

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Kasdi Merbah Ouargla University**

Faculty of Letters and Languages

Department of Letters and English Language



Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Master's Degree in the field of
English Language and Literature

Major: Literature and Civilisation

Self-awareness and self-realization In Maya Angelou's selected poems

Presented and publicly defended by

**Ouali Abdelbasset
Boughaba Douaa**

Supervised by

Khaoula Hakkoum

Jury

Samira Sayah Lembarek	President
Khaoula Hakkoum	Supervisor
Fouzia Bahri	Examiner

Academic Year:

2023 - 2024

Dedication

I dedicate my humble work to my family and many friends. A special feeling of gratitude to my loving parents “Khadija”, “Ali” whose words of the encouragement and push for tenacity ring in my ears.

My sisters: “Noor, Amira, Manel” and my dear brother “Ayoub “.

I also dedicate this dissertation to all my friend my biggest supporters that have never left my side.

Doua Boughaba

This dissertation is dedicated to my beloved family and friends, who have been by my side throughout this journey.

Ouali Abdelbasset

Acknowledgment

« First praise to Allah, who guided us to this; and we would never been guided if Allah had guide us »

We would like to express our deepest and sincere gratitude for our dear supervisor Mrs. Khawla Hakkoum for her guidance, her motivation and her support throughout the time we spent finalizing this research.

We would like also to extend our gratitude to the members of the jury for accepting to read and examine this modest work.

We are grateful to our parents for their love, prayers, care and sacrifices in educating and preparing us for the future.

ABSTARCT

This study gives a perusing of female mindfulness and self-acknowledgment according to a blended orientation perspective that is our primary driving force for selecting this topic that is by researchers from different gender. This dissertation has two chapters each one tackles a subject, generally in this chapters we focused on the depiction of the theme of self-awareness and self-realization in selected poems of Maya Angelou, also we discuss how Maya Angelou presents the African American women that is our main objective.

Key words: self-awareness _self-realization self-acknowledgment _African American female

ملخص

تتناول هذه الدراسة موضوع وعي الأنثى بالذات وإدراكها لذاتها وفق منظور مختلط التوجهات وهو تحتوي هذه الأطروحة. الدافع الأساسي لاختيارنا لهذا الموضوع الذي هو من قبل باحثين من الجنسين على فصلين يتناول كل فصل منها موضوعاً بعينه، وبشكل عام نركز في هذا الفصل على تصوير موضوع الوعي الذاتي وتحقيق الذات في قصائد مختارة من قصائد مايا أنجيلو، كما نناقش كيف تقدم مايا أنجيلو المرأة الأمريكية من أصل أفريقي وهذا هو هدفنا الرئيسي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الوعي الذاتي _ تحقيق الذات الاعتراف بالذات _ أنثى أمريكية من أصل أفريقي

Abstraite

Cette étude donne un aperçu de la pleine conscience et de la reconnaissance de soi des femmes selon une perspective d'orientation mixte qui est notre principale force motrice dans la sélection de ce sujet par des chercheurs de sexes différents. Cette thèse comporte deux chapitres, chacun abordant un sujet. Généralement, dans ces chapitres, nous nous sommes concentrés sur la représentation du thème de la conscience de soi et de la réalisation de soi dans des poèmes sélectionnés de Maya Angelou. Nous discutons également de la façon dont Maya Angelou présente les femmes afro-américaines qui est notre objectif principal.

Mots clés : conscience de soi _réalisation de soi, reconnaissance de soi _Femme afro-américaine

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dedication.....	II
Acknowledgment	III
ABSTARCT	IV
I.1. Introduction	10
I.2. Definition of Self-awareness and its significance in literature	10
I.2.1. The portrayal of self-awareness in Maya Angelo’s poetry	11
I.2.2. Relevance of self-awareness to Maya Angelou's work.....	12
I.3. Analysis of Self-awareness in Selected Poems by Maya Angelou	13
I.3.1. Poem 1: Still I rise.....	13
I.3.2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted.....	17
I.4. Poem 2: caged bird	17
I.4.1. Summary of the poem	17
I.5. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted	21
I.6. Poem 3: Alone	21
I.6.1. Summary of the poem	21
I.6.2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted.....	24
I.7. Conclusion	25
I.7.1. Recap of key findings on self-awareness in Angelou's poems	25
I.7.2. Reflection on the significance of self-awareness in understanding Angelou's work.....	25
I.7.3. Transition to the next chapter on self-realization in Angelou's poetry.....	26

CHAPTER.II: Self-realization	27
2.1Introduction: Explanation of self-realization as a key theme:.....	28
2.2Identity Exploration.....	30
2.2.1The poem "Still I Rise "explore self-affirmation amidst societal expectations.	30
2.2.2 Angelou portrays the intersectionality of identities and the importance of self-acceptance.....	30
2.3. Healing from Trauma	31
2.3.1 "I Know Why the Caged Bird sings" illustrates the journey of overcoming trauma.	31
2.4. Language and Empowerment	32
2.4.1. Angelou’s use of language empowers the speaker in the poem "On the Pulse of Morning."	32
2.5. Community Support	34
2.5.1. The poem "Still I Rise" highlights the role of community in self-realization.	34
2.6. Conclusion:	35
GENERAL CONCLUSION.....	36
Bibliography.....	37

General Introduction

The research is divided into 2 chapters, in the first chapter we aim at shedding light on the theme of self-awareness and the analysis of this theme, the second discuss the theme of self-realization in some selected poems of Maya Angelou.

This study aims to:

- To explore the themes of self-awareness and self-realization.
- To discuss the concept of the self in literature
- To portray the female identity in African American literature.

the discussion problem that addressed in this dissertation is the need for a comprehensive analysis of self-awareness and self-realization in Maya Angelou's poetry, considering both the thematic richness of her verse and its socio-cultural significance within the broader landscape of American literature by examining the ways in which Angelou navigates the journey towards self-discovery and personal empowerment in her poetry, this study seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of her literary legacy and its implications for our understanding of the human experience.

Our main objective in this dissertation is to give answers to the questions below:

- How does Maya Angelou present the African American female identity in her poems?
- How does she portray self-awareness and self-realization in her poems?

This study is a description for the two chapters that it a thematic study where the researchers have studies the depiction of the themes of self-awareness and self-realization in Angelou's selected poems.

