

CSSE 304 Assignment GS

Objective: To give you a broader view of languages and the language design process.

1. Watch Guy Steele's [Growing a Language](#) video (53 minutes)
2. Steele's talk seems strange at first, but hang on; after a few minutes you'll see that it is wonderfully strange!
3. **One of the YouTube reviews:** "This is one of the best tech talks (or in fact, just talks) that I've ever seen. Mainly of interest to programmers/technology professionals, but the style of the talk possibly makes it of more general interest. Quirky at first, but give it 10 minutes and I suspect you'll then watch it through to its conclusion"
4. In case you want to review the talk while you write your paper, here is a [transcript](#).
Note: You will miss a lot if you do not listen to at least the first third of the talk before reading the transcript.
5. Write a one-page paper reacting to this video. Here are some ideas of things you might comment on (but you can also write about other things):
 - a. The style of the talk. Why? Did it serve Steele's purpose for you?
 - b. Should a language be large or small? Why?
 - c. Include some idea such as Worse is Better, Cathedral vs. Bazaar; master plan or not, patterns, what types to include, meta-patterns for language design, other themes of the talk.
 - d. What does Steele say is the "high point" of the talk?
 - e. This talk was given almost 20 years ago. Is it still relevant? Are there any ways you would update it, based on what we know today?
 - f. How has this talk changed the ways you think about programming languages?
 - g. Would you recommend that we continue to require this video for the PLC class?
6. Submit to the Moodle drop box **by 11:55 PM**. (Wednesday of week 1).

Piazza questions and answers from previous terms:

HW GS Late day policy

I wanted to ask if we can receive a late day for HWGS since the syllabus only says that we may not use one. Please let us know.

the instructors' answer,

where instructors collectively construct a single answer

Actions

The syllabus has the answer. Late days can only be earned or used for programming problems. But if you have finished AGS, chances are good that you can finish other assignments early and earn more late days.