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 **The final portfolio**

 This semester has been nothing but learning how to become a good writer. Throughout this entire portfolio you can see that my work was a progress from the rough draft from the rough draft to the polished draft. Each of the writing assignments that were given had there own purpose for me to complete. One example is were one of the first major writing assignments were the Audience and research assignment were I basically had to pick a side that was on and just write about it. This was basically an argumentative type of essay. So throughout this entire portfolio you will see me as writer developing to become a good writer.

1. Literacy narrative

 So my first major writing assignment was a literacy narrative. This literacy narrative was based on yourself on your relationship with writing, reading, or speaking. This was one assignment that I actually liked but I just had to write more and just elaborate on a few things to make my essay stronger. *I had tried to to put in more information towards my introduction by starting of by thanking the people who had helped me become a better writer and reader and then just go into my next paragraphs going into more detail on how they made me better. So from here this will be my revised literacy narrative.*

 At this point in my life I find myself in an interesting predicament regarding my attitudes toward reading and writing. For anything that I wanna become In life reading is a major part of it. Everything involves reading. I just want to thank my past teachers and parents cause without them I think I would have the passion to read or write anything. When talking about reading and writing, I think about elementary school to now. Throughout my years in school I was lucky to meet teachers who had live to read and help me with this subject. Reading and writing wasn’t really my favorite subject. I wasn’t bad at it, I just didn’t like to read. My parents and my pass teachers helped me progress. They helped me understand passages even though they would be boring at times. My mom or dad would have me pick from a news paper if it was from the sports section or cartoons and have me summarize it.They wanted time to find something that interest me and read about it. They said that once something gets your attention I start to want to learn more about it. At that time I wanted to be a firefighter. From there I had read about the requirements fire fighter had to do in order to become one and also keep people safe.They would also choose 10 words from the dictionary and have me write each word 5 time each, know how to spell them, define it , and know how to use it in a sentence.This was something I had hated to do but in the long run it benifited me. As I kept doing this every week my vocabulary grew and grew and I saw progress towards my writing and also reading .

My middle school teacher ms Craig also had a big impact on me. She would have a way for me to read boring texts. I remembered a boring way to read a boring text was to jot down or highlight the main idea of a text and find textual evidence to support the main idea of the text as I’m reading. This method was for me to understand my writing more clearly and understand what I was reading . She also thought me to express myself in my writings. If we were writing on a topic in class she told us to brain storm and jot down notes that relates to the topic for 10 to 15 minutes. After she would tell us to write introduction, body number 1, body number 2, counter claim and conclusion on our papers. From there we would use the ideas we brain storm about the topic and put it in those categories to organize our thoughts. This strategy actually had helped me become a better writer because it had helped write in order where my ideas weren’t all over the place.

Before I learned this strategy I had a bad experience. One of my experience was when I had to write an essay and present on a topic based on martin Luther king. So back then I would just write non stop and not even look back to see what I was writing. So when I was writing on Martin Luther king jr, I was just trying to finish fast. So when my time had came up in my class to present I was stuttering and was basically lost just repeating myself. I had made a fool of myself that day just because I wanted to hurry and finish and not take my time. So at the end of my presentation out of 1-4 I had gotten a 2.5 which was bad just because my writing was all over the place.

A literacy narrative is a popular way for writers to talk about their relationship with reading, speaking, and writing. It is basically free writing that makes your brain get loose. You are supposed to write non stop until you can’t write no more on a topic. From there you organize your writing from what you have wrote . I can honestly say that if anybody is writing about any topic they should recommend this strategy. It is helpful in my opinion. It helps you develop your reading/writing skills for your upcoming future.

1. Annotated bibliography

 The second major piece of writing was the Annotated bibliography were I had to basically pick a genre either If it was either a poem, a article , a restaurant review and etc and had to write about it using 6 different sources and state what each of the sources you chose relate to the genre. So for example my genre was based on hip hop music which mostly on rap. The 6 artist I used for my source I said that they alll had one thing in common in one of the songs and it was based on politics and what was going on in the world. *In this writing piece the only thing that I felt that would’ve made my grade higher was summarizing each of the sources towards the end of each source.*

 Introduction-Hip hop is one of my favorite genres of music. It’s been around for many years impacting society in many ways. There are all kinds of beats, rhythm , and lyrics. From jazz to pop to hip hop, the types of music people listen to and can have an impact on them. Hip hop has been promoting social and political awareness for the people of today.

