**23/03/2023 – Sale Grammar: Student ‘postcards to my future self’**

1. I have found this lecture incredibly useful in terms of how I would approach analysing Marxist and Postcolonial analysis in different texts. What I found interesting was the idea that these lenses are not separate, and I might look further into how Marxism and Postcolonialism overlap for my coursework. The handout provided was useful as it contained lots of quotes, which can be used as recommendations for further reading (e.g. John McLeod). Thank you so much!
2. The further context for both Marxism and Postcolonialism was so helpful for my coursework. The wide range of quotes from different critiques of literature gave me a much better understanding of all elements of Postcolonialism and Marxism. The extract ‘The Watch’ was really interesting in its combination of both Postcolonial and Marxist ideas. The overlap between the two is something that really sparked an interest; I will definitely be reading further! Thank you so much for such an interesting and engaging talk and workshop.
3. Learning about the structure of Marxist perspectives as literary criticism and compounding the Marxist lens with a Postcolonial lens to examine the interaction of perspectives in understanding a text.
4. I’ve learnt a lot more about the basics of Marxism and more of the contextual knowledge to it, as well as its key ideas, which I didn’t know about like the superstructure and alienation of labour. I also learnt a lot more about Postcolonialism and key terms like cultural imperialism, but also more about aspects that wouldn’t have been considered as colonialism like the interaction of time and GMT within the colonies, which relied on the sun and moon for timing.
5. A lot of the Marxism content was new. I was really intrigued by the base and the superstructure and will go away and look further into it. The close analysis was also really good practice! ☺ Overall, I was very interested in the lecture and feel as though I have gained deeper knowledge about Postcolonialism and Marxism.
6. The lecture was very interesting, especially the parts on Marxism and discussing the ways in which control is kept through justifying the social economic position of the higher class with the superstructure. I was already interested in the way ideology reinforces our perception of working conditions/relations, and I feel that my understanding has been greatly deepened. I had never in much depth considered the intersection between colonialism and capitalism, and I now think I will make more links when I am analysing literature.
7. [I] could look more into notions of worker alienation and use of monotonous tasks for the proletariat in order to [squash?] autonomy and creativity – thought it was an interesting area to look into in more detail.
8. Literary criticism – as explored in this session – [is] essential for an English university degree. I am now strongly considering a Postcolonial lens for my A-Level coursework. [I learnt that] no interpretation of literature is wrong as long as you can back it up.
9. This was such an interesting session! I especially liked applying the theories we have learned to a text and working with peers on the text. All key terms were really well explained, and I feel like I understand Marxism a lot clearer now. My only thing is that the text on the PowerPoint on Marxism was a bit small. But I now feel more equipped to study English at uni. Thank you! ☺
10. [I] learnt about alienation and how Postcolonialism and Marxism link hand-in-hand. I took interest in the ways that literature can be read through an anti-imperialist lens. Alienation and marginalisation are ideas [that] I am going to explore in relation to subliminal meanings and political, social, and economic exploitation.
11. I will maybe read *Mine Boy* and will read more postcolonial texts.
12. I have learnt about Postcolonialism and the different ways it affects people, which I previously would have not thought of (e.g. time). Therefore, in reading [through a] postcolonial lens, I will read between the lines.
13. I enjoyed the final part of the workshop in which we analysed a text [through] a Marxist and Postcolonial lens. I think that if this had been more of a focal point it may have improved the workshop/talk.
14. I found the first story very interesting. Some of the background history was interesting. Useful for my NEA.
15. Colonists introduced time to other countries who would otherwise use the sun and moon to determine the time of day. Apply it to my future essays in English Lit and [my] coursework.
16. Remember when reading the texts to keep in mind Postcolonial ideas such as race – what effect it has and what influence does imperialism have on it. They are issues that are very relevant to every text and essential to use.
17. Time is a very important concept, very historical, can be used in various texts to help interpretations.