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M. Burgoyne

English 1010-007

Reflection

English 1010

What I Learned This Semester

Being out of school for about two years really made me think that I wouldn’t have much luck when it came to college. I felt that everything I learned in high school was gone and I needed to start all over. Coming to English 1010 was totally not what I expected. It was definitely more challenging than high school courses but with the tools that we had were an enormous help.

First, for me the class book that we used was a big essential tool. The book “They Say, I Say” by Gerald Graff, Cathy Birkenstein, and Russel Durst was not only interesting, it gave lots of useful information that helped me in the development of my major writing assignments. I loved the fact that the book gave lots of tips and had tons of examples. The worksheets that were given to us were also helpful because instead of just reading the chapters it helped in remembering what we read by then taking the time to write it down.

Another wonderful thing I found tremendously use full were the hand outs and checklist that were provided to us. They not only made us double think if we were on the right track to writing our papers right. They also helped out in reminding us that we needed certain key points in the papers we wrote. One of the handouts that helped me out a lot was the “Framing your Rhetorical Analysis”. This hand out basically covered the questions in the “They Say, I Say” book. They consisted giving the author stand on the issue we were writing as well as how they felt about it and what they believed should be done in order to get the issue resolved.

In addition, another great thing that I liked and helped me personally was the feedback we got from Mrs. Burgoyne. I like that fact that she took her time to write comments on the paper as well as correct us on the mistakes made. She was very straight forward on what we need to work on and on what we did wrong. The paragraph that she left at the end or back of the paper was very helpful as well, she let us know her opinions and thoughts but was never rude or put you down.

Furthermore, another outstanding thing that I learned from this class was how to properly write an annotated bibliography. The last time I wrote one was in high school but the work put into this one does not compare. I do admit it was a little tedious because it was time consuming but the result was worth it. That time you take to do the research was exciting because I was learning many new things that I did not know. I feel like this was an imperative part because without it our final paper might have been lacking n information.

All in all I feel like I finished this class with tons of information that will be useful to me in my future classes. I learned how to frame my papers, especially on my rhetorical analysis, which was also something new to learn. I learned that Pathos, Logos, Ethos, and Kairos are used in papers to appeal to ones writing. Not only do we use these to get credibility but also to appeal to our readers whether emotionally or logically. I strongly believe that I leave this class with lots of knowledge that will be beneficial to me in the long run.