Central idea- Rap music educated people from several different perspectives and raises many social issues. Rap helps people speak freely about their opinion or view on either political or social issues. And by speaking freely, it causes teenagers today to become concerned and aware of the things these artist talk about. This is important because it helps bring positive change in society. Hip hop is just a naturally way for people to express themselves or to relate to.

Source#1-J.Cole (“Be free”)

Annotated-When I listen to hip hop I can feel the energy the artist bring. Either it can be sad, happy, sad and etc. For me hip hop music just calms me down and it’s just gets you in a vibe. I have 6 different artist that I like to listen to and each one of these artist has a song that I strongly like.One of my favorite hip hop artist is J Cole.Cole is an American rapper, mixtape producer and music producer.He is known as one of the very few artist to never miss platinum standard of recording industry association of America. The reason why I like JCole is because the way he tells stories in his songs you can just feel his energy. One good song I like from him is called “Be free”. He talks about the death of micheal brown who had got shot by a white police officer. So he wrote the songs about how he feels and people like me feel where he’s coming from and feel the way he feel.”All we wanna do is take the chains off,All we wanna do is be free” this verse from jcole persuades the audience that we we just wanna be free from cops killing us.And this is why I like his music because he just tell great stories with his lyrics. J.Cole influences his audience to follow their dream to become a better rapper or just to become successful in life and you can achieve anything. The message in this song was towards the cops on police brutality that it is wrong and they shouldn’t use there power to do damage and kill innocents.

Source #2 – Dave East (“Don’t shoot”)

Annotated- Dave East is never afraid to speak his mind especially on social and political issues. The thing I like about Dave East is that he says what feels and don’t care how people feel about a situation. Dave uses social media exactly for what it was intended for which is to connect with his fans and just being an influence to others. In his song “ Don’t shoot” he adjust his voice to tell an envolving story of police interactions from child to teenager to an adult. His encounters become increasingly more alarming and violent, until his last one marks the end of his life. “This attitude is programmed/ Imagine getting harassed for you whole life/ All day and the whole night/ They say prison is the new slave ship”. When he says this he basically mean that the police want us african Americans in jail and they doing anything they can to do just that which is mest up. The message behind this is to African Americans to be careful and Dave East warns us that some of the cops just want us in jail which is basically police brutality.

Source#3 – Joyner Locas (“I’m not a racist”)

Annotated- Joyner Lucas is one talented artist. To me his one of many people I look up to when it comes to creativity. His audience is influenced about him because he raps to inform you on certain topics. And in his music videos he tells creative stories that goes with his lyrics which sends his message towards us. Joyner Lucas made a song called “I’m not a racist”. In this song he talks about racism, police brutality, and politics. In his song he basically shows a African American and a Caucasian person talking to each other but with lyrics. It is a controversial for rapping about race and society and a heated discussion about race relations from a perspective of a white and black man. He says “ we were all humans until race disconnected us, religion separated us, politics divided us ,and wealth classified us. In this part of the song he just basically stating what’s going on in the world based on these titles.

Source#4 – Tupac (“changes”)

Annotated- Tupac was one of the greats to ever rap in the industry. In his rap he talked a lot about society. No artist has had that effect on so many people as Tupac did. He gave the inner city kids a voice. He helped pushed rap popularity to the global scale. He influenced a society full of teenagers, adults, and children. He made his fans feel alive and important because he cared about each and everyone of them. I feel that Tupac was a brilliant artist who used his platform to inform his audience about the world we live in. In his song “changes” he talks about society and police brutality. In his songs he says” Come on come on I see no changes wake up in the morning and I ask myself Is life worth living should I blast myself? I’m tired of being poor and even worse I’m black My stomach hurts so I’m looking for purse to snatch Cops give a damn about a negro Pull the trigger kill a ni\*\*a he’s a hero”. This is powerful statement because this something that goes on in today’s society which is sad. Policy brutality is a big topic that goes on towards African Americans and that was Tupac reasoning behind the song. His message behind this song is simply that basically cops just see African Americans as a villain and it’s just plain wrong and that it needs to come to an end because there killing thousands of innocents.