CHAPTER.I: SELF-AWARENESS

I. Introduction

II. Definition of Self-awareness and its significance in literature

A. The portrayal of self-awareness in Maya Angelou's poetry

B. Discussion of how self-awareness is portrayed in poetry

C. Relevance of self-awareness to Maya Angelou's work

III. Analysis of Self-awareness in Selected Poems by Maya Angelou

A. Poem 1: Still I rise

1. Summary of the poem

2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted

B. Poem 2: I know why the caged bird sings

1. Summary of the poem

2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted

C. Poem 3: Alone

1. Summary of the poem

2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted

IV. Comparison of Self-awareness in Different Poems

A. Identification of common elements of self-awareness in Angelou's poems

B. Contrasting portrayals of self-awareness in different poems

C. Discussion of how self-awareness evolves or changes throughout Angelou's body of work

V. Conclusion A. Recap of key findings on self-awareness in Angelou's poems

B. Reflection on the significance of self-awareness in understanding Angelou's work

C. Transition to the next chapter on self-realization in Angelou's poetry

I.1. Introduction

This chapter explores the theme of self-awareness in Maya Angelou's poetry. The first section of this chapter provides a definition of the concept self-awareness. While the other sections is attempt to analyse its manifestations in some poems of Maya Angelou

I.2. Definition of Self-awareness and its significance in literature

Researchers Shelley Duval and Robert wick Lund published the first major theory of self-awareness in the early 1970s. They said that self-awareness as the ability to look inward and thinking deeply about our behaviour and also consider how it aligns with our Values.

Self-awareness in literature refers to the depiction and exploration of characters' or authors' understanding of themselves, their motivations, emotions, strengths, weaknesses, and place in the world. It involves a reflection on one's own thoughts, feelings, and actions, and often leading to personal growth. (Madeline G. Levine, "The Merchant of Venice: New Perspectives" 2001)

One of the most important elements of emotional intelligence is Self-awareness, since it grants you the ability to comprehend and control both emotions and actions and helps you understand how these affect the emotions and actions of others Self-aware characters develop dynamically, swallowed up throughout the story by their flaws, experiences, and personalities. Through introspection, they create empathy and resonance with readers, conveying emotional depth and authenticity. The themes of identity, authenticity and personal growth are wonderfully woven into the story, prompting readers to reflect on their own lives and values. Literature acts as a mirror for society, exploring universal truths about the human condition through the internal conflicts and complications of the characters. Ultimately, self-discovery in literature empowers readers to embark on a journey of introspection and personal growth, providing insight into the complexity of the human experience (-Forsey, C. (2018, May 11).

I.2.1. The portrayal of self-awareness in Maya Angelo's poetry

(Live interview with the journalist Svetlana Mandic, 29.09.2021. 07:09h) Balsa Brković said: "the only thing I can think of as a reason for the creation of the world, the only one that would be acceptable to me is that God created the world to be written about poetry even today is the most important because it is a self-reflexive zone of language where language asks about itself .

Poetry's representation of self-awareness is a complex and complicated topic that touches on poets' introspective journeys as they investigate their inner selves, feelings, beliefs, and roles in the world. Poetry is a kind of art that permits a close examination of self-awareness and offers both universal and individualised insights into the human experience. (Dr. Sarah Greenwell, "Poetic Introspection: The Self-Aware Voice in Modern Verse" 2018)

I.1.1. Introspection and Personal Exploration: Poets frequently explore their innermost feelings, ideas, and experiences via their writing. Deep understanding of their motivations and character may result from this investigation. Poems in this style may consider personal struggles, life events, or epiphanies that have shaped the poet's understanding of themselves.

2. Link with the Universal: Poets convey their own insights through their words. Establishing a link between personal experiences and the larger human experience. This commonality can draw attention to the universal features of self-awareness, implying that introspection on a personal level can result in a more comprehensive (Brković).

3. The Role of Nature and the World: A lot of poets use their surroundings and relationship with nature as a mirror to examine their inner selves. Poets symbolically and physically ponder on life's cycles of growth, decay, and observation of nature and the seasons, finding parallels to their own internal experiences and development (Brković).

4. Philosophical and Existential Inquiry: Poetry frequently addresses existential and philosophical issues pertaining to identity, meaning, and awareness. Poets examine the nature of self-awareness and how we grow to comprehend who we are and where we fit in the cosmos via these explorations.

5. Dialogue with the Self: In some poems, the concept of self-awareness is presented as a conversation between the emotional and intellectual selves, for example the current self-conversing with the past or future self, or the emotional self vs the rational

self. This method can clarify the intricate workings of self-perception and the multidimensional character of human consciousness.

6. Cultural and Social Identity: Self-awareness is also examined by poets in relation to familial, social, and cultural identities. Poetry can provide insights into the manner in which our sense of self interacts with and is influenced by the outside world by exploring how these outside forces shape the self.

7. Transformation and Growth: Lastly, poetry frequently portrays the quest for self-awareness as a process of growth and transformation. Poets show the constant process of growing in self-awareness through facing obstacles, accepting change, and recognising one's weaknesses and abilities.

Poetry's representation of self-awareness is as varied as its poets, providing a complex tapestry of perspectives on what it means to truly comprehend oneself. Poetry offers a distinctive perspective on the intricate and dynamic nature of self-awareness through expressive language, symbolic imagery, and thought-provoking themes (Vijesti, 2021).

I.2.2. Relevance of self-awareness to Maya Angelou's work

The study of human identity and self-awareness are major themes in Maya Angelou's writing. Angelou explores her personal experiences and considers the value of self-awareness in knowing oneself and navigating the world in her poetry, autobiographies, and essays. The following main ideas demonstrate how important self-awareness is in Maya Angelou's writings:

1. Self-Reflection and Acceptance: Angelou frequently discusses her journey of self-acceptance and self-discovery in her writing. In her memoir "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," she delves into her personal battles with race, identity, and self-worth, Angelou inspires readers to consider their own lives and accept who they really are through her work.

2. Overcoming Adversity: Angelou's capacity to conquer the challenge is greatly aided by her self-awareness.

She can face and overcome the challenges in her life by being aware of her own advantages and disadvantages.

Her poem "Still I Rise," in which she honours resiliency and self-empowerment, demonstrates this concept

3. Relationship to Collective Identity: Although Angelou places a strong emphasis on personal awareness, she also acknowledges the significance of a collective identity. She investigates the intersectionality of race, gender, and culture, underlining the need for self-awareness within the context of wider societal systems she is able to negotiate and question social norms and expectations (“Hebaelhakim, developing self-awareness “)

4. Empathy and compassion: Angelou promotes empathy and compassion for other people via her writing. She is able to see people's interconnectedness and shared humanity since she is self-aware. This knowledge encourages tolerance, inclusivity, and compassion in society.

