

just like some saying a word the way they want. In the excerpt above, Dickinson capitalizes words she wants emphasized. Musicians use inflections on notes as articulations. Articulations can be used to show the peaks of a phrases and add colors to the music. But as powerful as articulations are, it is even more important to place them properly. Adding an articulation on a

slant rhyme. Slant rhymes are the perfect substitute in writing and lyrics when there is good word to rhyme. Many of today's hip-hop and rap lyrics contain slant rhymes. Rappers want to keep the flow in the song continuing no matter what. Slant rhymes can hold the phrase of the lyrics better than a forced in rhyme. In Meek Mill's hit song, *Dreams and Nightmares*, the beat come in at about halfway through the song and his first lyrics on the beat are:

dashes to show where she wants emphasized pauses. The beginnings and ends of phrases help the reader to process and understand what is being said. The pauses are just like breath marks for music. Phrasing is applied in the same way. A constant stream of words is just as difficult to understand as a musician who doesn't stop playing notes. Neither are enjoyable and make a lot of sense. The best music values the space between the notes just as much as the notes themselves. Without the concept of phrasing to guide them music would have little structure. Emily

word or scooping a note is special. But not all notes and words should have that. That lessens the impact of each special articulation. Dickinson chooses to use articulation in that phrase to emphasize tangible items. That was her stylistic choice. Musicians have to power to do the same with articulation. Joshua Redman, a jazz tenor saxophonist, has a recording of *Jig - a - Jug* where he decided to scoop only a certain note when it is played in the melody. That scoop allows him to create a pull of some sort on the note. He follows right away with a very short note after.

Matthew John...

1:27 PM May 1

Resolve

Yes! This is a really important observation that I talk about in larger units on Dickinson, and the musical perspective on it is fascinating!

Matthew John...

1:29 PM May 1

Resolve

From a musical perspective do you have any other thoughts for why slant rhymes are so appealing?

Matthew John...

1:27 PM May 1

Resolve

Fascinating! Do you know if music was doing this at the time or does it seem like maybe she was an originator of it?

Matthew John...

1:28 PM May 1

Resolve

The example from Redman clearly shows the power of using these tools sparingly. Can you find an example from Dickinson too that shows this to take it to the next level? Tying it back to the original text will take your argument to the next level.

FIGURE 4.2 • Consistency Through Commenting