Source#5- Meek mill (“what’s free”)

Annotated- Meek Mill has more than earned his spot as the most important artist. His contributions to the culture are not measured by the quantity of music releases but, by his humanitarian work regarding criminal justice reform and underrepresented youth. Meek mill influence us as his audience to stand up for ourselfs. I find him brave. The reason why I say this because he is one of the few many that doesn’t care what nobody thinks involving political things. He says how he feels and uses his platform to say so. He uses his platform continuing his fight for social justice, using his platform to advocate on behalf or marginalized groups and against police brutality. Meek mill lyrics in his songs has powerful messages behind them. One of his songs called” what’s free?”One line in his song was”What’s free?Free is when nobody else could tell us what to be Free is when the TV ain’t controllin”His message is that he want us to see the meaning behind “free” and he describes the meaning of freedom and what what it really means to be free in his understanding of the word “free” for us to understand in today’s society.

Source#6- Kendrick lamar (“Alright”)

Annotated- Kendrick Lamar is one of the most admired artist in the hip hop industry. Kendrick not only wants to make gray songs for his audience but he want us to learn from him through his music. In his songs he talks about what goes on in the world either being police brutality, racial profiling, slavery, and other important events going on in the world. His audience love him because he is a one of a kind type of artist who not only talks facts but we can all learn from him. He had made a song called “ Alright” talking about what goes on around in his neighborhood and in the world. It is one my favorite songs from him. Kendrick said “ we hurt people that love us/ love people that hurt us”. This makes me think about how I should treat people and how they should treat me. He taught me that I can succeed by working hard.

Conclusion- Hip hop music can touch on many topics such as politics and just about anything. Rap music has helped a lot of teens in many ways. It helped us find our ways out of difficult situations, using the lyrics to relate to our lives and finding a meaning in them. Those words help us understand the world and help us understand ourselves. It’s something for us to fall back on.

The last major assignment was called “Research/Audience assignment” where I had to research a problem that is going on today in the world and pick and opposing side to agree on. I also had to decide how my message would get across the audience which were the females and males that were going through this process. So for my topic I had picked abortion. The main purpose for this topic is to see who has a final say during the abortion process males or females. In this assignment I chose to side with the females that they should have the final say. I had wrote a letter the the females and males and they would be able to see this message in the clinic. The reasoning for this letter being in clinic is because just from my train of thought I felt that it’s like an notice before going into the process. *To be truly honest I felt like I did actually a good job on this topic and explaining just the reasonings for my statement.*

1. Annotated research and audience

People have different opinions on who should have the say in abortions. I’ve had many conversations with some of my friends about this situation because it’s something that people think about if they were in this situation. Both audiences (males and females) have their opinions whether on who really has the say. Men feel left out when women have an abortion because since it’s there child too, the feel that this is some part where there words matter. For the females, they believe that since they will be the ones carrying the baby they should have the say because there doing the heavy lifting During this assignment I would like to persuade my audience that females should be the ones to decide whether or not they should keep the baby or not. My messages would get across by me writing 2 separate letters to the women and men having it in clinics. The purpose for me having these two separate letters in clinics is to have the males and females have a just a certain mindset about having a say in abortions. They should listen to me because of the research I’ve been digging up and just that it’s straight facts that they should take into consideration. I felt like I did a good job on writing and doing my research based on this topic. I had stated great sources and also added my opinion towards the topic