I.3. Analysis of Self-awareness in Selected Poems by Maya Angelou

I.3.1. Poem 1: Still I rise

1. Summary of the poem

“Still I rise” is a 43 line poem written by Maya Angelou, and published in her third poetry collection “and still I rise” in 1978 the poem features a black female speaker who addresses an unspecified “you” with a defiantly confrontational tone. The poem is a reflection of the dignity and strength of marginalized people in the face of oppression, and can also be read specifically as a critique of anti-black racism. The poem draws attention emphasizes the importance of a spirit of perseverance and perseverance. The poem recounts Angelou’s experiences in the civil rights movement and contains a universal message about the resilience of the human spirit

“You may write me down in history

With your bitter, twisted lies,

You may trod me in the very dirt

But still, like dust, I'll rise”

Maya begins her poem with a direct and straightforward reference to “you”, and opens the poem with elegant phrasing: “write in history” means ‘write history of me and my people’ but it also means ‘write me down’, humiliate me and my progress achieved by lying about me’. Although people tend to disparage her and other African Americans, Angelou insists that even if she steps in the dirt, like dust rising from someone’s shoes, she will stand up and they will not fail

2nd “Does my sassiness upset you?

Why are you beset with gloom?

’Cause I walk like I’ve got oil wells

Pumping in my living room”

3rd “Just like moons and like suns,

With the certainty of tides,

Just like hopes springing high,

Still I’ll rise”

In the second stanza, Angelou asks a direct question. Is her sexuality, self-confidence and beauty upsetting? She walks full of confidence, as if she’s as rich as an oiled baron, And (moving on to the third stanza) like the sun and the moon that rise every night, and like our hope for a brighter future that will last even in difficult times, she will continue to rise too. The moon image suggests the tides of the sea (which are a result of the moon’s gravitational pull on the earth’s seas) which also go out but come in again, as regular and dependable as the sunrise and sunset every day.

4th “Did you want to see me broken?

Bowed head and lowered eyes?

Shoulders falling down like teardrops,

Weakened by my soulful cries?”

5th “Does my haughtiness offend you?

Don't you take it awful hard

'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines

Diggin' in my own backyard."

More questions follow in the fourth stanza: Angelo accuses her addressee of wanting to see her soul broken, but in the fifth stanza she emphasizes her pride and haughtiness she keeps her head high and doesn't stoop to humility or defeat, with a wide smile on her face and the confidence she has it feels like she's rich beyond their wildest dreams and a gold mine on the backyard

"You may shoot me with your words,

You may cut me with your eyes,

You may kill me with your hatefulness,

But still, like air, I'll rise"

In the sixth stanza Angelou says that all the hate toward her and other afro American might hurt them but they will never stop going higher and rising

"Does my sexiness upset you?

Does it come as a surprise

That I dance like I've got diamonds

At the meeting of my thighs?"

The seventh stanza revisits the 'sassiness' mentioned in the second stanza Angelou confronts societal expectations and stereotypes about femininity and sexuality. She challenges the reader's perception of whether her confidence and her sexuality are disturbing or unrecognizable to them. The imagery of the dance "how I found a diamond at the meeting of my thighs" is vivid and metaphorical, encompassing defiance and self-assertion suggesting that with her strength and sexuality she will not die of shame or fear it shows her confidence and a woman's pride as precious and valuable as diamonds

"Out of the huts of history's shame

I rise

Up from a past that's rooted in pain

I rise

I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,

Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.”

In the eighth stanza Angelou inspires the collective struggle and resilience of her community, especially African Americans who have endured centuries of oppression and discrimination. The "huts of history's shame" symbolize the deep-seated injustices and atrocities of the past, Angelou's imagery of a "black ocean" conveys the vastness and strength of her identity and heritage, emphasizing her connection to her roots and the richness of her cultural legacy, the ocean metaphor also suggests the unstoppable power of her spirit, which rises and expands with determination and resilience.

“Leaving behind nights of terror and fear

I rise

Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear

I rise

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,

I am the dream and the hope of the slave.

I rise

I rise

I rise.”

In the last stanza, Angelou continues to emphasize the theme of overcoming adversity and embracing hope. She contrasts the darkness of "nights of terror and fear" with the clarity and beauty of a "daybreak that's wondrously clear." This imagery symbolizes the transition from a painful past to a hopeful future. Her ancestors, who had to endure slave labour and then, even once freed, generations of racial prejudice, dreamed of such a time, and now it is here: their 'gift' to her is in establishing the dream, which has now been realised.

I.3.2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted

Maya Angelou's poem "Still I Rise" demonstrates self-awareness through the speaker's unwavering confidence, resilience, and refusal to be defined or defeated by societal expectations and pressures

Throughout the poem, the speaker displays a strong sense of identity, recognizing and accepting the challenges and obstacles they face. They are acutely aware of the negative forces and biases that are trying to keep them down, but they don't internalize them or let these forces define their worth

The speaker's self-awareness is reflected in their constant references to their own strengths and resilience. They confidently declare that "you put me in history /with your twisted bitter lies," implying that they are aware of efforts to diminish or erase their achievements and voices. Even so, they show strength and determination to rise above these containment efforts.

The poem reflects the speaker's awareness of their own worth and true worth. You ask, "Does my sassiness offend you?" and declares, "I'm up / up / up." These words suggest that the speaker is acutely aware of his or her own interests, personality, and their effects on those who seek to undermine them (Ann Gripper, Ann Stenhouse 2018).

Moreover, the poem reveals self-knowledge through the speaker's refusal to overcome or alleviate suffering. Vivid images and metaphors are used to illustrate the overcoming of difficulties such as "like dust" and "like wind," which show resilience and resilience in the face of adversity

Overall, "Still I Rise" shows self-awareness through the speaker's unwavering faith, acceptance of life's forces and refusal to be defined the poem carries a strong message of self (William Sylvester 1995).

