Masha Sukkur, English 1121 402

Professor Schmerler

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 **UNIT II--Mid-Semester—GENRE**

**PLUTO: March 30th,2020, 4:30PM**

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**Section 1: EXTENDED DIARY EXCERPT**

2020 DIARY OF A PANDEMIC, NEW YORK CITY

MASHA SUKKUR, ENGLISH 1121 402

MARCH 25-29, 2020

MARCH 25, 2020- FOSTER AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY

2:52PM

Dear Diary,

I am writing this during the afternoon. I did not eat lunch yet since my mom is not done cooking so while I’m waiting for my mom to finish cooking, I thought about writing this diary entry. I took a Snapple from my refrigerator and started drinking and went on YouTube to play *Beethoven 9th Symphony - Movement IV - "Ode to* Joy*”*. (I will attach the link of what I’m listening to after writing this) Nothing special happened recently, every day I hear more people deceased due to this virus. I feel very depressed for those people that lost a family member.

Lately, I’ve been feeling a little frustrated with how my online classes are going. I feel like professors are assigning more assignments now than they did in a face to face class. I’m trying my best to not be affected by it and calmly finish up all of my assignments on time. Online classes have been a positive and a negative experience for me. It was positive because for some of my classes, I learned more about a topic than I did in school. However, it was also negative because of the amount of assignments that are piling up and a few of my professors are not familiar with online classing so it’s hard for them to teach and for me to understand what they are teaching.

It’s almost 3:45PM and I’m almost done writing the diary entry for the day. I guess one interesting thing I did today was watching food competition videos on YouTube. It was very funny and entertaining, so I enjoyed watching that a lot and another thing I did today that I regret so much is posting an embarrassing old picture on Instagram. It was a challenge so I had to do it and the rules are if any of your followers post an embarrassing picture of themselves on Instagram with a caption “until tomorrow” and if you liked it, that person challenges you to post an embarrassing picture of yourself. It can be an old or a new picture.

Here’s the link of what I was listening to while writing this:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdWyYn0E4Ys](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdWyYn0E4Ys)

MARCH 29, 2020- FOSTER AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY

4:33PM

Dear Diary,

I am writing this during the afternoon and I’m about to go eat something since I’m starving. After eating, I continued writing my diary entry. For the past few days, I was not able to record what I was doing throughout the day because I had extremely bad stomach cramps. This has nothing to do with the virus, it was my monthly menstrual cycle.

I didn’t really do much, other than be on my phone, on social media’s and talk to my boyfriend. Me and my boyfriend got bored, so we installed UNO on our phone and started playing. We kept losing all of our money but then gained back all of the money. It was like playing poker.

I haven’t worked on any assignments yet. The situation that everyone is facing right now, I really don’t feel like focusing on school. I don’t have enough energy to finish up my work like every minute, I get distracted and use my phone and then after 30 minutes I start working on my assignments again. I just can’t focus on anything I do. Even when I was writing this diary entry, I kept getting distracted. Other than that, nothing interesting happened recently. The only thing I’m really concerned about is the deceased rate going up and no recovery rate from those who got infected so I’m hoping soon we get to see some improvements because I’m really losing my mind staying home every day. This all I have to say for today.

**Section 2: REFLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF DIARY READING**

If I had read “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” when I was in middle school, I would have enjoyed my English class so much. The pictures and Illustrations of what Greg Heffley drew in his diary to give the readers a sense of what he was writing about seemed interesting to me. Before he starts writing he wrote, “TO MOM, DAD, RE, SCOTT, AND PATRICK” and this shows that he was writing this diary as a letter for those people as he describes that it was his mom’s idea not his. He seemed carefree about what he was writing which is like a new thing I’m visualizing about how my writing would sound if I didn’t put too much thoughts into it.

I like how Greg uses a humorous tone in his writing, it doesn’t make me feel bored while reading his personal diary. His writing style inspires me to make my diaries less emotional and more entertaining for the readers to enjoy it. His diary seems to be his experience during middle school, and he talks about his experiences with girls which was kind of funny and sounded like those experiences you witness in movies. Greg talks about how his brother tricked him to go to school at 3 am in the morning for his first day back to school after summer vacation. I can relate to that because in the past, my siblings pulled a lot of pranks on me and in the end, I was the one that got in trouble.

I really enjoyed reading “Diary of a wimpy kid”. It was really entertaining, and it reminded about some childhood memories. I wished I started writing diaries in an early age so I can express how I really felt during middle school days. This reading really inspired me to put some humor into my writings to make it appealing for the reader.

**Section 3: REFLECTION ON UNIT II AND GRADE**

This unit went by pretty fast. I think one thing I struggled with was keeping up with writing diary entries. I suddenly started feeling sick and because of that, I wasn’t able to write as any diary entries that I wanted to. Honestly, I enjoyed writing these little diary entries and talk about how I was feeling during this quarantine. It felt like somebody out there was reading how I was feeling or what I was feeling or doing without judging me or criticizing me. I was content with all the comments I received for the work I submitted for this unit; those comments showed how much I improved since UNIT 1. I learned during this unit that I enjoy writing and I love expressing my thoughts and feelings about everything that’s going on in those writing, and writing improved my grammar and vocabulary. I think I need to improve on my writing more, so it sounds more professional and I believe I need to make drafts on my work before handing in as a Final Portfolio. I enjoyed reading other people’s work, I learned that everyone has their own writing style. Some of them express their writing in a very detailed and thoughtful manner while some people just simply state what they do for the whole day. For grading, I think I should get a B for how much work I submitted but overall I think I should get a grade of A with the amount of efforts I put in each diary entries that I was able to write and the reflection I wrote for the diary reading.