

Reading response 2

[Linguistics](#), [English](#)



The Other Car The car trade-in involved a man and his wife trading in two old cars that they previously owned for two used-new cars. Driving the cars to the dealers where the trade in had to take place created a feeling of having lost a familiar friend, considering that the cars had served them faithfully over the years (Fish, 1). After the exchange, both experienced a feeling of guilt, which in the real sense should not be experienced, in that they just undertook a simple exchange of machines, thus not a reason enough to make them feel anything. The uncomfortable feeling is overcome, when it appears that it is a normal thing that happens daily, with people exchanging the old cars they do not want with other new ones, which is the business of Avis Rent-a-Car, a dealership company. However, the most unique element of the company is the mode of advertisements it places for the trade-ins, which almost always makes individuals ready to exchange their cars with those offered by this company, due to the luring nature of the advertisements. For the company, sexuality takes a center stage in the advertisement, while infidelity is the most apparent and common feature displayed by the advertisements. However, this exchange is aligned to the husband-wife infidelity, making anyone who gives out or receives a car from the company feel a bit uncomfortable about the exchange.

The thesis of this reading revolves around the discomfort of car trade-ins, where giving up an old car that have served an individual well over the years for a used-new car is not a good idea. There are many comma splices, sentence fragments and run-ons, which affects the smooth flow of the reading, making it not enjoyable and even difficult to understand. There is a limited application of conjunctions and punctuations that would have made

the reading enjoyable and comprehensible. However, the most admirable and worth appreciating thing about the reading is the fact personification has been applied so well in the reading, making the old cars elicit feelings in the reader, as they do to the car trade-in participants. The complains that the old cars wage against their owners for disposing them in exchange for other ones makes the reader feel the pain of betrayal and abandonment (Fish, 1). This feeling can easily be related with an experience I had of abandoning my friends when I had to join college. This experience was one full of mixed feeling, since I enjoyed advancing with my studies and thus felt happy and excited to leave my locality to join college. There was also a sad feeling since I was leaving many of my childhood friends behind, to embark on a journey of seeking new companions. This is the same feeling that the owners of the old cars who traded them for others experienced. While on one hand they felt happy since they acquired other cars that seemed better than their previous ones, they felt the guilt of losing those which had served them well.

Work Cited

Fish, Stanley. The other Car. The New York Times, May 4, 2008. A1. Print.