I.4. Poem 2: caged bird

I.4.1. Summary of the poem

"The Caged Bird" is a 1969 autobiography by American writer Maya Angelou, describing her early life from the age of three to sixteen. The book is the first in a seven-volume series and serves as a coming-of-age story that illustrates how strength of character and a love of literature can help overcome racism and trauma. The

narrative follows Angelou as she moves between her grandmother's home in rural Arkansas and her mother's residence in California, enduring the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local community. The book has become a modern American classic and is widely celebrated for its portrayal of resilience and self-discovery. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. This title had great significance to Angelou, as it was the title of her entire life story. In her autobiography, she talked about the struggle of being a Black author and poet. She often felt that her words were not heard because of the colour of her skin and sought to express her experience and that of others in her contemporary moment through the lines of this text.

“A free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wing
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.”

The first stanza Maya Angelou refers to nature. She describes how “a free bird leaps on the back of the wind.” She describes a bird flying into an orange sky. The Free bird has the right to “explore the skies” and claim it his own. The way she describes the “orange sun rays” gives the reader an appreciation of the natural beauty of the sky, and the description of how the bird “dips his wings” helps the reader to appreciate the bird in his natural habitat enjoying his freedom.

“But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.”

In the second stanza it contrasts sharply with the first. By using the word “but” to begin this stanza, the speaker prepares the reader for this contrast. Then she describes the “bird that stalks his narrow cage.” The tone is immediately and drastically changed from peaceful, satisfied, and joyful to one that is dark, unnerving, and even frustrating. She describes that this caged first “can seldom see through his bars of rage. “While the free bird enjoys the full sky, the caged bird rarely even gets a glimpse of the sky. She claims “his wings are clipped, and his feet are tied.” Text from her autobiography reveals that Angelou often felt this way in life. She felt restricted from enjoying the freedom that should have been her right as a human being. The speaker then reveals that these are the very reasons the bird “opens his throat to sing.”

“The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.”

In the third stanza, the focus remains on the caged bird and its song. The bird's song is described as a "fearful trill," suggesting a mix of both fear and hope. The bird sings of the things it longs for but has never experienced. Despite being confined, the bird's voice reaches beyond its immediate surroundings and is heard on a distant hill. The caged bird's song becomes a symbol of its longing for freedom and serves as a powerful expression of its spirit.

“The free bird thinks of another breeze
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn
and he names the sky his own.”

The fourth stanza of 'Caged Bird' continues the parallel between the free bird and the caged bird. The first line serves to starkly contrast the last line in the third stanza. It is dark and daunting. The reality of the life of the caged bird is revealed in this line.

"But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing."

In stanza five, that bird "stands on the grave of dreams." This reveals the author's feelings about her own dreams. She has so many dreams that have died because she was never given the freedom to achieve all that her white counterparts could. Discrimination and racism made up her cage, and although she sang, she felt her voice was not heard in the wide world but only by those nearest her cage. The second line of this stanza is not only dark but even frightening. The repetition of the imagery of clipped wings and tied feet reinforces the bird's confinement.

"The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom."

The final stanza mirrors the third stanza, focusing on the caged bird yet again. The author implies that even though the caged bird may have never experienced true freedom, deep down, that bird still knows it was created to be free. Here, the speaker reveals that his cry for freedom is "heard on the distant hill." This parallels to the author and her cry for freedom in the form of equality. She feels her cries are heard, but only as a distant noise. (Gilbert, Jay. "What is the message of Maya Angelou's 'Caged Bird'?" edited by eNotes Editorial, 27 Jan. 2021)

I.5. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted

In Maya Angelou's poem "The Caged Bird," self-awareness is expressed in the difference between a free and a caged bird, as well as the caged bird's expression of desire and freedom through its song. The bird in the cage symbolizes freedom and imprisonment, yet deep self-knowledge. Despite its physical limitations, the caged bird is acutely aware of its own desires and the limitations placed upon it. He understands the great difference between his own restricted life and that of a free bird of liberty. The self-awareness of the bird in the cage is reflected in its song. Through its "fearful trill," the bird expresses its longing for freedom and longing for a life beyond the confines of the cage. Song serves as a powerful form of self-expression, allowing the bird to communicate its feelings and intentions. The voice of the caged bird travels further around, reaching the "distant mountain," which symbolizes its desire to be heard and understood. Furthermore, the self-awareness of the caged bird is reflected in its awareness of the unknown. He sings of "things unknown but still desired," implying an awareness of the possibilities beyond his current circumstances. The bird recognizes its own desire for freedom and life beyond the cage symbolizes a deeper understanding of its own existence and the limitations it faces. Overall, in "The Bird in the Cage," self-knowledge is expressed through the caged bird's awareness of its desires, its expression of desire through song, and its awareness of its ignorance. Even in prison, the bird is acutely aware of its own limitations and aspirations, emphasizing the power of self-determination despite the odds. (Ugulini, Michael. "What is the message of Maya Angelou's "Caged Bird"?" edited by eNotes Editorial, 5 Feb. 2016)

I.6. Poem 3: Alone

I.6.1. Summary of the poem

"Lying, thinking

Last night

How to find my soul a home

Where water is not thirsty

And bread loaf is not stone

I came up with one thing

And I don't believe I'm wrong
That nobody,
But nobody
Can make it out here alone."

In the first stanza, the speaker reflects on their thoughts from the previous night, pondering how to find a home for their soul a place where basic necessities like water and bread are readily available and fulfilling. They assert that nobody can make it through life alone.

"Alone, all alone
Nobody, but nobody
Can make it out here alone."

In stanza two, the speaker laments that she is alone, repeating the word for emphasis. The repetition of the last few lines of the first stanza once again illustrates the speaker's affirmation that no one can survive in this world without support or community.

"There are some millionaires
With money they can't use
Their wives run round like banshees
Their children sing the blues
They've got expensive doctors
To cure their hearts of stone.
But nobody
No, nobody
Can make it out here alone."

The third stanza introduces the contrast between wealthy individuals, the millionaires, who have money they can't use. Their wives are portrayed as restless and their children unhappy, singing the blues. Despite their wealth, they seek expensive doctors to cure their hearts of stone. However, the speaker emphasizes that even they cannot make it through life alone.

“Alone, all alone

Nobody, but nobody

Can make it out here alone.”

Stanza four repeats the second stanza, word for word. The speaker laments her loneliness once again. Furthermore, she repeats her conviction that other people also suffer from the same afflictions of sadness caused by loneliness and cannot get by in this world without human connection.

“Now if you listen closely

I'll tell you what I know

Storm clouds are gathering

The wind is gonna blow

The race of man is suffering

And I can hear the moan,

'Cause nobody,

But nobody

Can make it out here alone.”

