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My Experience Throughout The First Semester Of College

Throughout this class I came in with one goal: I wanted to improve my writing skills and expand my writing. I wanted to improve my vocabulary and add different elements to my writing. And I managed to improve on my writing throughout the semester, I picked up new things along the way. One thing I learned was how to use different transitions to make my writing flow, I also learned how to use proper APA citations in my writing. I didn't know that there were different citation styles. I thought it was only one way to cite by using MLA but I understand now that there are multiple different citation styles you could use in your writing. Another important thing was how my peers helped me to expand my writing since my peers gave me a new perspective of how I should write my paper. Peer review was the most important thing we did, I say this because when I received feedback from my peers they were well-thought-out feedback that helped me finalize my research paper.

We also recognized and practiced different rhetorical terms when we engaged in each other writing, throughout the semester we all developed and engaged in a certain type of social aspect in our writing process by doing peer review with our group members, when we were in breakout rooms we helped each other tremendously by doing this we also created friendships along the way. My perception of writing overall evolved due to the fact I learned different rhetorical terms and vocabulary throughout my narrative essay. But overall the research people helped me the most because it helped me to be more social which is a big aspect of this class

because throughout 11th and 12th grade I couldn't really hangout with my friends and I didn't get to talk to them due to the pandemic and this class helped me to find new friends and it helped me to break my fears of talking to new people. This helped me to develop the social and collaborative aspect of my writing. We also used different sources for our research paper. These sources helped us get a better understanding of our topic. When I went through these sources I learned how to organize my work, it also helped me to divide up my evidence and my key points. I was able to synthesize all my points by using sources in order to make my point across to the reader.

Another important thing I learned was how to set up my portfolios. It helped me to learn how to organize my work online and it gave me a better understanding of web-based documents. The most valuable thing that helped me to understand the digital portfolios was the portfolio session. It gave me a better understanding of how to add all my work into the portfolio. We also used different platforms like docs, Cuny Academic commons, and slides. At first everything was difficult to understand. But we as a class helped each other with these platforms. We all managed to successfully use all the platforms that were required by us. One platform that was more important than all the other platforms was the Library database platform. We had to use this platform to help us to search for all the information we needed for our subtopic. Being able to learn how to use the library database helped us find all of the sources, not only that it will help us in our future classes also.

Furthermore, our perception throughout this semester changed due to the fact that we never used the APA format before in high school. Everyone in my group agreed that they never wrote a scientific research paper using APA format but even though me and my group members never used APA we managed to understand and learn from each other. Another thing that me and

my group members agreed on was how we all improved on our vocabulary throughout the semester by reading through different articles that were needed for our subtopics. Some strategies we learned as a group were how to cite evidence and include it into our bibliography. Throughout this process of helping each other we identified different components that we used in our writing, one being literary devices and other being themes.

Thus the whole experience of this FIQWS class was refreshing. I learned the importance of peer review and vocabulary, I also learned how to do a completely new format which was APA format. I'm really happy that I attended this class. This class helped me as a College student to evolve in my writing and evolve my vocabulary. At first I thought this class wasn't necessary but at the end of class I realized that this class is an important class because it will really help me to understand new aspects of writing and it will help me to become a better overall writer.