Dear males,

 This message is for you guys. I know that you guys feel that you guys also should have a say in this situation but it is the females body and they do whatever but only to a certain circumstance. Females have up to week eight to have an abortion. They have 8 weeks because the fetus is not yet developed as of yet. According to “Thebump.com” it states “During week 8 of your pregnancy the baby is big as a raspberry and weighs about 0.4 ounces” so from this statement females have until week eight to have an abortion because it’s not developed. If it’s over this limit then technically it’s killing it. Women should be the only ones who decides to keep a child. If they don’t they don’t get rid of it on purpose. That’s what you guys have to understand and respect the fact that they have abortions because it would interfere with things like there education or work at that moment and they are not yet ready for a child. According to “Guttmacher.org” it states that “ in the study, researchers from Guttmacher Institute compared quantitative data from 2004 and 1987 surveys and found that the main reason women cited for ending pregnancies were the same on both: having a baby would dramatically interfere with their education, work or ability to care for their dependents or they could not afford a baby at that time” another good statement women get abortions is because of personal reasons like rape. Just put yourself in a situation like that. If a man raped, would you keep the baby? According to “CNN.com” (“women have abortions for many reasons aside from rape an invest”) it states that “the reasons why women get abortions are varied and personal. For some, it was because they were victims of rape or incest. Some were in abusive relationships and others weren’t ready”. From this I’m trying to say that you shouldn’t pressure a women on having a baby because it’s gonna be her carrying it. I had came across an women stated her opinion on the topic that completely backs up the statement that women should have the final say in having an abortion. According to “yahoo answers” this women say that a women should have the final say in having a baby or not. She had made an example “what else the women was raped”. She states no matter what you think about abortion, if you’ve never been raped, if you’ve never felt the shame and the self hate , if you’ve never spent a year unable to sleep because the man who raped you is always in the shadows…then you absolutely have no right to judge . You have no idea what it feels like to complete carrying the child of the person who violated you” this person goes deep and I feel that she’s right. Where I’m trying to get at is that women should have the say to keep or baby or not because they go through a lot of stress. They should be able to decide whether or not to keep it. I’ve brought up the tapes part because I’m showing that women don’t have abortion on purpose. I’m staying that women should have a say because it effects there life. I hope you guys get what I’m trying to say. It’s just up to a women to make the final say whether on not they should keep the baby or not.

 Sincerely, Jae Rose

 Dear females,

 Even though I’m on your side about you guys having the final say in having a child or not I would just like to inform you guys about the risks of having an abortion just to have in mind when having one. Having an abortion can do many things to your body that you probably didn’t know about. According to “ramahinternational.org”, abortion may lead to future medical problems for the mother. This source states the abortion risks for the mother. “ A cut or torn cervix, incomplete removal of unborn child, placenta or contents of the uterus requiring an additional operation, complications from anesthesia such as respiratory problems, nausea, vomiting, and headaches, inability to get pregnant due to infection from operation, and also heavy bleeding”. Another statement is that having a abortion can sadly lead you to not have any more children.According to nhs.uk(“Can having an abortion affect my fertility”), it states that “there's a very small risk to your fertility and future pregnancies if you develop a womb infection during the procedure that's not treated promptly”. The infection can actually spread to your Fallopian tubes and ovaries. If you have an infection get medical advice as soon as possible if you experience any signs of infection after an abortion. This last statement I feel is the main think you guys should pay attention to because it’s really important. There is a such thing as an unsafe abortion. So be careful. Unsafe abortion occurs when a pregnancy is terminated either by persons lacking the necessary skills or in an environment that does not conform to minimal medical standards, or both.According to “world health organization” it states that “They are less safe, when done using outdated methods like sharp curettage even if the provider is trained or if women using tablets do not have access to proper information or to a trained person if they need help. Any woman with an unwanted pregnancy who cannot access safe abortion is at risk of unsafe abortion. Women living in low-income countries and poor women are more likely to have an unsafe abortion. Deaths and injuries are higher when unsafe abortion is performed later in pregnancy. The rate of unsafe abortions is higher where access to effective contraception and safe abortion is limited or unavailable.” These are some of the risk that women would need to be reminded of when getting an abortion.

So females, please be careful when having an abortion. Make sure you speak to your doctor and stay safe.

Sincerely, Jae Rose

1. Reading response (only daughter)

I wanted to reflected on one of the first reading responses I had to do for this class which I liked which was called “only daughter” by Sandra Cisneros. This story was about Sandra being the only daughter out of seven other children. She was basically felt left out because her father would say he was a father of seven sons which mad her sad. *I had add some more detail towards this reading response assignment because I felt like I didn’t fully summarize the whole thing.*

