

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered on the page.


# ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY

SCIENCE WRITING



# ETHNOGRAPHY

## SCIENCE WRITING

- CLOSE OBSERVATION, INTERVIEWS – “THE SCIENCE CULTURE”
    1. *INTEREST* HAS FOCUSED ON THE LARGE-SCALE EFFECTS OF SCIENCE
    2. UNDERSTANDING COMPLEX ACTIVITIES
      - INTERNAL WORKINGS OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY REMAINS UNDEVELOPED
      - MAKE SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY MORE UNDERSTANDABLE, NOT “A WORLD APART”
    3. NOT ENOUGH ATTENTION ON THE *TECHNICAL*
    4. *SOCIAL* SEPARATE FROM TECHNICAL
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# OBSERVER POINT-OF-VIEW

## INTERMEDIARY STATUS

- NOT DISTINGUISHED FROM OTHER WRITERS
- WRITING ABOUT SOMETHING
  - (E.G. NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY)
- BROAD FRAME OF REFERENCE WITHIN WHICH CAN BE SITUATED
  - ACTIVITIES AND PRACTICES OF PARTICULAR CULTURE (BARTHES, 1957)
- IMPORTANCE OF ARTICLES SPECIFYING STRUCTURE OF RELEASING FACTORS
  - IMPORTANCE ACTUALLY SHOWN BY THE NUMBER OF OTHER ARTICLES WHICH RESULTED

# MODALITY

- “SOMETHING EXISTS OR IS EXPERIENCED OR EXPRESSED”
- CRITICALLY DEPENDENT ON HOW OFTEN AUDIENCE KNOWS THE CONTEXT
- OBSERVER UNDERSTOOD LITTLE
  - DEVELOP GRAMMATICAL TECHNIQUE FOR DISTINGUISHING SENTENCE TYPES
- GRAMMATICAL MODALITIES
  - MAYBE, THERE IS NO SUPPORT FOR THIS, UNLIKELY, NOT CONFIRMED, HIGHLY ESTABLISHED
- “PRICE TAGS” ON STATEMENTS

# INSCRIPTION

- INSCRIPTION DEVICE SYSTEM AT END PRODUCT STAGE
    - ALL THE STEPS WHICH MADE PRODUCTION POSSIBLE ARE FORGOTTEN
  - SCIENTISTS SPEND TWO-THIRDS TIME WORKING WITH LARGE INSCRIPTION DEVICE
  - INSCRIPTION SEEN AS DIRECT INDICATORS OF THE SUBSTANCE UNDER STUDY
  - INSCRIPTION TAKEN SERIOUSLY IF THEY COULD BE READ THE SAME AS OTHER INSCRIPTIONS
1. NEW NATURAL SUBSTANCES
    - SAMPLES TRANSFORMED
      - SEVERAL SEPARATE ENTITIES AND INTERESTING PHYSICAL PROPERTIES
  2. RECONSTRUCTED SUBSTANCES
  3. ACTIONS
    - UNDERSTANDING HOW DIFFERENT SUBSTANCES INTERACT

# THE NEWCOMER

- MAKE SENSE OF OBSERVATIONS AND RECORDED NOTES
- ORDERED ACCOUNT IS ATTAINABLE
- TWO EXTREME ROLES
  1. TOTAL NEWCOMER
    - UNATTAINABLE IDEAL
  2. COMPLETE PARTICIPANT
    - UNABLE TO USEFULLY COMMUNICATE TO HIS COMMUNITY OF FELLOW OBSERVERS

# WRITING COMPONENTS

- STUDY VARIOUS PROCESSES OF LITERARY PRODUCTION / PAPER OUTPUT
  1. PAPERS LIKE MANUFACTURED GOODS
  2. MAKE SENSE OF CONTENT
- GENRE
- CITATIONS
  - OBSERVER SEES CERTAIN CHARACTERISTICS/STATISTICS, BUT WHY ITEMS CITED IN THE FIRST PLACE
- EVALUATION
  - NO INTEREST OR SIGNIFICANCE ON THEIR OWN; ONLY A MEANS OF COMMUNICATING IMPORTANT FINDINGS
- PROCESSES OF LITERARY INSCRIPTION WHICH MAKE THE FACTS AND POSSIBLE
  - KNOWLEDGE TAKEN FOR GRANTED
  - HUMAN INVOLVED IN PRODUCTION – NON-OBJECTIVE
  - UNSUPPORTED ASSERTION – STATEMENT AS FACT

# EQUIPMENT

- OBSERVER IMAGINED REMOVAL OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT AND LAB
  - WOULD REMOVE AT LEAST ONE OBJECT OF REALITY FROM DISCUSSION
- EQUIPMENT MORE CRUCIAL TO THE RESEARCH PROCESS THAN OTHERS
- EQUIPMENT WITH LONG HISTORIES
- CONTENT CONSTRUCTION DEPENDS ON MATERIAL FACTORS



# BALANCE BETWEEN SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL FACTORS

1. HOW DISTINCTION BETWEEN SOCIAL AND TECHNICAL FACTORS FEATURES IN ACTIVITIES INSTEAD OF DUALITY
2. DETAILS OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY CUTS ACROSS DISTINCTION

# ORDER CONSTRUCTION

- SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE ATTENTION TO THE PROCESS BY WHICH SCIENTISTS MAKE SENSE OF THEIR OBSERVATIONS
  1. ALTERNATIVE SOCIAL FEATURES WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO EXPLAIN A PARTICULAR SCIENTIFIC ACTION
  2. ORDERED ACCOUNT OUT OF A DISORDERED ARRAY OF OBSERVATIONS
- INVESTIGATE METHODS AND PROCEDURES WHICH OBSERVERS PRODUCE OTHER DIVERSIONS OF DATA THEY ACCUMULATE
  - INCONSISTENCY, LACK OF CLARITY, PERCEPTIONS, ALTERNATIVE INTERPRETATIONS

DAILY ACTIVITIES LEAD TO CONSTRUCTION OF FACTS

1. HOW FACTS CONSTRUCTED IN THE LABORATORY
2. HOW CAN A SOCIOLOGIST ACCOUNT FOR THIS CONSTRUCTION

# ANTHROPOLOGY IN SCIENCE

1. DENOTES PRESENTATION OF ACCUMULATED EMPIRICAL MATERIAL
2. SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMATICALLY MISREPRESENT THE ACTIVITY; NO FOCUS ON ANYONE OF THE ASPECTS OBSERVED
3. SCIENTISTS PRACTICE MORE RATIONAL THAN OUTSIDERS
  - ACTIVITIES AS STRANGENESS POSSIBLE SO DON'T TAKE TOO MUCH FOR GRANTED (OBJECTIVITY)

# FORMAL/INFORMAL COMMUNICATION

- DIRECT RELATIONSHIP TO ORIGINAL SUBSTANCE
- ATTAINING SOME READABLE TRACE

## FORMAL

HIGHLY STRUCTURED AND STYLIZED REPORTS/PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES

## INFORMAL

ESTABLISHES ITS LEGITIMACY BY REFERRING PUBLISHED WORKS