In the fifth stanza, the speaker addresses the reader directly, inviting them to listen closely to what they know. They mention storm clouds gathering and the impending wind, symbolizing difficulties and challenges that lie ahead. The race of man, humanity as a whole, is depicted as suffering, and the speaker can hear the collective moan. This emphasizes the shared nature of human struggles and the need for support and connection.

“Alone, all alone

Nobody, but nobody

Can make it out here alone.”

Last stanza, loneliness is repeated once again. She reminds the listener that nobody can survive alone. The third repetition of this stanza cements the style of the poem as lyrical and truly reminiscent of a song (Walker, A., (2017, February 10).

I.6.2. Examination of how self-awareness is depicted

Maya Angelou's poem "Alone" portrays self-awareness through its exploration of isolation and introspection. In the poem, Angelou describes the experience of being alone and reflects on the feelings that arise from solitude. Through vivid imagery, Angelou captures the depth of one's inner thoughts and emotions when confronted with solitude (*Analysis of Alone by Maya Angelou Alone - 950 Words | Bartleby*, n.d.).

The poem suggests that being alone can provide an opportunity for self-reflection and introspection, leading to a deeper understanding of oneself. Angelo's depiction of solitude emphasizes the importance of self-awareness and the ability to face one's thoughts and feelings without the distraction of others

“During this time full of racism and racial inequality, Maya Angelou was just a little girl growing up in St. Louis, Missouri.” (*Analysis of Alone by Maya Angelou Alone - 950 Words | Bartleby*, n.d.)

Ultimately, "Alone" refers to self-awareness as a potentially challenging and rewarding journey of self-discovery. By embracing solitude and going deeper into one's own mind, individuals can gain insight into one's true self and gain greater understanding and acceptance

I.7. Conclusion

I.7.1. Recap of key findings on self-awareness in Angelou's poems

1. Maya Angelou's poems involve self-respect and self-assurance. Her poetry emphasises the need of remaining confident and resilient in the face of difficult circumstances.

2. Angelou's poem "Still I Rise" is a powerful statement of self-confidence and tenacity, it offers the concept that no matter what problems are faced, and one can overcome them (A Reflection on "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou, 2022).

The poem highlights the strength and power of Blackness and women.

"She was also referred to as "the black woman's poet laureate."" (Mitchell, 2022)

3. In her poem "Phenomenal Woman," Angelou celebrates women's strength and beauty, challenging traditional stereotypes while supporting self-acceptance. The poem promotes women to accept their individual characteristics and reject social standards of beauty.

4. Angelou's poetry frequently use personal and historical events to express topics like happiness, sad death, music, racism, prejudice, and struggle. Her poetry explores the struggles of the African American community and the impact of racial injustice.

5. Angelou's autobiographical work "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" focuses on her path to self-acceptance and identity. The story delves into Maya Angelou's struggle to find her own identity and the ongoing development of her self-perception.

"In its turn, this implies that Maya's perception of herself never ceased being the subject of continuous transformation." (Maya Angelou's Journey towards Acceptance of Self - 1162 Words | Research Paper Example, 2023)

I.7.2. Reflection on the significance of self-awareness in understanding Angelou's work

Self-awareness plays a significant role in understanding Maya Angelou's work, as it serves as a gateway to unlocking the layers of depth and meaning within her poetry. Angelou's exploration of self-awareness is woven throughout her verses, inviting readers to engage in introspection and confront their own identities, experiences, and perceptions (N. Köbis et al. Computers in Human Behavior 2020).

One of the key reasons self-awareness is crucial in understanding Angelou's work is that her poetry often serves as a mirror, reflecting the complexities of the human condition. With introspection and vulnerability, Angelou allows readers to examine

their own lives. She shares her journey, triumphs, struggles, and moments of self-realization. This creates a space for readers to connect with their own experiences. By doing so, readers can develop a deeper understanding of themselves (Khumaeroh, P. & Purnama, S. (2020). EXPLORING LEXICAL AND METRICAL STRESS IN MAYA ANGELOU'S POEM ENTITLED 'STILL I RISE': A PHONOLOGICAL ANALYSIS PERSPECTIVE. INFERENCE: Journal of English Language Teaching).

Hagen (1997) states that Angelou writes about “the pride of blackness and African heritage”. Self-awareness is also vital in decoding the underlying messages and themes in Angelou's poetry. Her work often addresses issues of identity, race, gender, and power dynamics, highlighting the importance of self-reflection and awareness in navigating these complex social landscapes.

Moreover, Angelou's poetry emphasizes the transformative power of self-awareness. She demonstrates how the process of self-discovery and self-realization can lead to personal growth, empowerment, and liberation. By embracing and understanding one's own strengths, vulnerabilities, and unique voice, individuals can overcome adversity, challenge societal expectations, and forge their own paths.

I.7.3. Transition to the next chapter on self-realization in Angelou's poetry

In Maya Angelou's poetry, the theme of self-realization emerges as a powerful force, compelling readers to examine their own journeys of personal growth and identity. Through her evocative and introspective verses, she invites us to explore the intricate pathways of self-discovery, as we read her poems, we see our own challenges. As we delve deeper into Angelou's poetic tapestry, it becomes evident that her works serve as both mirrors reflecting our own struggles and windows opening to the infinite possibilities of self-Realization.

The earlier chapter looked at how Angelou's poems explored her past struggles and society's demands. This chapter focuses on her later poems, which show powerful moments of self-discovery or self-realization. These verses help personal growth, giving insights into life's complexities and the strength of the human spirit.

Throughout her poetry, Angelou employs vivid imagery and lyrical language to chronicle her own journey towards self-realization. Her words resonate with authenticity and vulnerability, inviting readers to embark on their own quests for self-discovery.

In this chapter, we will closely analyse a selection of Angelou's poems that exemplify the transformative power of self-realization, exploring the themes of identity, empowerment, and freedom.

By examining the interplay of themes and motifs in Angelou's poetry, we seek to unravel the layers of meaning that lie beneath the surface. We will explore how Angelou's experiences, including her encounters with racism, sexism, and personal hardships, shaped her understanding of self-realization and influenced her poetic expression.

