

*Filo name  
Burb 2*

① *internal* - *who does he say the act is etc*  
- *Motive* this one for his motive

- agent - Jacob (Faculty)
- agency - speaking *except maturity*
- act - speaking (speech) *situation*
- scene - campus
- purpose - prepare - get rid of

- ② 1 - students - *imittene*
- 2 - Jacob (counter agent)
- 3 - game of *s. cheat*
- 4 - life - *the rules have changed's will*
- 5 - *stuck* - to change *to have*

Professor Jacob Neusner

Brown University

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*changes the rules every day  
predictable →*

- 1) *Falter children*
- 2)
- 3) *say - grow up*
- 5) *if you missed this every - if laughing by good*

- agent - prof
- agency - letting students get by
- act - doing - rewarding poor work
- scene - relax atmosphere of campus
- purpose - get rid of

We the faculty take no pride in our educational achievements with you. We have prepared you for a world that does not exist--indeed, that cannot exist. You have spent four years supposing that failure leaves no record. You have learned at Brown that when your work goes poorly the painless solution is to drop out. But starting now, in the world to which you go, failure marks you. Confronting difficulty by quitting leaves you changed. Outside Brown, quitters are no heroes.

With us you could argue about why your errors were not errors, why mediocre work really was excellent, why you could take pride in routine and slipshod presentation. Most of you, after all, can look back on honor grades for most of what you have done. So, here grades can have meant little in distinguishing the excellent from the ordinary.

But tomorrow, in the world to which you go, you had best not defend errors but learn from them. You will be ill-advised to demand praise for what does not deserve it and abuse those who do not give it.

For four years we created an altogether forgiving world in which whatever slight effort you gave was all that was demanded. When you did not keep appointments, we made new ones. When your work came in beyond deadline, we pretended not to care.

Worse still, when you were boring, we acted as if you were saying something important. When you were garrulous and talked to hear yourself talk, we listened as if it mattered. When you tossed on our desks writing upon which you had not labored, we read it and even responded, as though you had earned a response.

When you were dull, we pretended you were smart. When you were predictable, unimaginative and routine, we listened as if to new and wonderful things. When you demanded free lunch, we served it.

Any why all this?

Despite your fantasies, it was not even that we wanted to be liked by you. It was that we did not want to be bothered, and the easy way out was pretense: smiles and easy B's.

It is conventional to quote in addresses such as these. Let me quote someone you've never heard of, Professor Carter A. Daniel, Rutgers University (Chronicle of Higher Education, May 7, 1979):

*ratio →  
- act relates to  
other terms*

*- agent act  
does this  
require this*

*scene*

*Philosophy  
act idealism*

"College has spoiled you by reading papers that don't deserve to be read, listening to comments that don't deserve a hearing, paying attention even to the lazy, ill-informed and rude. We had to do it, for the sake of education. But nobody will ever do it again. College has deprived you of adequate preparation for the next 50 years. It has failed you by being easy, free, forgiving, attentive, comfortable, interesting, unchallenging fun. Good luck tomorrow."

That is why, on this commencement day, we have nothing in which to take pride.

Oh, yes, there is one more thing. Try not to act toward your co-workers and bosses as you have acted toward us. I mean, when they do not give you what you want but have not earned, don't abuse them, insult them, act out with them your relationships with your parents.

This too we have tolerated. It was, as I said, not to be liked. Few professors actually care whether or not they are liked by peer-paralyzed adolescents, fools so shallow as to imagine professors care not about education but about popularity. It was, again, to be rid of you. So go, unlearn the lies we taught you. To Life!