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Abby Love

Writing 1010

Salt Lake Community College

Dear Abby and audience of my work,

Throughout our course, we've delved deep into the Threshold Concepts that underpin effective writing. From understanding writing as a resource to grappling with the complexities of context and rhetoric, each concept has illuminated a different facet of the writing process.

Of these concepts, I found myself particularly drawn to the idea that writing is a form of action. In my essay about meeting Kristin Chenoweth at RootsTech, I experienced firsthand the transformative power of writing to create a distinctive world with descriptive writing. By sharing my personal experience, I was able to provoke personal thoughts and have a deep reflection to properly communicate my experience. That's a powerful tool!

However, I'm still working to fully grasp the concept of context. While I understand the importance of considering the situational factors that shape writing, I know there's still much to learn about how to navigate these complexities effectively. Working on specifics of what to include, and what might be best to exclude is something I'm working on honing in. I'll often find myself wanting to overshare, but oversharing in some of these writings can become confusing for the reader.

As I look to the future and journey to take the Writing 2010 class in the fall, I'll carry with me the idea that writing is not just a tool for self-expression—it's a catalyst for action, a

medium for change, and a bridge between individuals and communities. Looking at it through this perspective helps me write with a sense of purpose and strengthen my writing voice.

Research Reflection

Topic: Do our ancestors' mistakes and/or triumphs define who we are today?

Choosing a topic was like embarking on a grand adventure—I felt a mix of excitement and trepidation as I navigated the vast sea of ideas in my head. I went around the house exploring books I have and realized that because I'm so focused on family history right now, it'd be best to build off that. In my essay on ancestral influence, I journeyed through the complexities of my own family history, exploring the legacy of figures like Commodore William Bainbridge and Marriner Wood Merrill. It wasn't an easy choice and I spent a late night and early morning researching stories and family figures, but I'm thrilled with the path I chose—it allowed me to delve into rich historical narratives and engage with thought-provoking perspectives.

Research:

In terms of research, I found myself immersed in a sea of sources, each one offering a unique perspective on my topic. From scholarly articles from BYU, or a Mayflower history page, to personal anecdotes from my grandpa, I encountered a treasure trove of insights that enriched my understanding of ancestral influence. But with great sources comes great responsibility—I had to navigate the murky waters of credibility and bias, ensuring that I was building my argument on solid ground.

If I could turn back time and start this process anew, I'd approach it with giving myself more time. Since this essay was given close to the end of the semester, I didn't have a lot of time to really explore the topic more. I'd give myself the time and space to explore different avenues, allowing my ideas to percolate and evolve organically. And I'd be more proactive in seeking

feedback along the way to sharpen my arguments and refine my writing. I was solo-cruising for this essay!

One significant concept I've learned in this unit is the importance of engaging with diverse perspectives to construct well-informed arguments. This concept has been particularly meaningful to me as it underscores the responsibility of writers to approach research with rigor and integrity, seeking out voices that challenge our assumptions and broaden our horizons. I enjoyed building different arguments off of real life examples.

Significance:

This project has connected to concepts I'm learning in other academic courses, particularly in critical thinking and argumentation. And on a personal level, it's allowed me to explore themes that resonate deeply with my own heritage and identity. Engaging in this project has changed the way I view myself as a writer. It reminded me that writing is not just a solitary pursuit—it's a conversation, a collaboration, a journey of discovery. And it's through this journey that we grow, evolve, and ultimately, leave our mark on the world, as seen with so many authors throughout history.

Overall, I want to express my gratitude for your (Abby) guidance and support throughout this course. Your insights and feedback have been insightful and has given me the feedback to grow as a writer.

Thanks again for everything,

M. Logan Christiansen