Through this exploration, we aim to shed light on the ways in which Angelou's poetry inspires readers to embark on their own journeys of self-realization. By analysing Angelou's writings we can gain valuable insights into the complexities of personal growth, the power of resilience, and the importance of embracing one's authentic self. Ultimately, this chapter will increase our knowledge of how much Angelou's poetry impacts our lives and illuminate the enduring relevance of self-realization as a universal human experience

CHAPTER.II: Self-realization

I. Introduction: Explanation of self-realization as a key theme

II. Identity Exploration

A. Poems like "Still I Rise" and "Phenomenal Woman" explore self-affirmation amidst societal expectations.

B. Angelou portrays the intersectionality of identities and the importance of self-acceptance.

III. Healing from Trauma

A. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" illustrates the journey of overcoming trauma.

IV. Language and Empowerment

A. Angelou's use of language empowers the speaker in the poem "On the Pulse of Morning."

V. Community Support

A. the Poem "Still I Rise" highlights the role of community in self-realization.

VI. Conclusion

2.1 Introduction: Explanation of self-realization as a key theme:

Self-realization is a concept studied in several domains, including psychology, Literature, philosophy, and spirituality teaching. It refers to the process or state of becoming aware of and understanding one's true nature, purpose, or potential. A famous and well-respected psychodynamic psychologist, Karen Horney, wrote at length about self-realizing people. According to Horney (1950), self-realizing people have a deep and abiding sense of who they are. In literature, self-realization is often depicted as a transformative journey of self-discovery, where characters gain personal

growth and a deeper understanding of themselves. Through this process, they may face their fears, overcome limitations, and develop a sense of fulfilment and authenticity. Self-realization is a maturing of the ego or personality to accept its own evanescence and thus allow space for the true Self to reveal itself. (Perera, 2024)

Self-actualization (also referred to as self-realization or self-cultivation) can be described as the complete realization of one's potential as manifest in peak experiences which involve the full development of one's abilities and appreciation for life (Maslow, 1962).



(Pichère, P., & Cadiat, A.-C. (2015). *Maslow's hierarchy of needs*. Lemaitre)

Overall, self-realization is a multifaceted concept that encompasses personal growth, self-discovery, and the pursuit of authenticity and fulfilment. It involves deep introspection, reflection, and a willingness to explore and understand one's inner world. Through self-realization, individuals can gain a greater sense of purpose, meaning, and wholeness in their lives.

“Self-actualized people have an acceptance of who they are despite their faults and limitations and experience to drive to be creative in all aspects of their lives.” (Perera, 2024)

2.2 Identity Exploration

2.2.1 The poem "Still I Rise "explore self-affirmation amidst societal expectations.

"Still I Rise" is a renowned poem written by Maya Angelou. The poem was published in 1978 as part of Angelou's collection titled "And Still I Rise." It is a powerful and empowering piece that speaks to the resilience, strength, and indomitable spirit of the human soul in the face of adversity. (Harisunker, N. & Plessis, C. (2021). *A Journey Towards Meaning: An Existential Psychobiography of Maya Angelou*. *Europe's Journal of Psychology*.)

The central theme of the poem revolves around abuse, discrimination and overwhelming personal struggle. Through a series of bold and demanding verses, Angelo demonstrates her determination to rise above the challenges she faces in her life, especially those of racism and sexism. (Sarker, A., O'Connor, K., Ginn, R., Scotch, M., Smith, K., Malone, D. & Gonzalez, G. (2016). *Social Media Mining for Toxicovigilance: Automatic Monitoring of Prescription Medication Abuse from Twitter*. *Drug Safety*.)

In the poem "Still I Rise," Maya Angelou shows self-realization through the speaker's strong belief in themselves and their identity. The speaker confidently declares who they are and refuses to let others define them. They take pride in being African American and recognize the struggles of their ancestors. The poem also expresses their determination to overcome discrimination and injustice. The speaker embraces their inner beauty and doesn't let others' opinions bring them down. Overall, the poem shows how the speaker learns to believe in themselves, embrace their heritage, and stand up against oppression.

2.2.2 Angelou portrays the intersectionality of identities and the importance of self-acceptance.

Maya Angelou, through her powerful writings and poetry, masterfully portrays the intersectionality of identities and the importance of self-acceptance by drawing from her own experiences as a Black woman in America. She intricately weaves together themes of race, gender, class, and resilience, showcasing how these different aspects of identity intersect and shape one's experiences and perceptions of the world. (Khumaeroh, P. & Purnama, S. (2020). *EXPLORING LEXICAL AND METRICAL STRESS IN MAYA ANGELOU'S POEM ENTITLED 'STILL I RISE': A PHONOLOGICAL ANALYSIS PERSPECTIVE*. *INFERENCE: Journal of English Language Teaching*.)

Maya Angelou wrote about her life as a Black woman growing up in a society with racial segregation. In books like "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," she shared the difficulties she faced because of racism and discrimination against women. Angelou

explained how these issues affected her sense of value and belonging as she became an adult. (Teresia Kaberia & Larry Ndivo, p13)

Additionally, Angelou's poetry often celebrates the beauty and strength found in embracing one's true self. She encourages readers to embrace their uniqueness and individuality, regardless of societal expectations or norms. In poems like "Still I Rise" and "Phenomenal Woman," Angelou shows confidence and self-assurance. Her words teach the importance of self-love, even when facing difficult times. (Teresia Kaberia & Larry Ndivo, p11)

Angelou's poem "still I rise" talks about race and gender. It focuses on the lives of African American women. Angelou speaks as a proud black woman. Defying stereotypes and refusing to be confined by society's expectations. Angelou highlights her heritage and the challenges her ancestors faced. This shows the significance of recognizing and embracing one's cultural identity. By addressing the intersectionality of identities and emphasizing self-acceptance, Maya Angelou's "Still I Rise" promotes the idea that individuals should embrace their multifaceted identity, celebrate their uniqueness, and find strength in their own self-acceptance. "Still I Rise" wants people to rise above what society expects. It wants people to embrace their true selves. The poem celebrates being different and finding strength in self-acceptance.

2.3. Healing from Trauma

2.3.1 "I Know Why the Caged Bird sings" illustrates the journey of overcoming trauma.

by Maya Angelou in (1969) is a powerful autobiography that illustrates the journey of overcoming trauma, the book tells the story of Maya's early years, from her childhood in Stamps, Arkansas, to becoming a mother at the age of 16. Angelou also describes her suffering from being a black girl living in the south in harsh and racist society.

