

# Selection

October 29, 2013

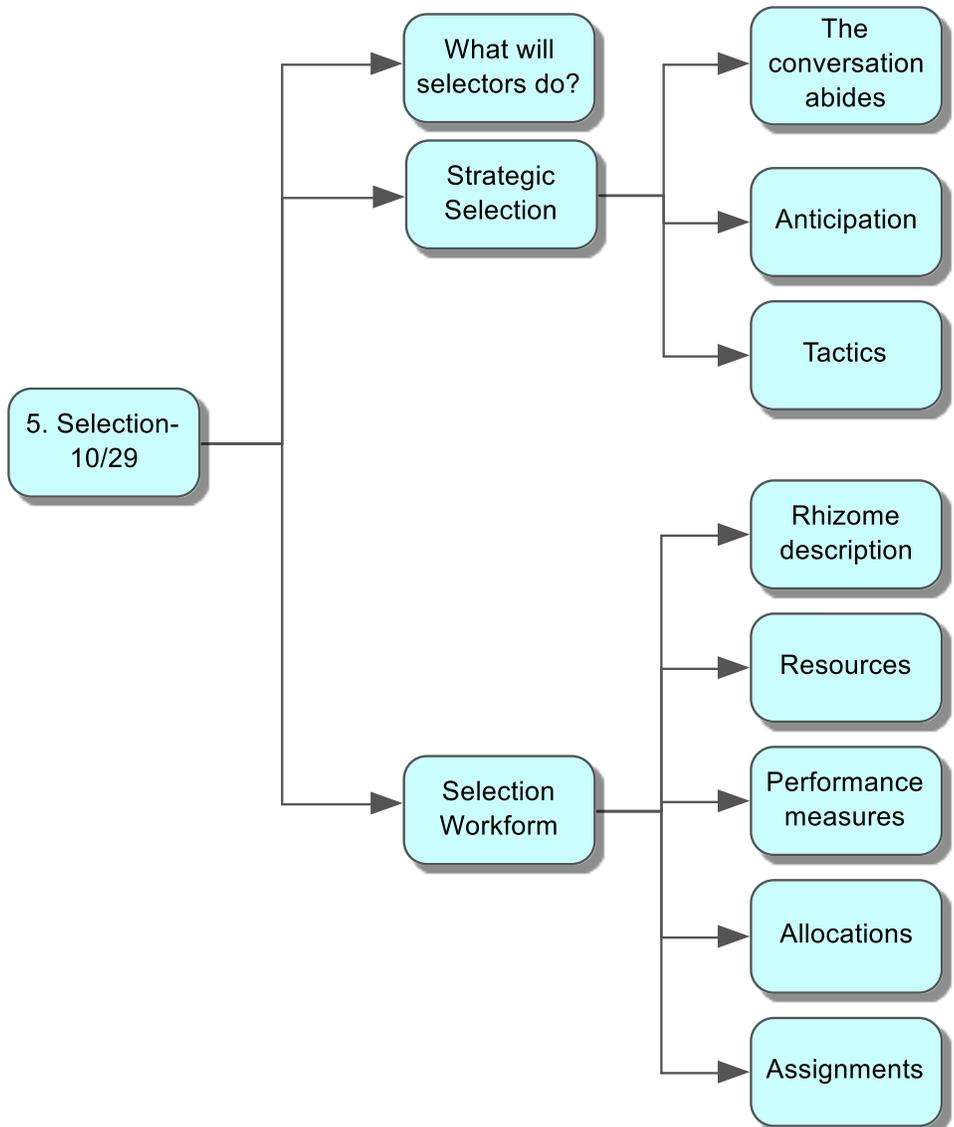
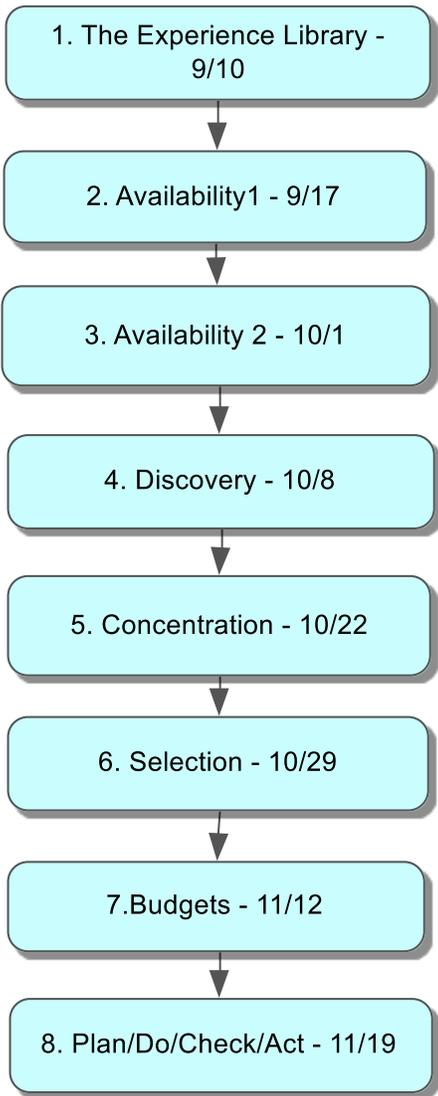
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## Terms

