

logic based on cultural patterns; logic as the basis of rhetorics; different styles of writing come from different cultural traditions and thus form the argumentation and thinking of writer and reader; culture - logic - rhetorics

English: linear, based on Anglo-European cultural patterns

Arabic/Persian: parallel sequences, using coordinators (vs. English: subordination)

Asian: indirect approach

Spanish: indirect digressions

thus: not only mastering English grammar guarantees a good essay, but also knowledge of style conventions

as to quotation: difficult to judge whether fully true or not; to which extent does a different style tradition influence logic and the other way around?? is knowledge constructed or universal?? - text indicates more a constructive approach

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own experience: differences in style indeed express differences in thinking (thinking - style);

Arguments:

Style is not only a question of the ability to think properly and clearly, but also an expression of cultural patterns underlying this thinking.

Style is related to the culture the text comes from, but may not be seen as a direct result from it.

Style is also a question of taste, education and personal ambition - apart from cultural influences, other aspects also influence it - influences writers ideas and thus readers concepts, which are drawn from these

Essay:

The question if Aristotle's ideas had been generated and expressed in a different way than they actually have, according to the cultural and historical environment he was embedded in, is a highly controversial one. As Peirce states, if Aristotle had been a Mexican, his whole philosophy and science up to the present day, would have been different. However, this essay will argue that this rather radical position is only partly true, as there are other aspects influencing the logic and thus the rhetorics of ideas, such as taste, education level and personal effort and ambition. Next to culturally shaped ways of thinking, these factors also contribute to a writers ability to argue for or against certain ideas.

First of all, good style in writing not only seems to be a question of the ability to think properly and clearly, but is also an expression of cultural patterns underlying this thinking. Thus, it could be argued that Aristotle's logic would have been different if he had been a Mexican, as his thinking would then have been influenced by the different cultural traditions surrounding him.

However, his logic might not have come as a direct result from the culture he lived in, but also other aspects, such as education level, might also have been important. Aristotle was a highly educated man, surrounded by a circle of others, with whom he had various discussions, used and thus "trained" his rhetorical abilities. In this way of conversation, an exchange of ideas on a high, almost academic level, might have influenced his way of thinking and his view of the world as well.