**Cinderella Comparison**

Assessment Type 3: Intertextuality Study: Fairy Tale Comparative Report

A report, of a maximum of 1,000 words, which identifies the connections between two texts and explains

them in relation to purpose, target audience, form, and language and articulates the reasons as to which is

the more effective and why

Write an essay, report or multi-media presentation, of a maximum of 1,000 words, which identifies the connections and differences between Grimm’s *Cinderella* and Roald Dahl’s *Cinderella* and explains them in relation to purpose, target audience and their context, form and language and articulates the reasons as to which is the more effective and why.

Purpose:

The Brothers Grimm’s version of Cinderella has very distinguishable messages throughout. One of these being that good things will come to those deserving. Cinderella is dutiful and loyal to her dead mother, visiting the grave often and caring for it. Being kind and thoughtful with the animals, causing them to come to her aid with the lentils. Then there is the tree that she planted and looked after that would come to cover her with gold and silver, giving her a more beautiful dress delivered by the birds each time. This is combined with the overall message of that it’s better to be kind to people like Cinderella, rather than callous and cruel like the step mother and sisters. They end up disfigured and blind, causing them to be miserable, while Cinderella, who endured through all of their torment, becomes a princess. Roald Dahl’s version of Cinderella doesn’t have a very strong message throughout. This is due to it being written more for the purpose of entertainment. The Brothers Grimm’s version of the story is drastically more effective than Dahl’s, having clear moral messages and themes throughout that connect with their target audience. The authors communicated this clearly with their use of language and techniques

Audience and their Context:

The target audience for the Brothers Grimm and Roald Dahl’s version of Cinderella are quite different. This is due to the themes and content used in each story and the language they utilize. Brothers Grimm’s story is aimed more towards adults. This is apparent in the nature of how this version is written. It is gory, dark and much more descriptive. This is mostly shown when Cinderella’s step mother wants one of her daughters to marry the prince. She orders them to mutilate and disfigure themselves by cutting off the toe of one of her daughters and a portion of the heel off the other. All in a futile attempt to deceive the prince into believing they owned the slipper. Then later having their eyes pecked out by birds due to their actions. These scenes in the story would most definitely shock a younger audience. Another thing to consider is the time period which this was written in 1812. This may have been a moral message of hope to the individuals of that time, who may have been able to identify with Cinderella in their own ways. Whether it be low social class and income or just feeling trapped in their lives. Cinderella is deprived of everything. Yet, she is still able to have hope throughout all of the events she endures resulting in her desired outcome. This message of hope is still apparent and many individuals may still relate to Cinderella in modern times. Whereas Roald Dahl’s target audience is children. It’s written in a humorous tone in order to attract and entertain a younger audience. However, it does contain certain themes of money and love, which can be seen when Cinderella finally sees the prince for who he truly is and decides to marry “a decent man, a simple jam maker by trade” (relate to audience ideas). In doing so it ended with her living in a house full of smiles and laughter, living happily ever after. Both versions of this story have their positives and negatives that affect their effectiveness at reaching their target audience. Brothers Grimm is able to attract an older audience to a somewhat childish story that most know today, with its darker themes and messages. Dahl is able to effectively have his readers enjoy and connect with his version due to the humor and rhymes throughout. Both have done this well.

Form/Language:

The Brothers Grimm and Roald Dahl both use different forms and language, Grimm’s tale is told as a narrative while Dahl’s is a poem. Roald Dahl’s poem uses rhymes in the AABB scheme. This is where the first line rhymes with the second line, then the third line rhymes with the fourth line and so on. It is a very affective choice of rhyme scheme when writing a poem for children. An example of this would be The Fairy said, 'Hang on a tick.' She gave her wand a mighty flick. While Grimm’s form is shown through the structure of a narrative, using paragraphs, long sentences and lots of descriptive terms to effortlessly put an imagine in the reader’s mind. Although both of these are different forms, they do have similarities. With Grimm using rhymes like how Dahl would and Roald Dahl using a darker and more descriptive tone for the ending of his poem when the sisters lose their heads. Brothers Grimm’s form is much more effective due to the descriptive language used in it, which makes it a much more appealing read.

Conclusion/Effectiveness:

Within both versions of this tale there are many similarities and differences alike. That being said Grimm’s text is much more effective due to it being a narrative using corrupt characters and actions, gore and romance. This all comes together to create a versatile story for most age groups to connect with and enjoy.