

1st block

Author Sherman Alexie

Title Superman & Me

SOAPSTone		
	Analysis	Textual Evidence
Who is the Speaker?	Sherman Alexie; switches from 1st to 3rd POV on purpose	line 1; "I learned to read..." ¶5: "A little Indian boy teaches..."
What is the Occasion?	personal narrative; flashback (childhood) to present day L.A. Times, 1998	¶1: "I was 3 years old, a Spokane Indian boy..." ¶8: "I visit schools and teach... Indian kids."
Who is the Audience?	- marginalized groups (discrimination, inequality) - advocates who want to help	¶6: "A smart Indian is a dangerous person..." ¶7: "... I was never taught how to write..."
What is the Purpose?	1. encourage others to "break down the door,"; persuade others 2. inform	¶8: "I am trying to save our lives."
What is the Subject?	1. power of learning to read & write 2. ext. metaphor comparing himself to Superman 3. overcoming adversity or "break down the door"	¶8: "I throw my weight against their locked doors... I am trying to save our lives," ¶9: "They look at me with bright eyes & arrogant wonder,"
What is the Tone?	1. encouraging / enthusiastic 2. proud 3. critical	¶9: "They were expected to be stupid," • most of ¶10

¶8: end of the text  
¶12: "... I decided to love books as well."