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Kenton Chan's Final Reflection

Throughout this semester doing English Composition II as I reader and writer I feel that I have improved a lot because at first, I was struggling to come up with a topic to write about for Unit 1 but then I decided to write the word ADHD. I wrote about this throughout most of my life I hated reading and writing because my ADHD would get in the way of me trying to focus on what I am supposed to do for my task. So at first, I struggled even just trying to start the writing so I started to describe what the word means and give an anecdote to how I knew I had ADHD, “ Yet I am someone who has been diagnosed with ADHD ever since elementary school when my teacher told my mom that I should go see a doctor. To everyone else, I looked as if I was an everyday human being when ADHD was coursing through my body.”

For Unit 2, I also struggled to write my paper because, for the longest time, I did not know what was the “beat” I was passionate and interested in writing. But once I found the “beat” I wanted to write about I started to gather my notes and research together. I remember at the beginning of the semester we read Michael Bunn’s “How to Read Like a Writer” and one of the things that he mentioned was taking notes down. This strategy was useful for me when I was doing this assignment because there was a lot of research that needed to be done so I organized my research on a t chart which made it easier for me when I eventually started to draft. One strength that I found while doing this assignment was that I used good quotes from the sources. For instance, in *According to 20 Years Later: The Lingering Health Effects of 9/11* by Karen

Selby, “An estimated 410,000 first responders, cleanup crews and survivors spent days and weeks breathing in air heavy with toxins from 400 tons of crushed concrete, glass and asbestos at Ground Zero.” This helped me to emphasize in my paper how the aftermath of September 11 has impacted the lives of many people because of the heavy toxins that they were inhaling.

In Unit 3, I wrote a letter to my grandparents as the multimodal project. I think that for this project I did well at trying to compact the information about the health effects of 9/11 and research that I did for Unit 2. For instance, “The dust contained hazardous materials such as chlorine, asbestos, and many other toxins. These illnesses included asthma, pneumonia, and other lung diseases.” By doing this it helps to better get my idea and point across to my audience which are my grandparents or people that are elderly.

At the end of this semester, I think that I became a bit better as a writer and reader because I realized that it allowed me to express emotions and things that I am passionate about more freely. In addition, I also learned that rhetoric and my audience are important when writing because writing always has a purpose the author wants their audience to grasp. And with this idea, I can apply this even outside of just an English class because even in life when you speak to someone there is always a purpose to our words. Lastly, I was also able to explore writing in different forms/genres of writing which helped to expand my writing along with how to cite sources that can help me in future lab reports for my other classes.