

11/10/2022

English 1101

Word Count: 3443

In this semester I have learned about my writing style and just me as a reader and a writer. I have realized that everytime I read or try to read, especially if it's sometime that doesn't catch my interest I tend to lose focus and get distracted very easily so I need a very quiet room or place to concentrate. I have also noticed that when I am reading I read but I forgot to understand it. I would read something a few times and wouldn't be able to comprehend what I just read. As for writing, I have noticed that I am a better writer when I have to do research on my own rather than when the research is given or a limited article is given. I have also noticed that I am not so good at finding the central idea and trying to understand something that doesn't really catch my interests. Like normal books and stories might have a great story and can be educational but I much prefer things like the news and other articles that talk about the conflicts or problems we face as a society. That's why my favorite assignments were Unit 2 and Unit 3, I actually really enjoyed doing these last two assignments. It helped me identify what I enjoy writing.

I would say that I have developed as a reader because as previously I mentioned I struggle to understand while I am reading and I would read the whole article a few times and still won't understand so to prevent that from happening I started to read a line or two and stopped to understand it better instead of reading the other lines without even understanding what I read first. As a writer I have developed a little too. I understand where I am stronger as a writer. I feel like I am better at giving information and writing on an argumentative or a debate essay.

I have learned to read as a writer which helped me pick up a lot of strategies that other authorities use on their own writing and reading is not only picking up good strategies that will help you write better but it also tells you to look for the flaw or a part where the author lacked in something so you can make it better or built in on your own writings. Take their mistakes and turn them into your improving points. I would be able to use these two methods in any assignment that requires reading and writing whether it be English, Science and any other subjects. Another thing I learned was how to talk about things that help the reader of my work visualize what I am talking about.

Unit 1 : "I would wake up at 6 and get ready by 6:30 and wouldn't even have time to eat, mom would have food on her hand and feed me on my way to school. My school would end at 2:30 and right after that I would go to my best friend's house to eat, change and shower and then head out for tutoring at 3:30, come back home at 8, do homework, eat, sleep and repeat." I chose this quote because this quote will help the reader of my work understand a day of my life and get to visualize and put themselves in the situation.

Unit 2: “Trump has been extremely racist and made disturbing comments such as calling the virus “Kung Flu” and many more. The public will undoubtedly believe that doing such heinous acts is more acceptable if the president continues to act in that manner and normalizes it.” I chose this quotation to explain how Trump was adding to this problem and how he also influenced it, making it harder for Asian Americans to be safe. He had such an influence on the people as he was a president which caused these things to go further.

Unit 3: “In my PSA, I began by providing background information about covid, including when and where it first appeared. I then discussed the misconceptions surrounding it, where they originated, and how to dispel them before moving on to provide strategies for reducing hate toward it. My choice of PSA is fitting for my audience Because my audience is diverse in terms of ethnicity, age, and demographics It's people who don't know enough or people who are willing to learn and willing to know how to help. Being out in public, on the train, in the streets, and elsewhere encourages reading among all demographic groups, regardless of age, race, or group membership.” I chose this quotation because this shows clearly what my PSA is going to be like and what information it's going to contain and also why I think a PSA is the best for my targeted audience.

## **UNIT 1**

### **Sudden Changes**

My life in the USA was not how i expected it to be nor how they promised me it would be like. I came from a pretty poor and small country in Asia called Bangladesh. Bangladesh is the type of country where they put much importance on social status and social class. People who don't have

much money suffer and people who have money live a lavish life and get advantages and get away with the wrongs they do. This also applies in our education system.

I went to an English medium school which means that they teach us English and we read and write in English instead of our mother language. Even though we weren't really rich I still went to an English medium school and I was so happy to be in one but what I didn't know was that it was gonna be 10 times more pressure than a normal Bangla medium school. All schools in Bangladesh are very competitive and we have a thing called roll call. Our roll call is based on the grade we get. If I get the highest score out of all my classmates, I will be roll number 1 and the person who got the second highest grade will be roll number 2, so on and so forth. Imagine the pressure each of us have to get a good grade and not get a bad grade because not only people will know we did bad, they will be roll calling you by your bad grade and it will be a reminder on how bad of a student you are on a daily basis. It's humiliating and embarrassing.

