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Pre- Assessment

English 2010-70

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“Language is like a suit of clothes”

Gertrude Simmons Bonnin, a great Native American woman, stated, “Language is like a suit of clothes.” In relation to the rhetorical process, this quote takes on a deeper meaning. The rhetorical process, or art of persuasion, relates to this particular quote through its ever changing meaning. Depending on the audience and its needs, a particular “suit of clothes” from the English language will be used.

In our everyday lives we change our clothes to fit a particular setting. For example, formal attire is worn in formal settings like an interview. Language is very similar in this way in relation to the rhetorical process. We use a new “suit of clothes” in different settings. It is just a matter of finding the right suit of clothes to use.