

1. What is the significance of learning Spanish for Barrientos? Why is this so important to her?

As a child, Barrientos was of the opinion that speaking Spanish was a sign of poverty and that people who spoke Spanish worked in low-paying jobs. Barrientos felt that it was a compliment when people did not refer to her as a Mexican and she had worked hard to isolate herself from the stereotype but over the past two decades society began to shift. The nation changed its views on ethnic identity and now Barrientos wanted to take pride in her Latino heritage, and speaking Spanish was supposedly what held that Latino community together.

2. Amy Tan defines herself as a writer in the beginning stages of her essay, *Mother Tongue*. How does she go on to define what she means by this? In addition, Tan writes about the different “Englishes” that she speaks. What categories does Tan divide English into?

Amy Tan defines herself as a writer by saying she always had a passion for language. The use of words in daily life fascinated her. Amy Tan thought about the power of words to evoke an emotion, a visual image, a complex concept, or a simple truth. Her main tool for work is language. Tan describes the four different types of English she would use at home and outside her home. She would use "simple", "broken", "limited", and "proper" English, but didn't like to use the word broken because broken means there is something that needs to be fixed.

***Extra Credit: Why does Felsenfeld use the phrase “rebel music”?**

When Felsenfeld was seventeen and rebellious, his friend Mike played Beethoven's Ninth Symphony cassette, and he immediately fell in love with the sound. Even though Felsenfeld liked the music, he preferred the abstract part in it. Rebels wanted to defy the rules and do something that was uniquely "theirs" in order to exhibit their weirdness. Felsenfeld believed that he was the only one who enjoyed listening to string quartets, operas, concerti, and symphonies.