I was a pretty good student starting off and I would always be in the top 3, I would win the races I ran, I would win all the other extracurricular activities I would join. It is so nice to claim all these things but remembering what it took me to achieve these things aren't so nice. My schedule in Bangladesh was so packed that I can't think of a time where I could just breathe. It was exhausting and doing all of that at such a young age was more exhausting. I would wake up at 6 and get ready by 6:30 and wouldn't even have time to eat, mom would have food on her hand and feed me on my way to school. My school would end at 2:30 and right after that I would go to my best friend's house to eat, change and shower and then head out for tutoring at 3:30, come back home at 8, do homework, eat, sleep and repeat. Being on a schedule like this was tiring and doing that for years as a child was more exhausting than I thought and it was extremely unhealthy. Everything about Bangladeshi education is very unhealthy. We are meant to act and

process like robots. After all of this you might be wondering, at least we learn a lot of things going in our school... NO, we don't because in Bangladesh they give us the questions and the answers and we are only meant to memorize things. Growing up just processing like a robot and just memorizing things without even understanding it truly.

It was a shock to me when I arrived here at the age of 12 because the educational systems in both nations are so dissimilar. It was difficult for me to adjust to this educational system because I had grown up learning only in one style. Which was to merely memorize information, and coming here I truly had to comprehend things and educate myself without the assistance of a tutor. And taking a test was the worst for me since, at home, we knew all the things they would ask, but here, I had no idea what they would ask, which made me anxious and made me feel

really uneasy. Even though I didn't have the same struggle as my other friends who also newly came to the country who couldn't speak good English, I still have my own struggles. I went from being an excellent student to having 70s or less, which was difficult and demotivating for me. I always had good grades and did well in everything. It was just who I was at that point, someone who was damn near good at everything so all of a sudden I just got slapped in the face, it brought down my whole world. I can't think of a worse time than this. At that point I just wanted to go back to my country because not only would I go back to being a good student, I would also have my friends by my side, I wouldn't have to live in this house. I would go back to living in my huge house instead of this stupid apartment. I never thought I would miss home this bad.

Everyone wanted to come to the USA and I just wanted to leave as soon as I came in. It was horrible and it still is. If I could stay there I would. It's been 6 years and I still feel like I don't fit here. And I don't think I ever will. Consequently, after going through all of that and having everything taken from me, I eventually gave up because I had no idea what to do or how to fix

it.. My parents were quite disappointed in me, and as a result, I was doing worse in school. At that time, I no longer felt like the person my parents had always imagined me to be, capable of great things. I lost a sense of who I was. I came to the realization that I wasn't really doing anything because I wanted to; I was really doing it for my parents. I realized how much I screwed up, but looking back I can't really blame myself at all. It wasn't easy, and I was very confused, but after high school I vowed that in college I will try my best and I am pushing myself to do better, and even though it's only been about a month, I already noticed I was doing much better than before. I need to keep reminding myself that while my grades are not the best, they are better than they were previously and that I shouldn't let a few bad grades demotivate me. Sometimes I have to keep pushing myself even on the days when I don't feel like it.

## UNIT 2

### **U2 Reflective Annotated Bibliography**

The practice of racism has a long history, starting with the slavery and even earlier. The history of racism keeps on repeating itself, it's like we are running in a circle as similar events keep on happening . However, there have been instances that escalate the conversation about racism and they try to provide justification for being racist .Racism against Muslims has increased as a result of the incident of 911 which led to physical and verbal abuse towards muslims, even the law and government added to this problem as the USA PATRIOT Act was enacted in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001 and this law was targeting muslim community and there have been more incidents very similar to this. A sudden rise of hate towards asian Americans in 2019 appeared as soon as Covid-19 arrived and started spreading. Which led me to wonder if Covid 19

contributed to the rise in anti-Asian American sentiment. As covid hit, people started to find the origin or where it came from and found it came from china and people started to blame people from china as if they created it and started to spread towards them. In my research I want to know how to address this problem and ensure the safety of Asian Americans.

**Citation #1:**

CBS News, “Asian Americans face rise in racist incidents” Oct 9, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkgefC99l-M&list=WL&index=2>

**Summary:**

Following Covid 19, animosity toward Asians increased, and Asian Americans have suffered discrimination. Such as high unemployment, boycott of business and many more problems have increased within their community. In addition, they have endured a shocking volume of racial assaults almost every day. From February to July, there were 2834 cases of hate crimes against Asian Americans that were reported. This news discusses how covid has altered the lives of Asian Americans as they deal with prejudice and are attacked unexpectedly and unprovoked. This revelation also demonstrates how the previous president, who was the president of the time when covid started and all this hate against asian american was taking place, added to and perhaps normalized the gate toward the hate of Asian Americans.

**Reflection :**

This news discusses how covid has altered the lives of everyday Asian Americans as they deal with prejudice on a daily basis and are attacked unexpectedly and unprovoked. It shows that a person was just walking and got punched suddenly and getting asked things like “what are you

doing in this country” as if they aren’t an US citizen. The subject "does covid bring a blazing hate against asian Americans” is the one I have focused my essay on, and this news has shown numerous areas that tell us that they have this hate towards asians because they "started" covid.