Throughout the story, Angelou shows how strength of character and a love of literature may help overcome racism and trauma. "In the course of Caged Bird, Maya transforms from a victim of racism with an inferiority complex into a self-possessed, dignified young woman capable of responding to prejudice." (Wikipedia contributors, 2024)

The book recounts Angelou's transformation from a victim of racism with an inferiority complex to a self-possessed and dignified young woman capable of dealing with discrimination. Angelou's journey of self-discovery and personal growth is a central theme in the book, as she navigates through trauma and finds her own voice. "The way Angelou confronts her life, as James Baldwin aptly puts it, is with "luminous dignity." (Kharbach, 2023)

"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" is a personal story that deals with broader issues of racism, gender, and social injustice, the book emphasizes also the importance of community, love, and education in helping individuals overcome trauma and forge their own paths. It has become an influential book in American literature, urging readers to confront their own traumas and work towards personal and societal transformation. "Angelou uses her autobiography to explore subjects such as identity, rape, racism, and literacy." (Wikipedia contributors, 2024)

2.4. Language and Empowerment

2.4.1. Angelou's use of language empowers the speaker in the poem "On the Pulse of Morning."

"A Rock, a River, a Tree

Hosts to species long since departed,

Marked the mastodon,

The dinosaur, who left dried tokens

Of their sojourn here

On our planet floor,

Any broad alarm of their hastening doom

Is lost in the gloom of dust and ages.

But today, the Rock cries out to us, clearly, forcefully,

Come, you may stand upon my

Back and face your distant destiny,

But seek no haven in my shadow,

I will give you no hiding place down here.

You, created only a little lower than
The angels, have crouched too long in
The bruising darkness
Have lain too long
Facedown in ignorance,
Your mouths spilling words
Armed for slaughter.

The Rock cries out to us today,
You may stand upon me,
But do not hide your face”

The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou (Random House Inc., 1994)

"On the Pulse of Morning" is a poem written by Maya Angelou for the appointment of President Bill Clinton in 1993. The poem speaks to the interconnectedness of humanity and nature, emphasizing themes of unity, hope, and renewal. It addresses the history of America, acknowledging both its triumphs and its struggles, while also envisioning a future of reconciliation and progress. Angelou's words empower, urging shared responsibility. They encourage embracing diversity and cooperation for a better tomorrow. "On the Pulse of Morning" calls humanity to overcome division. It promotes embracing harmony and justice's shared vision. "The poem aims to inspire in its audience a sense of unity and responsibility towards other people and the planet." (On the Pulse of Morning Poem Summary and Analysis | LitCharts, n.d.)

Maya Angelou's masterful use of language in that poem empowers the speaker and showcases a journey of self-realization. Angelou chooses words carefully. Her poems have vivid images and rhythmic flow. This creates a feeling of strength for the speaker. (Angelou, M. (1990). Pictures are worth a thousand words. The Indian Journal of Pediatrics.)

One way Angelou empowers the speaker is through the use of inclusive language. In "On the Pulse of Morning," she talks to many different people and things like "the rock, the river, and the tree," as well as "the last, the lonely, and the lost." By including all beings, she shows how humans and nature are connected, giving the speaker a powerful voice that speaks to and unifies a broad audience. This use of language empowers the speaker to embrace a sense of collective identity and responsibility. "On the Pulse of Morning" Summary A rock, a river, and a tree once provided a home

to creatures that went extinct a long time ago.” (On The Pulse of Morning Poem Summary and Analysis | LitCharts, n.d.)

Additionally, Angelou's poems often incorporate powerful and evocative imagery. In "On the Pulse of Morning," she uses vivid descriptions of natural elements, such as "a river singing with its mouth full of mud" and "a rock, a river, a tree" to convey a sense of resilience and transformation. This imagery not only adds depth and beauty to the poem but also serves as a metaphor for the speaker's journey of self-realization. Through the use of language, the speaker becomes an agent of change, capable of navigating and shaping the world around them.

Maya Angelou's use of language in poems like "On the Pulse of Morning" empowers the speaker by providing them with a voice that is inclusive, evocative, and resonant. Through her choice of words, vivid imagery, and rhythmic flow, she enables the speaker to explore themes of self-realization, unity, and personal agency, creating a powerful and transformative experience for both the speaker and the reader.

2.5. Community Support

2.5.1. The poem "Still I Rise" highlights the role of community in self-realization.

Maya Angelou's poem "Still I Rise" written in 1978, exemplifies the significant role of community in the process of self-realization. While the poem is deeply personal and speaks directly to Angelou's own experiences, it also resonates with a broader collective identity and the power of communal support. “"And Still I Rise" is a collection of poetry that was published in 1978 by Random House.” (Still I Rise by Maya Angelou | Meaning, Summary & Analysis - Lesson | Study.com, n.d.)

Angelou's poem "Still I Rise" celebrates resilience, strength, and the indomitable spirit of individuals who have faced adversity. She writes in a powerful way with a good rhythm. Her words show that she will not be defeated. She will keep rising above all challenges. But in this poem about personal success, she also talks about how important community is. Community helps people believe in themselves. “The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou (1994) manifests that Maya Angelou's personal consciousness and public awareness sharpened her poetic capabilities.” (Aslam, 2021)

Angelou's use of the first-person plural pronoun "we" throughout the poem serves as a testament to the collective strength and solidarity of marginalized communities. By including others in her narrative, Angelou emphasizes the shared experiences and common struggles that bind individuals together. The poem opens up its meaning beyond just one person's experience and invites readers to consider the broader context

of societal and historical injustices. “Her poetry was inspired and informed by her life and work, and this personal connection made her poems profound and powerful.” (Maya Angelou: Selections by The Editors, n.d.)

Furthermore, the repeated refrain, "Still I rise," serves as a rallying cry not only for the speaker but also for the community as a whole. Maya Angelou used a shared voice to show that self-realization is not just a personal goal. It is a journey that we all take together. Supporting each other is crucial when facing tough times and unfair treatment. Working as a group helps everyone grow and learn. Maya Angelou celebrates the power of coming together. When people help each other, they become braver. This makes them feel like they belong. Feeling like you belong helps you grow as a person. Angelou shows that sharing tough times brings people closer. Which are essential elements in the process of self-realization. The poem suggests that no one truly rises alone; it is through the collective determination and support of a community that individuals are able to transcend obstacles and achieve self-actualization. “Angelou heavily draws from the history of slavery in America as inspiration.” (Still I Rise by Maya Angelou | Meaning, Summary & Analysis - Lesson | Study.com, n.d.)

