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English 1121

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### **Final Reflection**

As the semester draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the remarkable progress I have made as a reader, writer, and scholar throughout this course. From the very beginning, I embraced a wholehearted dedication to my writing, constantly striving for academic excellence. It is important to note that my last encounter with an English class was in 2017, which initially filled me with a sense of apprehension regarding the level of difficulty I might encounter. However, to my pleasant surprise, I discovered well-organized course materials on the Blackboard platform, which enabled me to comprehend and engage with the assignments more effectively than I had anticipated. Undoubtedly, everything I have learned and experienced throughout this semester has played a significant role in my growth as a writer, fostering essential qualities such as patience, attention to detail, and creativity. Engaging in the writing process, revising my work, and receiving constructive feedback from my instructor and peers have been instrumental in honing my skills and refining my writing style. I have come to appreciate the value of meticulous attention to detail, ensuring clarity and coherence in my written expression.

This course has provided me with opportunities to explore diverse topics and delve into specific subjects that have had a profound impact on my personal development. From analyzing

literature to conducting research, each assignment has challenged me to think critically, expand my knowledge base, and articulate my thoughts in a coherent manner. These experiences have not only enhanced my writing abilities but have also broadened my intellectual horizons. In addition, I have developed a deeper appreciation for the creative aspect of writing. The assignments have encouraged me to think freely, explore different perspectives, and experiment with various writing styles. This creative freedom has not only made the writing process enjoyable but has also allowed me to express my thoughts and ideas in a more engaging and impactful way. As I engage in self-reflection, I am grateful for the growth I have experienced as a reader, writer, and scholar throughout this course. The challenges I encountered along the way have transformed into valuable learning experiences, fostering resilience and a determination to continually improve my writing skills.

The journey began with a simple assignment, introducing myself. Initially, I approached it with a casual mindset, submitting a concise paragraph. However, receiving a grade of 7.5/10 served as a pivotal moment, awakening my realization that careful attention to detail is crucial for achieving better grades. From that point onward, I pursued perfection, investing considerable effort in thorough revisions before submitting any written work. Gradually, these assignments transcended their mere academic nature, and I discovered genuine enjoyment in the assigned readings. In particular, the exploration of discourse communities and code switching resonated deeply with me. These concepts closely matched my everyday experiences in Brooklyn, New York, where casual chats with friends differ from the formalities demanded in my medical job. Consequently, I found great satisfaction in reading "Mother Tongue" and was rewarded with an excellent grade due to the thoughtfulness I infused into my analysis.

While I have found immense joy in writing this semester, it has not been without its challenges. The project on discourse communities proved time-consuming and initially unsatisfying in terms of the outcome. Although I received a commendable grade, I am aware that my personal investment in the subject matter could have yielded even better results. I realized that I had not taken the necessary time to carefully contemplate my approach. For instance, one aspect of that writing that I now find cringeworthy is my statement, "How does paying nurses insufficiently affect everyone? Great question." I am now aware of the error in answering my own question within a piece of writing, and my professor also provided guidance on this matter. As I embarked on the final project, which involved crafting a speech (an unfamiliar endeavor) I encountered further frustrations. Nonetheless, I persevered and surprised myself with the determination to overcome these obstacles. If I were to encounter a similar subject in the future, I am confident that I would excel, armed with the knowledge of areas on which to focus thanks to the valuable feedback provided by my professor. Another challenging assignment was the annotated bibliography, as my lack of prior exposure to such papers posed difficulties. However, through diligent study and the examination of numerous examples, I eventually formulated a cohesive outline. This assignment, above all others, taught me the most, broadening my understanding of educational funding gaps and revealing the injustices within the system. In my own project I stated, "I learned that there are people trying to make a change that could lead to a big difference in public school funding." Discovering that there are individuals striving to make a difference left me with a profound sense of happiness and hope.

Despite the challenges, there were assignments that brought me immense satisfaction. Among them, the multimodal project stands out as my favorite. It allowed me to express my

creativity in an educational context, and I thoroughly enjoyed the process. I am particularly pleased with the impact created by my statement, "Public schools in low-income communities receive \$1,000 less per student in funding than schools in wealthier areas!" It served as a captivating focal point, piquing readers' curiosity and motivating them to seek further information. Additionally, I took pleasure in devising the project's theme, hoping it would resonate with others. Another assignment that posed initial challenges was the creation of an ePortfolio for the final project. It required some time to familiarize myself with the setup process, but once I gained proficiency, I produced an excellent result. Engaging in peer interaction, responding to classmates' posts, and appreciating their insights also taught me the value of valuing and learning from others' writing. I am immensely grateful to my peers for their dedication and hard work throughout this class, and I will cherish the connections forged with them.

In conclusion, despite the challenges faced, there were assignments that brought me immense satisfaction and allowed me to grow as both a creative thinker and a student. The multimodal project, with its ability to highlight my creativity in an educational context, was a standout favorite. Additionally, the process of devising the project's theme brought me joy, as I hoped it would resonate with others. Another assignment that initially presented difficulties was the creation of an ePortfolio, but with perseverance, I was able to navigate the setup process and achieve excellent results. Engaging with my peers through interactions, responses, and appreciation of their insights taught me the value of valuing and learning from others' writing. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my classmates for their dedication and hard work throughout the course, and I will forever cherish the connections forged with them. These assignments have not

only provided me with growth opportunities but have also fostered creativity and meaningful engagement in my educational journey.