louise Banks to overcome the constant breakdowns in communication, with Abbott and Costello, within the team and with teams in other parts of the world evoked the learnings I gained in the Applied Behavioural Analyses courses I took at Capilano. I found similarities between Louise's action to remove her protective suit so she could engage better in a dialog with Abbott and Costello, and the communication techniques used by educators who teach autistic children. For instance, teachers are using sign languages or they hold the child's hand and encourage them to press the appropriate key on portable communication devices. The contextual considerations inspired me to explore the way Spanish children approach learning the English language, and the strategies that a CA can use to expend children's intellect and to facilitate learning and communication.

While Banks is able to save the world from a global war by adjusting her own imagination, rewiring her brain, and dreaming in Heptapod language, the parents of autistic children are able to give up on everything just to be able to communicate with their children. Banks knows that communication and developing a common language takes time. She is also aware that visuals encourage interaction with others, and this interaction can evolve into language. Additionally she knows that in the dialog with the

two aliens, she has to say what she means and when the two aliens use words in an inappropriate context, she has to look for other clues to find the hidden meaning. All this knowledge that Banks has that makes her able to interact with Abott and Castello, are also the basic principles of communication that educators use with autistic children. (Get visual; Say what you mean; Take time to teach). The comparison between Banks and educators made me aware that it would be mindful to find research on such aspects when I complete my current tutorial for Education.

Moreover the movie inspired me to expand my research for the topic I chose, but also gave me some new ideas of creating new techniques to unfold my projects. I imagine that my project will be able to capture not only an introspection of my view as an educator but also the view of the children I worked with.

The movie also inspired me to conduct my research on three different levels. Firstly my research from the humanist perspective inspired by Banks (a language specialist), from the sciences perspective suggested by Donnelly (a physicist), and from a global perspective inspired by Colonel G.T. Weber and General Shang (government, military)