In this way, "Still I Rise" serves as an anthem of empowerment not only for Angelou herself but for all those who have experienced marginalization and oppression. It highlights the vital role of community in fostering self-realization by providing a network of support, validation, and inspiration. Angelou’s poem encourages readers to proclaim their identities and the transformative power of society recognition as they move towards their own selves.

2.6. Conclusion:

Angelou devotes herself to advocating a healthier cultural context. In her poetry, she retreats back to the oppressive memories that generations of African Americans have ever had. For African Americans, maintaining their African culture enables them to survive in an alien world. To recover her people’s self-consciousness and restore their identity, Angelou makes great efforts to redefine blackness. By assimilating themselves with their ancestor’s culture, they are able to renew their self and truly know themselves. In doing so, she keeps alive ethnic culture and leads African Americans out of the margin by encouraging individuals to embrace their true selves, confront their past traumas, and find strength in their cultural heritage. Therefore,

Maya Angelou is a cultural poet who fulfils the task of transmitting cultures. (Du, 2014)

GENERAL CONCLUSION

Maya Angelou's impactful and profound poetry delves deeply into a central theme that resonates strongly: the exploration of self-awareness and its transformative ability to instigate positive change. Within the evocative and thought-provoking verses penned by Angelou, readers are subtly urged to embark on a profound journey of introspection and self-discovery. Angelou uses skilful mastery, intertwining vibrant imagery with poignant language, to navigate through the complexities of the human mind, highlighting the deep significance of individual development, the inflexible power of the human soul and the victorious growth that comes with accepting oneself. This academic research intends to explore how Angelou's poems serve as mirrors that reflect self-awareness, capturing multiple layers of identity while emphasizing the need for self-awareness in dealing with life's difficulties. Through the prism of her poetic technique, Angelou not only empowers readers to embrace their authenticity and confront vulnerabilities with courage but also calls upon them to embark on a transcendent odyssey of empowerment and profound self-realization.

Bibliography

The True Meaning of Self-Awareness (& How to Tell If You're Actually Self-Aware).
Hubspot.com; HubSpot. <https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/self-awareness>)

“Biography: Maya Angelou.” National Women’s History Museum, 2023,
www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/maya-angelou. Accessed
19 May 2024.

Adam, J.-M. (1999). *Textual linguistics*. Paris: Nathan, coll. Fac. Linguistics.

Benamou, M. (1971). *For a new pedagogy of the literary text*. Paris: Hachette and
Larousse, coll. French in the world/B.E.L.C.

Benbouzid, B. (2006). The competency-based approach in Algerian schools. coll. PARE, UNESCO Support Program for the Reform of the Education System.

Buridant, C., Bunjewat, M., & Pellat, J.-C. (1994). Writing in French as a foreign language. Paris: coll. Work of the French teaching center.

Chaibederra, E.-M. (1989, October 30). the trust contract, supporting texts. *Literary Horizons*, 07.

Charmeux, E. (2005). In J.-L. Dufays, L. Gemenne, & D. Ledeur, for a literary reading. Brussels: De Boeck University, coll. Knowledge in practice.

Chiss, J.-L. (2012). Writing, reading and writing: theories and didactics. Paris: l'Harmattan, coll. "Childhood and languages".

Chiss, J.-L., David, J., & Reuter, Y. (2005). Didactics of French. Paris: coll. Knowledge in practice.

Cornaire, C., & Raymond, M. P. (1999). Written production. Paris: CLE International.

Cuq, J.-P. (2003). Didactic dictionary of French as a foreign and second language. Paris: CLE International, coll. "Asdifle."

Cuq, J.-P., & Gruca, I. (2002). Teaching courses in French as a foreign and second language. Grenoble University Press, coll. FLE.

Dedayel, J., Touyarot, M., Giribone, C., & Vitali, D. (2002). read in CP. In *Maisonneuve, Learning to read methods and manuals*. Paris: L'Harmattan.

Hachette Dictionary. (1993). Algiers: Algerian.

Dufays, J.-L., Gemenne, L., & Ledur, D. (2005). For literary reading. Brussels: De Boeck University, coll. Knowledge in practice.

Françoise, M., & Combes, N. (2005). Summary of didactics, becoming a language teacher. Paris: Ellipses.

Gardes-Tamine, J. (2005). From sentence to text: teaching grammar from middle school to high school. Paris: Editions Delagrave.

Gardes-Tamine, J., & Delliza, M.-A. (1998). Text construction. Paris: Legal Deposit, coll. CURRICULUM.

Grevisse, M. (1969). Good use. Belgium: J. DUCULOT.

Kouidri, F., Tounsi, M., Djillali, A. M., Bechlouli, A., Bentifour, B., & Khichane, T. (1999). Training of teachers of basic education (French). Algiers: Training Directorate, coll. PEF1.

Lafontaine, D., Collès, L., Dufays, J.-L., & Maeder, C. (2013). INRP. In M. Hébert, & M. Lépine, *On the interest of the notion of literacy in the French-speaking world: an inventory of educational sciences* (Vol. 16).

Maisonneuve, L. (2002). *Learning to read: methods and manuals*. Paris: L'Harmattan.

Marcelli, D., Marcihacy, C., & Estienne, F. (2013). *Preface: Learning to write today? the challenges of writing*. Belgium: De Boeck Solal.

Minder, M. (1999). *Functional didactics, objectives, strategies, evaluation*. Paris: De Boeck University, coll. PED.

Perraudau, M. (2006). *learning strategies*. Paris: Armand Colin, coll. E.

Pierre, S. (n.d.). *Writing to learn to write: ideas for reflection and action for 8/14 year olds*. Brussels: De Boeck, coll. Tools for teaching.

Plane, S. (2004). *Writing and its learning in elementary school*. France: coll. Landmarks .

Rosier, J.M. (2002). *French teaching*. Paris: Legal Deposit, coll. What do I know? .

Saoudi, S.M. (2016). *Diversification of teaching aids and motivation in FLE classes*. Germany: European Academics.

Shirley, C.-T. (1999). *Textual coherence*. Paris: L'Harmattan, coll. "Language and speech".

Tagliante, C. (2000). *Language class*. Paris: Legal Deposit, coll. CLE International.

Tardieu, C. (2008). *Language teaching in 4 key words: communication, culture, methodology, evaluation*. Paris: Ellipses.

Tra, B.S. (2007). *The teaching of reading English as a foreign language*. Abidjan-Cocody: European Academics.