

This is a pre-print version of Brandy Dieterle's webtext, Review of Toward a Composition Made Whole by Jody Shipka published in Kairos: Rhetoric, Technology, Pedagogy, 19(2), available at <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/19.2/reviews/dieterle>

The purpose of this video is to document my process of developing this book review to illustrate what Shipka argued for in her text.

One of the initial decisions I had to make was the form my review would be in. Throughout Shipka's book, she argued for understanding multimodal composition as more than just digital texts. However, a non-digital book review would be difficult to transfer to an online, publishable form. Because of this, I opted to compose my book review as a webtext.

For the design of the webtext, I decided to go with blue, gray, and red because they are similar to colors on the book cover. This particular combination of colors also goes well together and provides enough contrast for easy readability. I also included links and videos on various pages to connect readers to other noteworthy points, like John Seely Brown's video on learning and Shipka's personal website where she posts student work.

For the written portion of the website, I looked at other book reviews and identified some strategies previous reviewers used. I've never written a book review of this nature before, so I wanted to get a handle on the type of text I would be producing before I started writing.

After identifying some of these key features, I began reading the book. I read the book for the first time right after it was published and I annotated it with pencil, so I annotated with pen for my second read. While reading, I underlined key ideas, made notes on these ideas on the side, and I composed a draft of the chapter summaries on my laptop. All the while, I was also working on developing the website.

The locations I composed in varied widely and were largely dependent on where I was when I could work on the book review. Some locations include my own apartment and in a hotel room as well as in an airport and on an airplane. Composing in environments outside the comfort of my own home was not ideal, but I took advantage of the opportunities to get some work done in other locations.

At home, I composed in the quiet while sitting at my desk, but I found that I needed background noise when composing elsewhere. When around other people, I was easily distracted and I needed music to drown out the sounds people were making so that I could focus my attention on the book.

There were several other factors that influenced the development of this webtext. First and foremost, a professor at my university encouraged me to consider submitting a query for this book review. Without her support, I may not have taken this step. Adobe Dreamweaver's

software also played a role as well as Windows Live Movie Maker. Another actor was one of my colleagues who served as a sounding board throughout the whole process.

Shipka described the composing process as rich and complex, which is demonstrated in my own process. Although it is described in a linear fashion, I would move between the different phases of writing and revision throughout the entire process. I also didn't fully devote my attention to one particular aspect, like the written text, at any given time. I moved from working on the design of the website to reading the book to the development of the written text as I finished each chapter. This allowed me to work while the reading was still fresh in my mind.

Thank you for listening to my video and I hope you have a better understanding of my process.