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English 110C

Reflection Essay

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### Reflection Essay

Throughout the course of this semester, we have completed many papers. A couple of them I struggled on and a couple of them I was able to just breeze by and write them without any issue. Though this semester and year as a whole was a lot different than anything I have ever experienced, I believe that I made the most of it and have improved on many of my writing skills tremendously.

The first paper we wrote this semester was the IMRAD paper. An IMRAD paper is a specific kind of paper that has a particularly different kind of layout. An IMRAD paper has numbered sections and each section represents a different part of the paper. These sections are labeled as introduction, methods, results, and discussion. For my IMRAD paper I chose to write it on what emotions get evoked when college-aged African American women hear the word “nigga”. Doing this assignment was a little difficult for me because I am more used to opinion-based papers, so this was a little different for me. I was doing a lot of back and forth writing some of the paragraphs because I kept constantly stating my opinion. Even though this paper was a little difficult for me, the purpose of it was incredibly thought-provoking and interesting to both research and write. I believe my research and the way I gathered all of my information was beneficial, and I did it in an effective and easy to read way. Overall, I thought this paper was difficult for a first paper but interesting and eye opening to research.

The next paper we wrote this semester was the Rhetorical Analysis Paper. The purpose of the Rhetorical Analysis Paper was to analyze certain words that authors use to try and persuade and evoke certain emotions into a certain group of people. I wrote my Rhetorical Analysis on Russ Sloan who is a pro-Trump republican who tried to convince eligible voters to vote for Donald Trump in the 2020 election. To be totally transparent, this was my least favorite paper that we had to write throughout the semester. I struggled not to use “I” or “me” when conducting my analysis as well. When reading normally, I never really pay attention to word choices but when reading the article many phrases and intense words popped out at me. I also recognize that in this specific paper, my MLA formatting wasn’t the best because I didn’t cite all of my information.

Next is the Infographic Explanation. The Infographic was by far my favorite assignment this semester. Being able to get creative is something that I haven’t been able to do in a while in school, so this assignment was a real treat for me. Being able to tell my story through something like this was not only therapeutic but relieving as well. There are a few things I believe I did well on while creating my Infographic and writing my explanation essay. The first thing I think I did well is the design of my infographic. I spent a lot of time creating it so that it looked professional and informative. Another thing I think I did well in is explaining why I used certain colors, fonts, and pictures in my infographic. I need to improve on proofreading my work as well as explaining why I used some of the word choices that I did use in my infographic. Getting to play around with Piktochart was also really fun and interesting to me because of my background in design.

Last is the Midterm: Problem-Solution essay. This essay is what I based my infographic on. This paper was probably the easiest paper for me to write simply because it felt like I was just reciting a story of what I have been through. My problem was my health and being

overweight and my solution was surgery. Not only was this one of my easier papers, but I also feel like it is one of my better written papers because it is about something so important to me. I do feel like I can improve on when to separate some of my paragraphs especially when talking about all the diets that I have tried. Other than that, I feel like I did relatively well on this paper.

Over the semester we've done a bunch of writing and I feel like my first assignment compared to my last is a great improvement. I feel like this class has improved my writing and research skills tremendously and I am excited how my skills will show through in future next level English classes.