

Challenge 1: Reflective Writing (Blog)

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Challenge 1: Reflective Writing (Blog) Drafted Artifact Description: This artifact is a blog post created in.1 The post, titled "", discusses and includes embedded links to relevant external resources, fulfilling the challenge criteria for a well-written post with clickable hyperlinks.1 Drafted Reflection Content: The skill of reflective writing using a blog platform was acquired through a review of the tool's interface and the "How to Use Blogger" tutorials.1 The process involved setting up the blog, formatting the initial post, and correctly embedding external hyperlinks, as required by the challenge. This technical acquisition, however, is merely the foundation. The true competency is in understanding the application of this tool within a professional context. In instructional design practice, the blog platform is a versatile tool for professional communication and instructional delivery. Its first application is as a tool for "reflective practice," a foundational element of professional growth. As an ID professional, maintaining a blog can serve as a "dev blog" for complex projects, allowing the instructional designer to document design decisions, trace the evolution of a project, and share challenges and solutions with a professional learning network (PLN). Second, this tool directly applies to the LDT competency "Deliver presentations that effectively engage audiences and communicate clear messages".1 A blog post is, in effect, a static, written presentation. Within an instructional module (e.g., in Brightspace), a blog can be used as an instructional tool to introduce new topics, pose reflective questions, or provide supplementary materials that "effectively engage audiences" in an asynchronous format. This demonstrates the ability to "write and edit messages that are clear, concise, and grammatically correct" 1 in a public-facing, instructional context. Finally, a blog is a powerful tool for stakeholder management. During the development of a large-scale project, a private blog can be used to keep stakeholders informed of progress, showcase prototype screenshots, and explain the rationale behind design choices. This creates a transparent record of the project's lifecycle and serves as a method for "soliciting, accepting, and providing constructive feedback" 1 from the project team and SMEs in a single, centralized location.