

First Person Reflections Assignment

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WRIT 1000

1. The use of “I” can be a tool to actually achieve more by displaying an awareness of the inherent subjectivity of academic work to the reader. The increasingly common use of the discursive “I” can be an effective way for the author to situate themselves in their work and connect to their reader. However, as Roe and den Ouden point out, it seems much more fitting in the areas of humanities and, to a lesser degree, social sciences. It may be awkward for a physicist who claims to care solely about discovering the true, unifying nature of reality to self-disclose in the midst of his academic work unless he has an extremely good reason to do so.
2. Roe and den Ouden explain that removing the use of “I” does not guarantee subjectivity because subjectivity is intrinsic to the work any author creates. The author cannot escape the fact that it is them interpreting the data, which data to emphasize more than other data, regardless of how little “I” is used. No academic writing can escape it. In their words, “When we try to tell about the world, we are also revealing something about ourselves.”