

Name:

Instructor:

Course:

Date:

Reflection Essay

The English 102 class, which entails critical reading, research, and writing, is a subject that focuses on research-based argumentation. In this class, students learn the effective research strategies, how to structure an argument and other skills that can be used in forming and analysing arguments. I have been able to improve my writing skills by accomplishing the outcomes of the subject. I can develop a clear research question that can guide a sustained research project. Moreover, I have been able to acquire critical thinking and argumentative techniques through learning and understanding the components of an argument, and how to distinguish between credible and non-credible sources so that I can incorporate appropriate sources into an assignment (Reich 31-48).



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The final assignment in this class helped me develop research and formatting skills that I had been learning in class. I learned how to develop a research project through thinking

critically about the information and arguments that I found for my research paper and use them to support my claim. By composing an explanatory paper on my research topic, I was able to get a starting point for my research, and I was able to establish questions that guided the research project. I chose a controversial topic for my research paper since it helped me find enough information to support my argument. Most of the data for my research was extracted from the articles in the newspapers, magazines, and journals (Reich 31-48). These articles enabled me to choose particular topics that I incorporated in the research paper. In the articles, I was able to find some government studies and other researches that had been published in the journals by experts, which enabled my research to be credible (Kumar 82). Employing sources containing liberal and conservative perspectives gave me an opportunity to back up my argument. The research paper also helped me to learn how to cite my paper correctly in order to credit the specific sources for the information that contributed to my research.

Moreover, I was able to showcase my ability to analyze rhetoric knowledge, which I acquired from the English 102 lessons. In my rhetorical analysis of the article about Hollywood's war on gender, I was able to showcase my ability to examine the effectiveness of an argument, and I learned how to construct my thoughts more convincingly. Moreover, I highly considered the components of the case laid in my research, evaluating their efficacy and coherence. This enabled me to avoid some defective reasoning and recognize them in the sources that I used so that I could use them in refutation. I also challenged some arguments from the articles which had no explicit support (Kumar 97). Through analyzing the materials, I was also able to resolve issues with my point of view.

Although I accomplished most of the course requirements, realizing some of them was challenging, and it took me more time to capture the concepts. In most cases, I struggled meeting the minimum length requirement for the assignments that the teacher gave us in

class. However, I have managed to solve this problem by learning how to incorporate more rhetorical contexts and inevitably develop my points. Through learning how to elaborate my arguments wholly and correctly (Kumar 119), I have managed to complete my assignments fully and to support my points entirely. Moreover, I did not know how to distinguish between credible sources and those that are not credible. During this class, I learned that unreliable sources do not contain accurate and up-to-date information, and it is necessary for one to use credible and reliable sources only (Reich 31-48). One is required to use information from materials that have been published within the last ten years and those research articles that have been posted by well-known authors. Websites that have been registered by the educational institutions and the governments are also considered to be credible and reliable sources that can be used in a research paper (Reich 31-48). Through further research, I learned that credible sources were easily accessed from the academic databases such as JSTOR and google scholar (Reich 31-48). With such academic databases, I was able to access different articles and books that I used in my assignments for the English 102 class. However, blogs, Facebook posts, and the self-authored websites are not considered credible sources (Reich 31-48). The teacher also discouraged students from using sources such as Wikipedia and materials that were published over 15 years ago, because the information contained in those sources might be outdated (Reich 31-48).

This subject has provided me with an invaluable experience that will help me in writing proper essays and defending my arguments while acknowledging the ideas from the credible and reliable authors. Understanding and being able to use rhetoric is essential since I can use the acquired skills for academic purposes and everyday life, and through achieving the objectives of the English 102 class, I can compose convincing arguments for different audiences. The coursework shows the development of my ability to develop excellent

research questions, analyze, and support my claims with detailed research from credible and reliable sources and employ rhetorical knowledge.

Works Cited

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