

# Reflection 1

Have you ever just stopped and took a moment to breathe after a long semester of hard work and grinding, my professor. Professor hall gave me the easiest task in the world which is to stop and reflect think and appreciate give yourself a little pat on the back for all the hard work you have done this whole semester. How far you have come as a writer.

Before the semester started, I had reason to believe that was a poor writer. That I didn't write appropriately, looking back at it now I realize that I have my own personal writing style, something that keeps the reader listening laughing and simultaneously learning something at the same time. If you ask me I'm a writing genius. Yes, I have my flaws I don't know how to spell for the life of me. My punctuation sucks just as bad as my spelling but according to professor hall you can't teach spelling and grammar as long as you keep writing you'll learn as you go and see your errors more often. I mean I'm the queen of capitalization. I mean sometimes I do it just because it looks pretty in the middle of my paragraph. Girl, don't you know I love me some run on sentences without a comma or period.

When I'm writing I have a tendency to write like I'm texting someone or I'm venting to a close friend about a situation. For instance in my unit one paper talking about my no good very bad experience with my horrible teacher Mr. Bux in this paper I wrote after being picked up from my dean Mr. Ghie. I had the whole office laughing at what I was saying as I entered the room "Guacamole this teacher picked the wrong one, on the wrong day to f\*\*K with me" This is one of many times my personality shines through my writing. I'm pretty sure I had my reader responding back to many of my comments I wrote or just simply laughing at me because I kept it real and said exactly what he or she was thinking the whole entire time reading my short story. Trust and believe me it's a blessing and a curse to have this type of writing style. Yes there were times during my road of being a successful writer where I found myself lost confused on how to start or where to begin, who is my audience How do I keep them interested in my writing while keeping an appropriate not so childish. This happened A lot mostly during my unit

two paper, man the struggle was real. Some call it writer's block but for me it felt worse than that I called it a writers' worst nightmare because not only was I not able to produce anymore writing. But I felt like the writing I had on my paper wasn't something I was proud of. I couldn't write my name next to that.

On top of the fact, time was not on my side, it was a frustration paper to write, read and revise. No matter what I did to this paper I felt It didn't scream [my name] when I read it. When really all I needed was a push and little motivation. As a writer you learn to ask for help within your peers. Sometimes having your classmates read your work helps to give you insight on your work. A fresh pair of new eyes will notice the glows and grows of your paper.

Their feedback is very much needed, it gives you just the right amount of push you need in the right direction makes you really think on your writing as a writer. Whether it's clear who your audience is? Is your point of view clear within your paragraph or does it get lost in the sauce? These are all questions you have to address within your writing or it will be a complete waste of time to read. Sometimes you are asked to step out of your comfort zone and adapt.

## **ENG1101 Course Reflection**

For this semester's English course, I have learned to develop a better time management system when it comes to writing. This was new to me and as a reader I also found myself analyzing what I read much more in order to read between the lines as I go along. I've learned that careful reading and annotating lead to better writing.

My earlier assumptions about myself and writing were very intimidating. At first, I found myself hesitating to write and keep writing for a period to get my point across. My beliefs about myself when it came to writing were: I must have a vast store of vocabulary words to produce good writing in a short amount of time. I now believe that is not always so. Now, I start off slowly, brainstorm, and formulate what a good introduction might be and from there, I continue to follow a sequence of steps to achieve what I want to say in my writing as well as elaborate on the essays I've incorporated.

Earlier this semester, my work differed drastically from how it is now. I would start off small and be in the habit of starting off with my introduction of writing and then seeing other writers' examples to understand how they came about with their writing as well as to consider different genres of writing

styles they used. Now, I write much more fluidly and start on different topics faster; brainstorming and noting key points from my readings help me remember the steps to start off with my writing, but it still takes time to perfect it.

During the revision process, I was able to see my mistakes more and correct them and find better ways to put my words together. What was challenging for me in this course was writing generally. I am not the best at writing most of the time. To overcome this, the weekly assignments pushed me to try and practice a flexible style of writing. If I make mistakes as I write, I know I can rectify them and improve my writing skills as I go along.

My advice to students taking this course this semester is to use this opportunity to develop a better understanding of writing from the basic steps shown each week as you go along doing the assignments. Just do each assignment to gain a habit of developing writing skills, especially if you do not write often. This can help you express yourself, reach your audience with your writing, and recognize your mistakes to improve your writing ability in the long run. I have learned in class that 'teamwork makes the dream work' it really does. I saw this when we learned about how a team created "The Soho Memory Project" to make it come alive, which subsequently won many awards for this work. This helps me understand that sometimes in some projects it is good to ask for help. It's often useful to bring other people's talents and skills together to make projects bigger and better than what one can do alone. With this idea, I will transfer this knowledge to other writing situations in future courses as well as in my daily life.