

DIDLS for “Immortal Cells, Moral Issues”

Every writer, has a unique style. Style is the combination of the writer’s choices, which are made to achieve a certain purpose. Use the graphic organizer below to analyze Faden’s style.

As you read, look for these details...			How do you know? Cite specific evidence from the text.
D	Diction: author’s choice of words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for choice of strong words. Do you notice any repetition or patterns in the word choice? What do this words reveal about how the author feels about the subject? 	<p>Consent, compensation, benefited, financially, common good, ethics.</p> <p>These words reveal that Faden is approaching the topic as a matter of ethics and a cost-benefit analysis, looking at whether the benefit to humanity outweighs the cost to individuals.</p>
I	Imagery: Use of descriptions that appeal to the senses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What images are especially vivid? To what senses do these images appeal? How do these images affect your mood as a reader? 	<p>There is a lack of imagery in this text.</p>
D	Details: Facts included or those omitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What details are emphasized or repeated? Look for facts. Are there any details that have been left out? How do the included details affect your mood as a reader? 	<p>Faden continually emphasizes the richness of the “biomedical-industrial complex” and the poverty of the Lacks family. She describes how members of the Lacks family have “remained profoundly poor” and did not have access to “consistent, basic health care.” On the contrary, she describes the medical field as working on “the promise of profits” and making “lots of money”.</p> <p>What Faden doesn’t explain is how much research costs to develop treatments with tissues. She also doesn’t mention the financial</p>

			status of the average tissue donor. Are the Lacks an exception to the rule?
L	Language: Characteristics of the body of language (slang, figurative, scholarly language, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How could the language be described overall? What connections does the author make with figurative language? How does the language affect your mood as a reader? 	The language could be described as scholarly with an absence of figurative language. It creates a clinical, distant feel for the reader, as if considering the issue mainly from a cost-benefit analysis or policy or legal perspective instead of from the point-of-view of the patients.
S	Syntax: The way sentences are constructed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are sentences simple, compound, complex, varied? What do these structures indicate about the author? 	There are varied sentence varieties; however, sentences are simple when the author makes a claim and more complex when explaining her reasoning. This indicates that the author is building an argument.
TO NE	Tone: The writer's attitude or toward the subject.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on your analysis above, how would you describe the author's tone? Sarcastic? Objective? Angry? Romantic? Urgent? Serious? Clinical? Lofty? How would you read the passage aloud if you were the author? 	The tone of the story is clinical. She builds this tone with use of diction and details.

Activity Two: Each author uses word choice, sentence structure, and figurative language to create a unique style that will speak to specific audiences, occasions or purposes. Consider the words below, which would describe Faden’s style?

Objective

Opinionated

Academic

Narrative

Nostalgic

Cynical

Humorous