

This essay addresses a topic of anthropological relevance, using an insightful approach to make sense of the complex relationships between tradition and modernity. Ethnographically grounded, the essay shows how systems of knowledge shed light on this issue. The student aims to understand the meanings of lightning causality within the Swazi context.

Belief systems, such as shamanism and witchcraft are taken into account in order to construct a persuasive argument. Focusing on ethnographic materials selected by the student's own primary research, the essay persuasively organizes the data making clear that in the perceptions of the interviewees, lightning is explained through complex cognitive frames, which the student analyses applying anthropological imagination. Hybrid forms are revealed, where folk understandings of science and traditional knowledge coexist.

A well planned investigation, following a focused research question, enables a sharp analysis of data. Clearly structured and well organized, it shows independent thinking, ethical awareness, insight and flair.