David Jefferson

Amanda Skrobacki

UNIV 150

19 November 2018

 Towards the end of the semester I have gained so much knowledge on how to improve in my essays. What has caught my attention, is the importance of reflecting on what was done this semester to see if I have made any gains. Some of the things that has made me see those gains are my learning objectives, writing issues, and future skills.

 One of the 6 learning objectives we have learned in class, that made my papers improve the most is unit 2. Which is the learning objective that covers adjusting in my writings to overall improve it. Which makes me Understand and use a writing process to my needs to accomplish given writing tasks and adjust when it is necessary. Also, to allow me to plan, draft, revise, and edit a written product demonstrating control of the written language and mechanical structures expected for my first-year in the collegiate setting. First example is the use of note taking and how important it is. By not doing this I wouldn’t have been able to improve in my writings, because there wouldn’t be anything to go back to for help when I don’t understand what I’ve done wrong. What is displayed in unit 2 that helped me the most, is the use of writing review sessions. A couple weeks into college I didn’t know that you could get help on your essays, because the resources that are given on campus, wasn’t in high school. So, by me doing this I can get a second opinion on what needs to be correct not only from my classmates but from another professor.

 Secondly, I am not the best writer and I still make mistakes in my essays. For example, sometimes I tend to shift in time and misuse case/capitalization when writing my essays because I be so focused on getting the exact amount of words my professor wants, instead of having quality over quantity. Also, the use of fragments in my papers is what kills me the most, because when writing my essays, I tend to forget about all the dependent clauses that are not supposed to be used when punctuating a complete sentence. But for all of those reasons above I know I can improve them by attending those writing review sessions, so the professors can point out my mistakes before I submit my essay. Also, the use of my editing skills checklist can help me greatly because if I see repeating mistakes in my essays, I know to focus on trying to correct those same mistakes.

 Lastly, all of these skills that I have accomplished will not be going to waste, because I will have to use these many times in my years in college. In the future my skills will be used in my next English classes and my other classes that involves a paper that needs to be written. For example, in my theatre class I was assigned a 5-page paper to do after I had seen a theatre production. I knew I had to take steps that I learned which is to plan, draft, revise and edit my essay by going to my resources on campus, which resulted to me getting an A on that 5-page essay. Which I know if I want to keep getting good grades on my essays, I need to use the information I am given to do well and attend those writing review sessions.

 In conclusion, what makes improvements in my essays are learning objectives, writing issues, and future skills. What still catches my eye overtime is the importance of reflecting my progress throughout the semester to see if any gains have been made. Which I will know that towards the end of the semester the knowledge I have been given has made a tremendous improvement in my essays.