William Boytinck, ENGL 103 LEC B09

What kinds of writing do you do on a regular basis? (For example, you may regularly write course papers, lab reports, correspondence, e-mail, grant proposals, journal articles, fiction, poetry, etc.)

I don't generally write anything on a regular basis that could be considered true english, except for what is required from english classes specifically. I am however, constantly writing computer code which in a sense is pseudo-english.

In your opinion, what is a good piece of writing? Why? What are the characteristics that make it "good writing?

Any piece of writing has to be interesting or informative, if it's not, I get bored and lose interest in whatever the author is trying to argue. Good writing will always contain an argument that is either backed up with distinct evidence from literature or on a scientific basis.

What is your favorite kind of writing? Why?

Personally I have always been interested in the fantasy genre due to the fact that it provides limitless possibilities into potential worldly physics and settings

Describe yourself as a writer using five adjectives.

Strange, witty, anxious, creative and decent.

What is your biggest challenge as a writer? What kinds of critiques have you received from teachers, colleagues, friends, and other readers?

I often get carried away with side tangents that have little meaning in respect to my overall paper. To counter this, I have to reread every sentence in detail to make sure the context is appropriate.

What is your greatest strength as a writer? What do other people normally praise about your writing style?

What's gotten me good grades in the past is my ability to formulate arguments - which probably comes from my brain attempting to turn literature into science.

If you could change one thing about your writing or your writing process, what would it be?

I hate the fact that i'm never writing for myself, I feel like the process of writing for other people is draining and annoying. If I could write a paper that makes more sense in a casual setting I would enjoy it a lot more, however, that's not the case with university.

Have you changed as a writer over the last five years? If so, how? Why?

The switch from highschool to university allows for more time and thought to be put into my work. Just being allowed to think more and for longer changes the entire structure of my papers.

Describe yourself sitting down to write an important piece of writing. Where are you? What are you writing with? (A computer? Pen and paper?) Is there music or other distraction in the background? How do you feel? (Anxious? Excited? Relaxed? Nauseated?) What are you thinking about? (Your audience? Your ideas? Your grade?)

I'm almost always in my bedroom writing on my computer, writing with music and other distractions around. It sounds weird to put on paper, but having distractions when i'm writing is beneficial in a sense, because my ideas never truly leave my active thought process. If I have time to write and there's no rush, I don't really feel anything - just the wanting to finish. In the end my only concern is handing in a good piece of work.

What is your favorite genre to read? How often do you read? Name the last text you read for leisure.

I like fantasy, but only really read when I have time. The last text I read was the entire Lord of The Rings trilogy.

Do you have trouble remembering what you read? Describe your reading process.

Depends on how long ago I read it and how interesting it was. If it was recent and interesting I can remember anything pretty well, but if it was distant and non interesting it will disappear from my memory. I tend to read everything all at once and reread the most interesting or confusing sections for clarification.