**Affordance:** What we do with an object; generally used in relation to the design of artifacts. For example, here are some affordances of a window: it lets in light; we see through it; if open, it exchanges air; if open wide, it affords passage. An affordance is not merely a feature of an artifact, but a purpose to which the artifact may be put: a relationship between the artifact and the user. Don Norman defines affordance as not just a potential use, but the perception of a potential use: "...the term affordance refers to the perceived and actual properties of the thing, primarily those fundamental properties that determine just how the thing could possibly be used... Affordances provide strong clues to the operations of things. Plates are for pushing. Knobs are for turning. Slots are for inserting things into. Balls are for throwing or bouncing. When affordances are taken advantage of, the user knows what to do just by looking: no picture, label, or instruction needed." (Donald Norman, *The Design of Everyday Things*, 1988, p.9). See Mads Soegaard. "Affordances." *The Encyclopedia of Human-Computer Interaction*, 2nd ed., 2003. <http://www.interaction-design.org/encyclopedia/affordances.html>

**Concentration:** The strategic process of aligning a library collection with the interests and needs of readers and the community, so that the collection is strongest in those areas that are of most value to its stakeholders.

**Heterogeneous Granularity:** The texts that make up a library collection are heterogeneous; that is, they are unlike each other. They are different in this way from commodities such as flour or sugar; library texts cannot be easily substituted for each other. Like many

commodities, on the other hand, they are granular and "fine-grained"; texts do not naturally structure themselves into larger, strongly inter-locking systems.

**Mode:** In rhetoric, a mode is a form of writing (mode of discourse), together with its conventions, practices, and persuasive goals. The four principle modes are narration, description, exposition, and argumentation. For our purposes, an "exemplar" is a narrative element which functions as an example in another mode.

**Narrative / Exposition.** No text is either pure narrative or pure exposition; the proportion of each varies across genres and formats. Because narrative is such a strong predictor of public library interest and demand, understanding how it functions across this entire continuum provides valuable insight into the nature of public library use.

**Praxis:** As defined by Paulo Freire, praxis is "reflection and action upon the world in order to transform it." (Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, 1995, p. 33). The term is associated with Marxist theories of revolutionary change. We will use it here in the sense of what I will call "narrative praxis," generative action in the world based on meanings represented through narrative identity. "...stories people live by say as much about culture as they do about the people who live them and tell them. Our own life stories draw on the stories we learn as active participants in culture—stories about childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and aging. Stories capture and elaborate metaphors and images that are especially resonant in a given culture. Stories distinguish between what culture glorifies as good characters and vilifies as bad characters, and they present the many varieties that fall in between." (Dan P.

McAdams, *The Redemptive Self: Stories Americans Live By*, 2013, p. 284). Our identity and actions in the world are inextricably bound up in the narratives available in our culture and the personal narrative we construct as we make life decisions. See Phillip L. Hammack, "Narrative and the Cultural Psychology of Identity." *Personality and Social Psychology Review* (Vol. 12, No. 3, August 2008, pp. 222-247).

