**Reflection Report: First Year IT Studies**  
  
**Introduction**  
I have had a journey through my first year of studying IT that has been replete with learning experiences, challenges and personal growth. This reflective report is a vivid account of what I did, decisions I made and their impact to my academic life as well as an evaluation of my progress, achievements, and future plans.  
  
**Consequences Of My Actions**  
My laziness in the first semester had a significant impact on my performance. I failed web development course meaning that I lost 6 out of the required 60 credits. The setback taught me the importance of hard work to attain success.  
  
**Warnings Issued And Received**  
During the year, there were few warnings which came my way. In period one while working on the website project I was late most times attracting one such warning for lateness. In period four, we were given a strike by our group because I missed a meeting; as a result of this action we received a warning from our teacher throughout our entire group.  
  
I also issued warnings. In the fourth period, I gave strikes to Ali for not showing up and failing to contribute to the project. Despite my efforts, including direct feedback, his attitude remained unchanged.  
  
**Feedback and its Implications**  
Feedback was important in forming my behavior and understanding of teamwork. In the first term, I was told that my tardiness belittled my team sense of respect and worth. This kind of feedback inspired me to become better; never late again. On the flipside, Ali didn’t respond positively to such feedback from me that contained warnings as it never made him change anything in his behavior.  
  
**Study Plan and Progress**  
Regarding my study plan, I know I did the right thing. My current status is reasonable, and I hope to get 54 out of 60 credits. Even though it’s a bit disappointing that I couldn’t accomplish all the 60 credits, I am proud of myself for doing well overall. This has taught me about how hard work always pays off.  
  
What makes me particularly proud of myself is when I got hold of a robot line follower which happened to be faster than any other IT student’s at university in their first year.  
  
**Personal Development Plan (PDP) and Goals**  
Going through my PDP, I feel that I have made considerable strides towards my objectives. The basics of AI have been learned by me as well as integrated AI into my website. As far as leadership skills are concerned, I have improved according to the feedback from my team members and performed well as a leader. Only some weeks were successful for me with regard to the gym; I could go four times one week and only once another time. Therefore, throughout this summer, I plan to keep on working towards meeting this objective in order to attain better results.  
  
**STARRT Method: Description of One Goal**  
One of the goals that I had set was enhancing on my leadership skills.  
  
*Situation:* At the beginning of the year, there were difficulties in coordinating team appropriately and communicating effectively.  
  
*Task:* My task was successfully leading a group project while ensuring everyone participated fully.  
  
*Action:* Consequently, I organized regular meetings for my subordinates and myself as well where we shared our ideas freely without any kind of fear or favor thus it enabled our team to identify new opportunities from these exchanges.  
  
*Result:* This has also helped improve my management skills thus enabling me receive positive feedbacks from members of my group in turn improving their overall performances.  
  
*Reflection:* I learned from this experience that clear communication is key when you want your employees to be proactive leaders.  
  
*Transfer:* These abilities will be highly useful when it comes to maintaining effective teams during future projects so that they help us achieve our objectives.  
  
**Future Plans and Professional Orientation**  
I have made up my mind to further my education in this institution. I like the learning style and supportive environment.  
To prepare for my future career, I have begun on a path to develop myself professionally. As a result, I had several visits in companies and attended a company day at Emmen where I interfaced with different employers who exposed me to their requirements. From now on, I am focused on self-improvement that is necessary to comply with these professional standards.  
  
**Conclusion**  
My first year at IT studies has been the time of great learning and personal development. In spite of some failures, I have accomplished much and feel confident about what I have chosen to study. That is why I will keep studying further, widening my outlook towards ICT as well as improving my skills in this field for better career orientation in IT industry.