The news also discussed about how our former president trump had added to the discrimination and claimed that covid came from china. I agree with this statement because of his considerable influence over the populace, our president should be cautious and responsible while using the term "chinese virus," which is ridiculous and openly disrespectful. He is supposed to be safeguarding his citizens as president, but it appears that he performs the opposite. As an Asian American asks him in an interview “ why is this a global competition to you if everyday Americans are still losing their lives and we are still seeing more cases everyday” he simply answers by saying that we are losing lives everywhere and that “ Maybe that's a question you should ask china. Don't ask me, ask China that question”. Trump has been extremely racist and made disturbing comments such as calling the virus “Kung Flu” and many more. The public will undoubtedly believe that doing such heinous acts is more acceptable if the president continues to act in that manner and normalize it.

**Quotation:** In the news it showed a women coming up to an asian american stating “We don't what you thats why we elected president trump”

**Citation #2:**



hPBS NewsHour, "Asian American community battles surge in hate crimes stirred from COVID-19" March 16, 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJCactTaEfY&list=WL&index=3&t=115s>

Summary:

Chinatown has been a lively place to shop or be in, full of fruit markets, pastries and other stores. After the rise of covid 19 that place soon turned into a silent place and a place of violence as people started to attack asian american there. As this incident took place the people around started to patrol the area wearing an orange vest to make others feel safer and try to prevent all the hate crimes against them. And this movement helped a lot of people feel safer than usual. But in other places asian american had to suffer and even were scared to walk their dogs or even go to shop for food, as a woman was walking a person came and shoved her started to brutally beat her and the police that she reported to saw that race was the main factor and it was a hate crime.

**Reflection:**

As all this hate is taking place I think trying to patrol the area is a very helpful and great way to make others feel less tense and more safe. As the elders stated in the video stated that they feel much more safer with then patrolling there and just being there and that it makes iit easier than to be out. As a woman was attacked there, one of the patrollers was there and was about to help and ran to her as soon as he saw that attack was taking place and it caused the attack to get more serious and prevent it from forming into a more violent attack and they were able to report it. This was one of the acts that helped people feel a little safer in Chinatown but once again the

people who didn't have this kind of support went through the physical and verbal abuse. Not only abuse there had been cases where asian americans were killed.

**Quotation:**

“Asian Americans have been long been left out of the conversation around racism in america”

**Citation #3:**

Angela R. Gover, Shannon B. Harper & Lynn Langton, “Anti-Asian Hate Crime During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Exploring the Reproduction of Inequality” 7 July 2020

**Summary:**

This article talks about the outraging hate towards asians after covid 19 hits as people started believing that people of Asian descent are solely responsible for causing and spreading and creating COVID-19. And it also speaks about how this isn't a new thing and that Asians had faced hatred way before this too, way before covid even existed, like the incident of pearl harbor. And just as before nothing had been done about it repeating the same cycle. They had been facing hate way before this. It has mentioned federal responses to this situation and state responses were disappointing and which was very discouraging. As the government they should be protecting the US citizens but it seemed like they didn't really care and kind of shoved it to the side.

**Reflection:**

I agree with this article as it speaks about how this isn't the first time asian americans had faced hatred and had to deal with it. It has happened over the years and the history seems to repeat

itself, as there is no progress in this, just like before they are getting hate and getting physically and verbally abused which causes them difficulties to do daily activities. There's always been an anothering act towards them, going and talking about it to the federal government and the states did not help because they weren't helping at all. Trump has been adding to the problem instead of helping. So going there hasn't gotten them anywhere with ending or addressing this huge problem.

**Quotation:**

In this article it talks about how they have been facing hate before. “Chinese were the only people to be legally excluded from this country because people were so fearful of the jobs they were taking. That was seemingly a place that we would never go to anymore, that level of vitriol. We’ve seen it, though, in waves since then: World War II, we had an Asian enemy; Korean War, we had an Asian enemy; Vietnam War, we had an Asian enemy. And then we had Asian enemies that were economic in nature.” ~ Janet Yang

**Conclusion:**

In my research I found out that Covid did raise hate towards Asian Americans because as people try to find the origin of covid they found out that it came from China and was spread because of all the transportation between the countries. In my research i was disappointed to find that there haven't been taken any serious action towards this obstacle even though there have been physical attacks and even some murders. Not only that they didn't take any serious action towards it but the president also added to the problem instead of helping the situation. I was happy to find out

that people were patrolling in Chinatown to make people feel safer and just look out for one another.

### UNIT 3

<https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/pemnereng1101fa2022d308/files/2022/12/Chinese-Virus.pdf>

<https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/pemnereng1101fa2022d308/files/2022/12/Nowshin-Islam-Islam.pdf>