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Final Reflection

Throughout this semester I have acquired knowledge which was previously unknown. English was always my worst subject, and I wanted to improve on it for a while. This semester I was able to take English 1101 which has taught me how to read and write in a completely different way. As a reader, when reading any texts, I learned that each word has a significant meaning and there's a reasoning behind why the author chose a certain word over another. Instead of choosing words like "sad", authors may choose to put different words like, "sorrowful." Another thing that I have learned in this semester was to question everything. The reasoning behind why the author decided to include phrases and quotations. As a writer, one thing I learned from this semester was to know who your audience is and how that effects your writing. This lesson was one of the best lessons to learn from this semester as it helped me envision the purpose and know who the readers are. This also ties into the fact of word choice. The author chose specific words because they want to target a specific group of individuals, making it easier for them to read. Before this semester, I never cared about why the author decided to include certain words, phrases and quotations. But by taking this course, it taught me to question everything and the decisions that the authors made.

In my previous English classes, I never understood why drafts are so important. All I cared about was my final writing and that's all I ever looked at. This English class however, taught me that drafts are crucial and it can help you become a better writer and a reader. Drafts

are meant to be imperfect, they are there to gather your thoughts and information into a piece of writing. The first draft of writing is really just the beginning and there are many adjustments that can be made before writing your final paper. In my future writing assignments and tasks, I want to be able to write a draft that is meant to be imperfect in which I can adjust. With every draft that I make is a step closer to becoming a better writer and a reader. This lesson will carry me through my future journey and can be used outside of writing assignments and tasks.

In the beginning of the semester I wrote about my journey through the education system. In my Unit 1 writing assignment it states, “How should an eight year old react to this news?”. The reason why I chose this particular quote was because I wanted the readers to envision themselves in my shoes and understand the emotions that I was going through. Another reason why I wanted to include this was because I have never included a question in my writing before and I wanted to try how that would impact the readers. From this I can learn whether or not I should add questions to my writing.

In my second major writing assignment, I had to pick a social injustice issue. The topic I focused on was cyberbullying and in my Unit 2 writing assignment I wrote was , “ How will you deal with alternate accounts and people who want to ruin other people's lives? Are you going to have some detection in which you can figure out an alternate account, and how will you punish those trying to create havoc?”. The reason why I highlighted this quote was because it shows that readers can ask questions that are in their minds and wish that the questions were answered.

In my recent major writing assignment, I had to pick a genre in which case I picked a script for ted talk. The piece I find significant is when I stated, “With Ted Talk, I can converse with the audience while providing relevant information based on my topic. The different genres don't target the audience that I am aiming for. For example, podcasts and brochures do not fit the

demographics I am targeting, and the examples I just mentioned are targeted toward other groups.” The reason why I picked this specific quote was because it shows that I am implementing the things I learned in class by targeting a specific audience and the reasoning behind it.

This class has taught me a variety of lessons to improve as a reader and as a writer. Questioning why the author decided to include certain words and quotations. Targeting a specific audience makes it easier for that group to understand better. How drafts are so crucial and why it is important in writing. When the time is right and is necessary, the things from this class will help me as I go on towards my future.