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ENG1121

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### Final Reflection

English is a broad language and has an abundance of history associated with it, many of these aspects in which I learned within ENG 1121 through the various assignments. A major learning curve for me this semester was the ability to articulate my words into a formal writing expression. Another major hurdle was to take this class online instead in person, the simple impact of not being able to bounce ideas with peers and the professor had me researching for hours to understand how I could become the ideal writer and address to various audiences. Throughout these struggles and hurdles I have learned how to critically think, read, proofread and self-reflect.

Many of my feelings as a writer had come and lessons learned through the first assignment of 'Discourse Community Writing' which I had addressed the topic of obesity. This was one of many topics which I had felt really strong about but a challenge I had faced was to showcase that strength into writing. This was a different type of writing style and addressed towards a unique audience whom who I had to show the importance of the fitness community. Although, I felt strong about the topic it was my least favorite assignment because it was difficult for me to articulate my words and to address the audience appropriately. While researching about this particular topic, I had come across a blog by Mark Rippetoe in which he stated "You do not need to do many different exercises to get strong - you need to get strong on a very few important exercises, movements that train the whole body as a system, not as a collection of separate body parts". This source helped me understand the physical movements, and how minimal movement can make a tremendous change

in one's life. I learned about the fitness community and then established its connection with obesity. My goal was to educate people on this community and to point out a few ways how this community has helped reduce obesity. Furthermore, Mark Ripptoe's blog helped me relate to my own writing as I took a step back and started off by writing with small exercises as he recommended for physical activity. These small exercises included brainstorming and notetaking. As a writer these two exercises were efficient to overcome the mixed thoughts.

Moreover, I learned many critical aspects of myself as a reader and the importance of reading and rereading during the second assignment which I chose the topic of minimum wage. When analyzing further about 'minimum wage' it was critical to keep a non-bias view. While reading on the topic my goal was to find both parties views and equally account for them. One source I chose for this paper shaped my view of this literary discipline was "Should the minimum wage be raised?" a video uploaded by Valuetainment. This literary source helped me understand as years surpassed the view on minimum wage changed as well.

While exploring this topic it was critical to focus on obtaining credible and reliable resources to fairly portray views of businesses and the everyday worker. Although the articles had many different views and mixed perspectives, I wanted to express the importance of the rights of the people in an American democracy to relate directly to the declaration of independence. As I went through many articles it was critical to reread as I came across important information the second time. When rereading, I was able to retain information that I had overlooked. I learned a very helpful writing style that later I learned is a very valuable in reading as well which is annotating. Annotating is important because it helped me organize my thoughts on what I was reading and helped me focus on the objective. Additionally, the shorter micro activities helped me gather information beforehand and keep a consistent flow to embrace the topic. I have learned that I really

enjoy reading about situations and experiences that I can personally relate to such as the topic of minimum wage. Having interest on this topic gave me the ability to focus on the impact faced by both the corporations and the workers.

As a scholar one of my favorite assignments of the class was assignment 3 which was “Multimodal Repurposing”. In this assignment we were able to repurpose our topic of minimum wage to either a poem, song, podcast or YouTube video. The major reason I enjoyed this assignment was the creativity, openness and no limitation. This gave me the ability to freely write, read and the thoughts flow freely in my mind to create a unique piece of literature. I had chosen to write song lyrics on minimum wage with a more poetic tone set towards it. One topic of discussion I came across researching was how technology has taken over many of our jobs. I expressed this through “See I am not saying this was all a part of a guarantee but what happen to the home of the free? Well are you truly free if your only luxury is to be entrapped in technology”. This allowed me to express myself short and concisely via this different writing style. Although it was essential to read my annotated bibliography multiple times to see how I can best express the topic of minimum wage through a different writing style. I had picked the song because I wanted to appeal to a larger audience such as the youth. Through this assignment and writing style I was able attend to broader audience and as a writer I felt this was the best way to hold my audience’s attention.

Furthermore, as a writer, reader, scholar reflecting back and comparing I feel I did better on the second assignment because I was able to receive important feedback. One of the many important lessons I will take away from this course is that there is always room for improvement. Although it was a bit difficult this semester to receive feedback on work since we had to adapt to asynchronous learning it was crucial we do so by reaching out to our peers. This is critical because

our own eye may miss something but by receiving feedback it gives us the ability to catch many small to broader mistakes. A different perspective gave me a chance to improve my weakness and take corrective action. With the combination of all the different styles and writing techniques, this class has truly paved the way for many of my other courses this semester and many semesters to come.

Works Cited

Rippetoe, Mark. *Starting Strength*, startingstrength.com/.

“Should the minimum wage be raised? *YouTube*, uploaded by Valuetainment, 18 Aug. 2015,

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mohzpt\\_HhME](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mohzpt_HhME).