

Alanzo Grandison

Maureen Farrell Garcia

ENG101: College Writing II

May 4, 2020

“A Work In Progress”

As I reflect on my writing over the semester, I realize some of my strengths and some of my weaknesses.

One thing I did well, was organize my thoughts on any given topic. I was able to establish a clear claim and provide evidence to support it. For example, I was able to establish a clear claim on 12 angry men, representation in literature, and the American school system. For each of these topics I was able to provide multiple reasons and evidence to support my stance. In the essay regarding 12 angry men, I supported my claim of injustice by highlighting the various stereotypes that the jurors believed. While simultaneously, sharing my experience with the literature I received while highlighting the impact it had on me. Finally, I was able to analyze the pros and cons of the American school system.

While organizing my thoughts on any given topic was one of my strengths, I can recognize that my ability to include the proper writing citations and format was something that I could have worked on. I tried my best to adhere to the MLA format but I recognized that I longed to become familiar with it. Each time, I wrote an essay. I found myself comparing my work to many exemplars hoping that my writing met the criteria. In the near future, I hope that the mechanics of MLA or any format is something that comes as second nature. Going forward, I would complete in depth research to make sure I was confident in my citations.

Another strength of mine, was my ability to free write and then integrate sources. Luckily, I was interested in the topics given for each assignment that was required for this course. So, I found joy finding sources to back up the opinions and stances I already had. However, as I researched each topic, I began to find different perspectives, reasons, and evidence that supported my stance. These assignments gave me the option to increase the knowledge I already had. If I can change anything, I would challenge myself to choose stances I did not agree with to have a more well-rounded perspective.

Another area that I noticed I had room for growth in was my ability to integrate feedback and include the things I learned from my classmates. Each assignment, I treated as something I had to get done. However, I did not take the chance to transfer the skills I learned from my classmates and class discussions to improve my writing. If I could go back, I would keep as many classmates in mind as I write my assignments. This would give me the ability to make my writing more thorough and well rounded.

All in all, though this course increased my ability to write on any given topic. I still recognize that I still have room for growth.