

Gundo Sillah

ENG1121: English Composition 2

Date: 5/11/2022

Final Reflection

Word Count: 740

“The writing process is very much like being in a dark tunnel, and you don’t really know what you will end up with until you have created it,” -Emily Haines. This quote describes the way I’ve have written and how I’ve done English assignments for so long. Although I am an avid reader and can generally come up with a good grade to pass the course, the process as to which I write is not an easy one nor is it really a process. I just try to sit with my thoughts and with the guidelines of the assignment then try desperately to get my mind in a head space to write. And after reviewing my work for these past semesters and my habits, it seems like that hasn’t changed. Like previous classes, I haven’t had a set routine of how to write or when to write just usually just ended up facing my laptop on the last day that it is due and just start writing due to the stress and anxiety of missing the deadline. But besides that, I realized that the assignments that were easier to do where the ones I felt a personal connection with and the ones I were interested in. For example, the Unit 1 assignment on discourse communities I did on my job as a Cna, was an interesting topic to research and although it was hard to read about some of the key factors that make this job hard to do, it was encouraging to see the people I work with as a part of a community because I hadn’t thought of that before. And when doing the assignment everything just flowed out of me and it was nice to put my own personal experience and take into an assignment. Through that I learned that if I have a choice to choose the topic I am researching in I should choose one that I am interested in or curious about instead of just one that will get the

job done. Furthermore, if I don't, I should find ways to relate to it like I did with my annotated bibliography I did on teaching in a pandemic. Although I'm not a teacher I did find ways to connect what they were experiencing to what I had experienced and as a student during that time as well.

In terms of what I've learned so far taking this English composition class, I would say I learned to read more carefully and that sometimes your opinion or viewpoint can change after rereading or viewing the passage in another character's point of view. Specially Antigone and the task of comparing the reading with the adaption of it in a play was really fascinating and opened my eyes as to how one action can be viewed different to other people and that it's important to see why their side has come to that conclusion. So, I would say my reading skills have improved more and that I can take a really long reading such as the Frederick Douglas speech, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July", and try to get out of the real message that the author is trying to get across.

Although I didn't really expect to get much out of this class cause I kind of already know myself as a writer, I do feel like my writing skills were challenged a little bit and it made me think to think outside the box in order to do the assignments. I also really liked the example speeches we were given such as the speech "I Am Someone's Daughter Too" by Alessandria Ocasio-Cortez. I connected with it deeply and felt like the message and her response to being disrespected by one of her colleagues was really strong, impactful, and a nice one to base mine off. So, the advice I would give to students that are going to take this course next semester is to be open about the readings and try to find ways to connect with them and to the assignments so you can really create good work and gather the most benefit from this class. And for the future I

would like to establish the habit of writing and to try to write more and making it a habit, so I don't need pressure in order to write.