**Rhizome:** A free-form category of texts, readers, and/or any other element that is of interest in collections work. Rhizomes do not depend on hierarchical relationships or conventionally organized category schemes, although they encompass the elements in such schemes. They depend on patterns of networked associations that are not necessarily consistent or logical. Rhizomes do not need to be uniformly organized or mutually exclusive. The same element may be in different rhizomes; rhizomes may intersect, nest, and coexist; terms referring to rhizomes may not be parallel. The point is to identify sets of collection elements with critical linkages that prompt meaning and repay attention, rather than to fix a systematic classification of the elements. The World Wide Web is an example of a body of texts organized rhizomatically.

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# Narrative Transformation Matrix

Mode	Narration			
	Exemplar			
	Exposition			
		Theory	Practice	Praxis

Affordance

Nonfiction texts consist of a mixture of features that can be described by the relative dominance of rhetorical modes (Exposition vs. Narration) and affordances (Theory vs. Praxis).

Mode: In rhetoric, a mode is a form of writing (mode of discourse), together with its conventions, practices, and persuasive goals. The four principle modes are narration, description, exposition, and argumentation. For our purposes, an “exemplar” is a narrative element which functions as an example in another mode.

Affordance: An affordance is a way that an artifact can be used. For example, a text can be used to expose a person to data, facts and ideas (theory); to guide or model productive activities (practice); and to initiate and support transformative action in a person’s life and world (praxis).

<p><b>The baby book / [writers Shaoni Bhattacharya ... [et al.].</b> New York : DK Publishing, c2013. 1st American ed. Adult Nonfiction Book RJ61 .B119 2013 649.122 B 2013</p> <p><a href="#">Comment</a></p>	<p>Reservable Copies: 18 Current Requests: 0</p>
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<p><b>The better baby book : how to have a healthier, smarter, happier baby / Lana Asprey, and David Asprey.</b> by Asprey, Lana Hoboken, N.J. : John Wiley and Sons, c2013. Adult Nonfiction Book RG559 .A87 2013 618.2 A 2013</p> <p><a href="#">Comment</a></p>	<p>Reservable Copies: 6 Current Requests: 0</p>
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<p><b>The business of baby : what doctors don't tell you, what corporations try to sell you, and how to put your pregnancy, childbirth, and baby before their bottom line / Jennifer Margulis.</b> by Margulis, Jennifer. First Scribner hardcover edition. Adult Nonfiction Book HQ755.8 .M35727 2013 649.1 M 2013</p> <p><a href="#">Comment</a></p>	<p>Reservable Copies: 5 Current Requests: 0</p>
<p><b>Curing infertility with ancient Chinese medicine : how to become pregnant and healthy with the Hunyuan method / Yaron Seidman</b> by Seidman, Yaron New York : Skyhorse Publishing, c2013. Adult Nonfiction Book RC889 .S45 2013 616.69206 S 2013</p> <p><a href="#">Comment</a></p>	<p>Reservable Copies: 2 Current Requests: 0</p>
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<p><b>Healthy mom, healthy baby : the ultimate pregnancy guide / Siobhan Dolan and Alice Lesch Kelly</b> by Dolan, Siobhan New York, NY : HarperOne, c2013. 1st ed. Adult Nonfiction Book RG525 .D6535 2013 618.2 D 2013</p> <p><a href="#">Comment</a></p>	<p>Reservable Copies: 9 Current Requests: 0</p>
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Brooklyn, N.Y. : Ig Publishing, c2013.  
Adult Nonfiction Book (Biography)  
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**The low GI eating plan for an optimal pregnancy : the authoritative science-based nutrition guide for mother and baby / Dr. Jennie Brand-Miller, Dr. Kate Marsh, Dr. Robert...**  
by Brand Miller, Janette, 1952-  
Adult Nonfiction Book  
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618.242 B 2013

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**Mom in the mirror : body image, beauty, and life after pregnancy / Dena Cabrera and Emily T. Wierenga.**  
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BF697.5.B63 C33 2013  
155.333 C 2013

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**Motherhood, rescheduled : the new frontier of egg freezing and the women who tried it / Sarah Elizabeth Richards.**  
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New York : Simon & Schuster, 2013. 1st Simon & Schuster hardcover ed.  
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RG551 .P748 2013  
618.24 P 2013

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