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Throughout the entire semester, I have learned about my various shortcomings and have improved on my skill as a writer. I learned how expressive I can be when I am not writing as a scholar. There are times when I may need guidelines and when I can best write when I am writing as a scholar and there are times when I can best write and express myself when I let go of writing as a scholar. During the Unit 1 Assignment, I realized I would have to stop writing as a scholar and start writing in a way that was more personal. The audience I was aiming for and the purpose of my assignment needed a sort of tone that created a sort of connection between the audience and me.

I also had to switch back into scholar mode when I was writing my annotated bibliography. In my annotated bibliography, I had to set aside my personal feelings and beliefs and take an objective look into the sources that were available to me and not actively look for sources which would validate any belief I had. I had to tackle all of the sources in a matter of fact tone. The second assignment made me realize just how important code switching is when you are doing various tasks.

I have also learned I have a difficult time articulating myself when it comes to using certain terms or describing something. During all of my assignments, I would constantly find myself trying to find the right words to describe something. I would constantly go on the internet and type down what I was trying to describe, so I could see if there were any words that had the exact meaning I was looking for. This was made most prominent in the Unit 2 Assignment, where I had to summarize various sources in a concise way where it would be easy to understand. I will have to expand my vocabulary in the future so I do not find myself struggling to explain the topic I am writing or discussing about.

I feel as though I have grown as a reader since I am more capable of making connections and seeing thematic and narrative elements. As a writer, I felt I have grown in that I can make better bibliographies. I now have a guideline of questions to ask myself when I am writing a bibliography. I also know how to address the multiple facets of a source. I will ask myself what information should and should not be in a summary of the source, since previously I included a bit too much information in some bibliographies. I have learned how to better cut down on some irrelevant information in whatever I am writing. This was a problem in most of my assignments. While I had learned about myself bloating my paper with information since I was in middle school and I learned less was more, I still had a problem in learning how to address that problem.

I will be taking all of these lessons to heart. I will cut down on any unnecessary information and just include what is mostly important in my papers. I will try and think deeply about my audience and the purpose of my papers to see how I should write. I will look into expanding my vocabulary and that will hopefully enrich my skills as a writer and that will also hopefully help me in cutting down on any unnecessary information. When I am writing my papers, I will ask myself a series of questions about what I am writing in order to be concise. With all of these lessons, I am sure I will become a better writer.