

The Commentary on my Listening Piece

I decided to write a piece suitable for the radio, which would give out facts to a listening audience. I am interested in Politics, so I thought that a subject based around this would be ideal.

Firstly, I used a basic vocabulary, which was informal such as,

“Our topic for today is of course the great lady herself Margaret Thatcher.”

The use of the simple words makes it easier for the majority of listeners to understand.

The dialogue that I used was straightforward- a male and female voice which allows the listener to distinguish between the two participants. I referred to the two as Nicholas and Jane.

“Jane-“Sorry was Black Monday Nick?”

“Nicholas –“Well it in the USA actually but it caused a ripple affect on our market here rather like the Wall Street Crash.”

The deepness of Nicholas’ voice can be used to emphasis certain points and the two characters can pose questions to each other. This allows the listener to think about the topic they are discussing and therefore increase the interest to the audience.

Alongside the way in which the people reading the piece say the words, I decided I needed to make it sound authentic and look like a real radio broadcast. Therefore, I placed stage directions as to the ways in which the words should be said, shown by,

“Nicholas-“Good morning and you’re listening to Radio X”
(Cheerfully)”

This is useful because some topics have to be dealt in a certain way. For example my style model is from a radio broadcast on BBC Radio 2, and the person reading it out, Steve Wright has to put a saddened tone into his voice in order to make the listeners feel like he cares about that particular topic deeply and so he refers to things affectionately such as,

“The good old Queen.”

I decided to attempt this, and included,

“Jane-“Really..?(Pause) Goodness she has had such a busy time in power what with Great Britain taking back control in the Falklands and 3 million being unemployed.” (Serious).”

I again looked at my style model and saw that the comedy involved had been carefully scripted and placed into the broadcast shown as, He also clearly demonstrates what he is thinking and also uses stage directions, as did I in my piece, this adds to the amount of feeling the listener may have to the person reading out the piece.

“Jane-“So what are her views on Europe then Nick?”(Questioning)”

Radio 2 also included areas of comedy when I was listening to the broadcast; this maintains the listener’s interests, for example,

“Yes and that was Bryan Adams who is going to tour in England in the summertime and lets all hope it will be the Summer of ’69 (chuckles)”

I also decided to include some comedy into my piece too, and this is shown by,

“Nicholas-“Now there’s no doubt about it that “Statecraft Margaret Thatcher’s new book will be a best seller because she served for 11 years in office! (Surprise) Some may say that was long enough (side comment, jovially said)”

The use of the comedy gives an easier feeling to the dialogue and I have made Jane refer to Nicholas as Nick, because Steve Wright calls himself Steve and it gives an informal tone to the piece and so therefore makes the listener understand a format that they are used to in their everyday lives.

I also used accurate facts and figures, which I found out by looking up on the Internet. The use of these facts adds to the idea that the people talking about that particular subject such as Margaret Thatcher have researched the topic. My target audience are people who like to learn and also find it easy listening by me including the informal speech. I have used short sentences also; this allows the presenters to not lose the interests of the listeners and so decided to use this, shown by,

“Nicholas-“Well from what we have read from the newspapers and from the promotion of her new book is that she has slowly disliked Great Britain being integrated into Europe.”

So, for my evaluation, I think that I have attempted an acceptable radio dialogue rather like my style model and believe that the comedy that I involved along with the stage directions was sufficient to a radio broadcast.

Word count: 731