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TV09  
GED0001 Five-Paragraph Reflection

The course “Specialized English Program” (GED00001) is focused on developing our reading and comprehension skills through strategies and activities. It covers the reading process from pre-reading to post-reading, and covers thinking and analysis of texts. The course also aimed to help us become effective and thoughtful readers, It enhances skills that are essential in academic and real-world contexts.

This semester, I was able to attend Mrs. Hannah Grace Parambita-Cruz's class wherein concepts and strategies that had a lot to do with reading and interpreting were learned. Starting from the process of how to read to the approach in digital portfolios, these comprise the topics discussed in class. Each lesson was planned in such a manner as to deepen our knowledge of how to read with strategies, thereby enhancing our skills in analyzing scientific and technical texts. These lessons made me see reading in more than just passive terms-it's a process that requires preparation, active engagement, and reflection. Our discussions and activities primarily focused on pre-reading, reading, and post-reading strategies.

Pre-reading strategies helped me predict the content of texts and develop contexts. My reading skills were enhanced through activities that engaged critical thinking. Post reading taught me summarizing, paraphrasing, and synthesizing information in skills necessary for both academic and professional life. Writing reader responses also proved enjoyable because I could reflect on personal interpretations of the texts. These activities really made me appreciate the value of reading in making it possible to understand even the most hard and deep parts of materials.

One of the memorable activities that we did was the graded oral speaking activity as part of the iCare activity. We recited lines from Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, and each student had to turn on their camera while delivering their assigned stanza. This experience was unique because my classmates allowed their cameras to turn on while reciting. I loved watching everyone express the speech differently. I also received positive comments from my professor and that really motivated me. This activity was both inspiring and enjoyable because it included the power of words and expression. Although I took the class online, I feel that Mrs. Parambita-Cruz gave her best to make it interactive and engaging. She is kind, approachable, and always encourages her students to recite and give their best. But, it was quite sad that iCare activities that are supposedly onsite, became online too. Sometimes, because of limited time and schedules, it is often pushed back. Although this is a sad experience, I could still try to understand that such things might not be easy to schedule onsite.

Despite these limitations, the online setup still allowed us to connect and learn. Furthermore, my experience in this subject has been enjoyable and enriching. The lessons I learned, particularly about critical reading and digital reading portfolios, will prove useful not only in academics but also in my future endeavors. The engaging activities with Mrs. Parambita-Cruz's supportive teaching style made the class memorable. This course taught me to approach reading systematically and inspired me to become a more reflective and thoughtful reader. It is an experience that will always be cherished.