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Process Essay

When the professor first introduced the project of "repurposing" I was confused at first. I was expecting to write another essay instead of transforming one of our previous essays into slides. I was not sure if I had to turn everything in my essay into slides or use the main points. Another thing that confused me was trying to convey the same points in my essay without making the slides too long and having too much information to the point where the audience would be bored and not understand the topic. For me it was hard to come up with ways to make it engaging besides including pictures.

When the mode of "repurposing" began to gel was after I had an outline of my slides. The first rough draft had all the potential slides I wanted to add along with the information that I wanted people to read. After reviewing what was made, I started to think of ways I would have liked to learn the topic if it was my first time learning about it. The first thing that came to mind that would make the slides engaging was to have a game. I went online and searched for multiple games that would explain DNA base pairing. At first, all the games that I found were extremely complicated which would have been difficult for a beginner to understand. After searching, I was able to find a game that would be perfect for someone who is new to the genre that even someone in middle school could understand. The game allowed the user to go at their own pace and had hints to help the viewer find the base pairs without struggling too much.

My initial plan for the website was to have an outline of every topic that I wrote for the second writing assignment and make the slides engaging and fun by having short and concise information along with pictures to help further the understanding of the reader. Towards the end of the project, my initial plan worked a little bit since there were modifications throughout the project. For example, some slides were deleted because when I was reviewing them, the website was boring since there were too many slides. What was changed throughout the slides was having items that would make the slides more interesting. As a result, a youtube video was included explaining the process of how insulin was made by using genetic engineering tools. What stayed the same was the main concepts on the slides. Originally, I had my essay and thought it would be easier to have all the information on the slides. However, that was not visually appealing and it would not have worked out in a slides presentation. I wanted to add things to my slides that could not have been added to the essay.

For my first peer review, I did not find it as valuable. My partner told me the good things they saw on my "website" which was good because I got to know what worked but I would also have liked to hear what they did not like so I would know what needs more work. Due to me not getting any feedback, I did not modify my slides. However, for the second peer review, I found it a lot more valuable because I received feedback and knew what can be changed. As a result, I shortened some slides that were over explained, expanded on ideas that were not as clear as it could have been and added more information about the creation of the website and why the design was chosen.

I think I was able to reach my initial goals which was to make my slides concise and engaging. For this project we are translating our essays to slides, which allowed me more

freedom to do more things that I was not able to do in the essay such as showing pictures and adding a game. I think the best way to spark an interest in a topic is to learn in a fun and engaging way so that the reader would be more curious and search for more advanced sources such as articles or books. What did not work was having slides for every topic I wrote in my essay because at the end of the presentation there would be too many slides which would have made the viewer bored. I do not consider myself a creative person and throughout the project I learned that I am more creative than I thought. What I would have done differently is to ask more questions about the project so I can get a better understanding as to what the professor was looking for. Overall, I think the project was very fun as I got to learn more about myself in regards to my creativity as well as my teaching abilities.