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English

Professor Hall

As this semester comes to a close as well as my time in this English class, my ability as a writer has stagnated. While I do believe that stylistically my writing remains the same, still this English class has made my writing way more versatile. My writing has room to grow even more, but in terms of me being able to branch out my writing into my life I've improved. This semester I learned how to convert my essays into crucial reference points that actually helped me succeed in other classes.

During Unit 2 I wrote about being a mentor, but that topic wasn't the one I was going to pick for Unit 2. After some consideration and with some help from Professor Hall I was able to come to a consensus of what I wanted to do. "In these past few months I've involved myself heavily in a new found endeavor; being a mentor." I still had a glaring problem: I was left without a topic for my other essay in my public speaking class. This is when I had an epiphany, I deconstructed my essay I had written for English class and turned it into a speech for my public speaking class. The transition was seamless and I ended up getting an A on the speech, and I was very surprised. My writing served me better spoken aloud, and it made me realize the versatility of my writing.

I started to look at my writing in a new light and tried to find different ways to transition my writing off the paper and into existence. I still have issues when it comes to coming up with ideas as well as getting my ideas down effectively on paper. In this case it's literally easier said than done, moving forward I will definitely try to consider writing my essays down with my

voice. It's easy to hold a conversation but difficult to brainstorm ideas on the spot. Using this method will allow me to learn how to come up with ideas organically, since this all started with a conversation I had with my professor. This made Unit 2 my favorite assignment since it gave me a good grade for multiple classes. Unit 3 was a close contender for my favorite assignment though since it was another instance of me being able to implement my creative freedom.

It was very unique going from the traditional use of essays to making a video, I wasn't sure where to start. So I did what I would do with any other english assignment and started writing. I wrote a script and tried to design my video around it, but I quickly noticed that using this script made my video seem inorganic. Instead I tossed the script and wrote down some talking points and used that to guide the direction of my video. I steadily made the video more to my liking doing this, this is another instance of me using my voice instead of a pen. My early beliefs when it came to writing lead me to believe that writing the essay gave it structure. With my experimentation this semester I quickly realized that was far from the truth. " Everyone should try to take a chance at mentoring, it's an extremely rewarding experience that helps not only the mentee but the mentor develop and grow as an individual." This quote was my closing sentence for my speech word for word. I would've never thought that something spoken aloud would translate seamlessly into paper, moving forward I will try to be more aware of this. Writing down conclusions is extremely hard for me, but in this instance it was as easy as saying it, this was the case for my Unit 3 video.

I wasn't the only MVP during this semester; the breakout groups were very important towards my success. My peers helped me select my topic for Unit 3 since I was torn in between talking about my culture and sleep insomnia. My peers made a strong criticism. They told me that talking about my culture may be easy for me to understand, but it'd be very difficult for

others in the class to relate too. I ended up going with sleep insomnia and made sure to state “Sleep is something that everyone struggles with”. My peers helped me cater my video to more people, so I went for a more informational approach in my Unit 3 video. The first half of Unit 3 was particularly challenging since I had difficulty using a recording software to make my podcast. After that I decided my best bet was to get in character and make a video, and that’s what I did, I put on my scrubs and made my Unit 3 video which I thought came out great.

All in all this semester has been an experience, even though I haven’t been the best student, I ended up learning quite a lot from this english class. If I could redo the semester I’d make my Unit 1 essay stronger, but that’s what the revisions are for. I learned a lot about how writing is way more than just words on paper, and how my writing is way more versatile than I predicted.