

4-17-2001

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Dodie M. Miller (2001). *Analysis of Pronoun Use in a Selected Text*.
http://opus.ipfw.edu/stu_symp2001/19

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ANALYSIS OF PRONOUN USE IN A SELECTED TEXT

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The textbook, Rhetorical Grammar, by Martha Kolln, offers the reader ways in which grammar selections can affect the impression text can make on an audience. The author's own use of the methods described was analyzed in this project. Two sample chapters were chosen and the pronoun usage in those chapters was examined. The research concluded that when the author seemed certain that readers were unfamiliar with ideas presented in the text, she was more inclined to use "I" and "you," and effectively creating distance between herself and her student audience. When Kolln seemed assured that readers had been previously acquainted with the information presented, she was more apt to use "we." In conclusion, the findings demonstrate that choices in grammar, rather than word choice alone, affect how readers perceive information presented.