1.Who is Carol Berkenkotter? Who is Donald M. Murray? Use your Google skills and find out a bit more about both of the authors. Then, write a 2-3 sentence biography of each of them based on your findings.

Dr. Carol Berkenkotter was a Professor of English at the University of Minnesota. Her study was primarily focused on genre theory and had expertise in narrative theory and discourse analysis. Dr. Brekenkotter also received the National Endowment for the Humanities for research. Donald Murray was a Professor of English at the University of New Hampshire. Professor Murray also was a journalist receiving one of the highest award’s in the Pulitzer-prize. He has authored many books that continue to influence the field of wring and the teaching aspect specially such as “Learning by Teaching”.

2.What did you find most interesting about this article?

I found that the most interesting part was when I found that the majority of time spent in the process of writing according to the text was over 30%. Berkenkotter states “showed that up to 45%, 56%, and 35% of the were concerned with planning” (161). This both surprise and fascinates me as I had always thought that the planning was more starting from 30% as I allocated in my writing more time for evaluation, revision, and editing compared to planning. However, I think that from looking at how publication entails various steps each daunting in their own unique ways planning that process would help ease the process. As the details on both the smaller scale to the bigger picture can often affect how a piece of writing can be perceived from others as focusing heavily on one aspect leaves a reader confused or doubting where the text was going in regards towards the message.

3.In what ways is your process similar to Murray’s?

In what ways does it differ? The process towards are similar in how I am introspective and how I tend towards revising my writing when planning the details out the difference would be planning. Berkenkotter states “Mr. Murray is an extensive planner does nature or scope of his revisions… I discovered most part double-coding for revising and planning…were virtually inseparable”(162). This would detail that Murray’s process leaned towards the bulk of the work being completed through the process of constantly word smithing sentences towards a polished state I tend towards the same regarding planning out the process, but I spend less time on the planning aspect and just more on revising until I have a concise thought. The similarities would be the introspection within the piece of the text and how I am affected through the thinking about the topics being written about.

4.Thinking about your writing process for academic papers in specific, what do you feel is working well for you? What aspects of your process are holding you back?

The aspects that I feel are working well are combining the different avenues of connecting with each other forming a foundation for the structure of the paper. Additionally, the more technical aspects of the paper such as MLA citations are what I find to be working when I am planning and revising. The lack of in depth editing and absence of late-stage planning has been holding back the me back in the writing process and to fix would be adding space before righting for those crucial steps.

5.Murray talks about the environment in which he writes being part of what helps him be successful. Tell me a bit about your ideal writing situation (time of day, tools, physical space, noise, lighting, etc.). If you don’t feel like you have an “ideal” writing situation yet, brainstorm small things you could change to make how/where you currently write more inviting. Also, share any “habits” that are crucial to your process. For example, you always need a big cup of ice water, or can only write after a workout, etc.

The ideal environment to encapsulate the words from the mind comes from a dark, quiet, and spacious setting. This would include having the blinds closed and sitting either in a desk or comfy chair this can also be on a bed if chair is not an option. The rest are having a bottle of water and a snack in case I need to some energy before and during writing. Those are the steps for the optimal writing situation that I need to write without disturbance.

6.What’s something you’ve learned from reading this article that you think you could put to use to improve your current approach to writing?

The thing I would incorporate after reading this article would be having an incubation and planning period sufficiently spaced out for better ideas. This along with better construction of a more whole experience as far as having periods of planning and revision for each section that would contain main points and ideas for the reader to build on with as the paper progresses. This would improve the pacing with additional support being provided towards areas of interests that would be less detailed due to lack of sufficient planning.

7.Muddiest point: Overall, what is the least clear to you from this reading?

The aspect that would least clear was when the exact steps for the strategies were not really mentioned in a manner for the reader to easily digest Berkenkotter instead embeds the various steps in different sections. However, this can be remedied by giving a list so the reader can build a memory of what the strategies are, what they mean, and how they function. This would not only clear up the any confusion in the process this would also provide the reader with a way of reader back into the sections for guidance in case when writing the reader forgets or wants to improve a given area of the strategies.