Sandra Cisneros purpose into writing this story is to have readers picture what she was going through in her family .She was an Mexican American growing up with 6 boys being an only girl. From just knowing this you knew it was hard for her. It was hard for her because she was the only one looked down on in her family and all her brothers are being looked at as most important. Her relationship towards her father was off. I had found it interesting that her father thought that she was wasting her education because she didn’t get married when she was finished from college.. From my understanding, I thought that the father was basically saying that with all the knowledge she got from school she wasted it by not having a family to pass it down to her own family. Being an only daughter left her to think a lot and she wrote on her thoughts. The best moment in the story was her father reaction towards her writing and she was finally noticed by him. Overall Cisneros discusses her relationship she had with her father . She was raised in an Mexican American household with a family of six siblings and she was the only girl. Just from her being the only girl she had struggled to impress her father. Her father had thought she would be nothing more than somebody house wife and she felt angry and sad about that . She just wanted to show her father that she had potential in doing something great and that’s why she had wrote and later she showed her father that she was something more than somebody house wife . From there her father was proud of her shedding a tear. Cisneros wanted us to just imagine growing up in a household being the only daughter with her brothers. From her not feeling appreciated it helped shape who she became.

Since talked about the three major assignments and one reading response *I would like to add one of the free writing assignments I had done in class that I never got to finish up which was about writing anxiety*. Writing anxiety is just a nervous reaction where u don’t know what to say so your just basically stuck at the moment not knowing what to write. I want to share my thoughts on writing anxiety because it’s something everybody go through when writing.

1. Free writing(writing anxiety)

Writing anxiety is a nervous situation when writing. It is a low level of feeling stress or fear. For people with anxiety it can be overwhelming.When having anxiety it can manipulate your thoughts or just make it harder for you to think. I feel that people think to much were they become stuck. From there that’s were they become lost. If you clear your mind and Fido ya on the topic and not think to hard then you would be fine. To overcome writing anxiety I feel that people who this type of anxiety should have some type of strategies they should follow. If you feel like your stuck reread the directions given and highlight key terms. After doing this you should then start brain storming on some ideas based on your topic. Once you brainstorm you would have bunch of ideas that you could use for the main idea, introduction body, counterclaim, and conclusion. It’s all about you just taking your time and figuring out what you have to do.

1. Letter to professor

Dear professor jewell,

Overall this semester has been nothing but writing and great experience to help me in the future. From just the past 4 months I feel that I had accomplished a lot. As this semester comes to the end I can say I learned a lot from researches and from the articles that were given. But the most important skill I had got from this class was becoming a better writer.My literacy narrative was just the beginning of my journey on me becoming a better writer/reader. And now that I had wrote that the next time I write one I can write about this chapter where I’ve been challenged to write on topics and used the skills I developed useful into my writing. For this class I literally wrote so much it wasn’t even funny. For the major writing assignments I really had to sit and just think for a while and just brainstorm ideas to make my essay better. The topics that you given me was great topics because they made you think and you couldn’t really just write from the top of your head. Writing reading response also shaped up my writing because it was challenging myself to see if I really understood the text and the example wood be “only daughter “ where the daughter(Sandra) felt left out from her father and she wanted to show him that she was more than he expected. From me saying this statement you can tell that I understood the the story and purpose of it. Rhetorical analysis had a big impact in my writing because it showed me how to write certain things either if it was to inform, persuade or entertain the reader.An example of rhetorical analysis is when I had to research information based on abortion to support my topic on who should have the final say in abortion. I had to basically inform and and persuade my audience that females should have the final say towards having an abortion. Another reason why I feel like my writing has improved was because of peer review. I feel like it’s better to get other people opinion on your draft before it’s published. They might catch things that you wouldn’t do. that helpful and benefit me . It also helped gain knowledge knowing where to put what in what order or just details they probably know about the topic and passed it on to me for me to add towards my essay. To be honest I never had topics this broad before to write about. When I say this I mean like a head bust topic where your just sitting there thinking. I didn’t think I was that I was that great of a writer but now I have some type of confidence that I am knowing what I had to do for your class. I can say that one of my favorite assignments that I did was the bibliography where I had wrote about hip hop music and the 6 artist who just talk about politics . This was my favorite because I love music and when I saw that I had a chance to write about it I took the opportunity. The last aspect that had shaped up my writing was free writing. I feel like free writing is a great exercise for your brain to think. It’s just whatever is up in your brain you just write without thinking as hard. For example, the free writing assessment were I had to write about writing anxiety. It help me focus on the title and just wrote what I felt. You don’t worry about the style or the quality. In my conclusion I loved the class. It was a great experience for me because I gain lots of knowledge on writing and I know it would benefit me in the future. This portfolio doesn’t just show the progress of me as a writer but it showed what I learned from the class and a thank you for that.

 Sincerely Jae Rose,