

After having read *Mother Tongue* by Amy Tan, I feel as though I can say there were many parts of the text which resonated with me deeply. Mainly, one of the things which stood out to me the most was towards the beginning of the text, where Tan discusses how when she was giving a speech, she employed a type of English which was distinct from the type she had used with her mother. The reason this stood out to me was because I kind of relate to it. When speaking with my mother, I don't really speak in the same way I would with other people, Mainly I try to communicate with my mother in Spanish, and the language difference is, in my opinion, a facet of the immigrant household which is somewhat universal. This is furthered when she speaks of "family talk" and the "language [she] grew up with." This resonates with me because my parents didn't speak English to me at home when I was young, and as such, I feel the same way Tan does, in the sense that we both have a kind of intimate way of speaking that is reserved for family

Another part of what resonated with me about Tan's essay was the portions she included about her mother's struggles due to the way she spoke. I feel as though including personal anecdotes about how she couldn't easily communicate with a stockbroker, and how she had trouble getting CAT scan results, are touches which serve to really garner sympathy from the audience. What made me especially sad was when she mentioned how people would either ignore or pretend not to hear her mother when she would go certain places, and when she talks about how that shaped her perception of her own mother, that really hit hard. It's stuff like that that in my opinion, somewhat defines the experience for immigrants in the US, and they represent the unseen challenges associated with trying your luck in another country.

Lastly, I would say something that really resonated with me was when Tan said that language ability tests could never capture her mother's intent, passion, imagery, the nature of her thoughts, etc. The reason this resonated with me was because I feel the same way about my mother sometimes, which is to say that I feel as though a lot of people only see what's on the surface without understanding what an articulate and smart person she is. This really reaffirms for me something I've known, which is that you cannot truly make assumptions based on things like how someone speaks or how good their English is, because that will never be able to capture the true depth of their character in a palpable fashion. Overall, this text was nice in the sense that it highlights important topics, and felt relatable in a lot of ways.