Transcription as Close-Reading Worksheet

1) Read the essay you’re about to transcribe in its entirety. What is the gist of the essay? What would you say are its main points and ideas? Make at least two specific analytical close-reading observations about tone, style, patterns in word choice, uses of symbols or metaphors, etc.

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2) Carefully transcribe the essay in accordance with the “APWA Typist Instructions” handout. Carefully check and re-check your work. E-mail your transcription to me at nunesc@southwestern.edu only when you are confident that your transcription adheres to the APWA guidelines.

3) Now that you’ve transcribed the essay, reflect on how your understanding of the piece has changed. Do you have a different feeling about what the main gist and ideas of the essay are? Comment generally on how your understanding or interpretation of the essay changed between your initial reading and your transcription of the essay. Then, comment specifically: what are some details or features of the essay that you didn’t notice in the first reading that presented themselves to you during transcription?

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4) Compose a blog post (300-500 words) for our class blog (https://freedomandimprisonment.wordpress.com/) based on the results of this worksheet. Remember that at least 100-200 words of your post should draw meaningful connections between the essay you transcribed and other course texts. Blog posts are due by midnight on Wednesday, March 25.

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1 Prepared by Charlotte Nunes.