



MPU: Service-Learning Assignment Cover Sheet

Name : HENG HIAN WEE

Student ID : 11873

Cohort : 1401D

E-mail Address : deezoomloiedude612@icloud.com

Title of Assignment: Journal 1 : My Visit to EL Shaddai Learning Centre At long last!

Date of Service : March 1st, 2014

Date Submitted : March 4th, 2014

Names of Group Members (only for group projects):

- Teo Lee Hong
- Cheung Hsien Hwa
- Chau Ting Fung

This is my original work and no part of it has previously been submitted by others or for other purposes. I declare that any contributions made by others have been acknowledged and properly referenced. I have read the MCKL Student Handbook on 5.11 Academic Integrity and understand the consequences for engaging in plagiarism and collusion.

Signature

Date 4/3/2014

I've waited and procrastinated long for this moment. Our assignment to do community service at our partner organizations was given since late January. Way to go, it's going to be a big time rush in order to finish this one up. Lesson relearnt (yes, relearnt.), plan before hand in order to avoid such rushing complications. Earlier when I was talking to the headmistress of the El-Shaddai Refugee Learning ^{good point} centre, when she mentioned that the office had no specific address, boy was she right! Of all places I could think of, none of them actually pictured a wooden house in my mind, especially after I realised it was near to my church in Klang. But that's not the point we were getting into.

I arrived at the site by 1pm and my fellow teammates arrived at the same time at the commuter train station. We were supposed to meet up at two, but I intentionally asked them to come at 1pm so that we could avoid unintentional time loss. I walked to the commuter train station after leaving my bags back at the entrance of the office to get the other three teammates who were waiting for me. I showed them around the area and how to get to the office by foot. From this I was able to learn more shortcuts than those I've learnt all these years there. We started work at 2 o'clock as planned and we met one of the people in charge at that time. There was gardening work and library work. The garden in the office compound was not really green as what people would expect. However I really liked the fact that the refugee children were trained to start gardening with little guidance as I was told by the person-in-charge and after seeing the little seedlings sprouting at the backyard of the office. The library, on the other hand needed some help to register all the new books donated to the learning centre in the library database, which was hard work. While my teammates started working at the garden, I was doing the library work. From here I've learnt how librarians cope with the stress in the library as well as how important education is to the refugee children. We stopped work at 5pm and decided to resume tomorrow at 11am.

Reflect critically on what you did and/or observed and write about possible improvements and success. What are some goals? What questions do you have?

S.
5/3/14



MPU: Service-Learning Assignment Cover Sheet

Name : HENG HIAN WEE

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Title of Assignment: Journal 2: Second day at El-Shaddai Learning Centre ** Give a personal title!*

Date of Service : 2nd March 2014

Date Submitted : 4th March 2014

Names of Group Members (only for group projects):

- Teo Lee Hong
- Cheong Hsien Hwa
- Chan Ting Fung

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Signature

Date 4/3/2014

We resumed work at 11am as intended. We resumed the same jobs as previously done yesterday. I felt this distress as since I had sensitive skin and wasn't really able to do work at the garden at the moment; however I was holding this feeling inside of me and not revealing it to my exhausted teammates and I had this feeling to work at the garden immediately regardless my state.

After 3 hours of work in the library, I decided to pay the garden another visit. Sure, it was still the same as when I last saw it yesterday, just that it seemed a little healthier.

When I resumed work again, I was trying to brainstorm ideas to help the garden get better while tapping in the ISBNs of the books into the database *registry*. My teammates seemed restless after doing what they were able to do at the garden at the moment. They started to eat their lunch at the library after all the hard work they had put in towards the garden. However I felt that if this were to continue for the rest of our time there it would defeat the purpose of us coming so early to work. So, I decided to ask them to help rearrange the books I have taken from the shelves to be registered in the database. By then, I had already registered about 60 to 70 books in the database. With all the help from my teammates and their voluntary efforts to stamp the books as told by the person-in-charge, work was less hectic at the library.

From here I was able to communicate with them better when trying to assign small tasks to make this work easily. *Did you learn anything from the repetitive task that you had? Think out of the box and keep your eyes open to what else the center may need.*

We intended to work until 6pm today but I wasn't sure whether they were in a rush or couldn't stay idle for too long as they told me to call it a day by 4pm. I agreed to this and stopped 'work' at 4pm. The arrangement for the next few sessions would be different from now on. We decided to do a divide-and-conquer task by splitting ourselves into groups and coming at different times to the office to work. They planned to resume work on Friday after college sessions while I, being restricted to end my college session at 2pm, intend to resume work on Saturday as usual.

*Do some research on refugees and learn about their plight. Take the initiative to also learn more about the people you're serving.
page #?*

Make sure there's continuity in what your group does / will be doing.

*Jr
5/3/14*



MPU: Service-Learning Assignment Cover Sheet

Name : HENG HIAN WEE
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Title of Assignment: Journal 3: A Day of Work and Guilt
Date of Service : 16th March 2014
Date Submitted : 18th March 2014

Names of Group Members (only for group projects):

- TED LEE HONG
- CHAU TING PUNG
- CHEUNG HSIEN HWA

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Signature

Date 18/3/2014

This was supposed to take place like some time ago last week, however it just didn't. Oh well. After that, just when you think that the worst is behind you, something proves you wrong. Before we started off the session, the person in-charge called me up and informed me that since the weather condition was not suitable for work she wanted me to call off the session. Sure enough, the haze was around, not to mention the drizzle during that time. I agreed and told my teammates regarding this immediately. However, they had already arrived after a reasonably long journey by the KTM, and two of them just felt that it was a waste if they had to come here just so to be sent back without doing any work, so they insisted on starting work on that day itself. I was facing quite a dilemma, as I had to choose whether to insist on the person in-charge's decision or to heed with their wishes. Fortunately I did not need to be in that situation for that long as I noticed the skies clearing and the air condition seems to be conducive for our work. After that I received a call from the person in-charge, saying that we can start work again. * What can you draw from this experience?

I arrived at the spot at 11.30 am while two of my teammates came at 12.00 noon. I expected the other teammate to arrive as well since I told him to come back again after being told that we can start work again. However, he couldn't make it in time after I alerted him and he was asked by his mother to return home. This made me rather worried; this was because he still had an outstanding 12 hours due of service at the El-Shaddai Refugee Learning Centre, and given the time frame only allowing us one more whole weekend to wrap our working sessions up. I was just speechless, not knowing what decisions to make to help him. I felt that it was my fault for calling off the session initially, even though it was the unpredictable weather condition that caused us to have some form of miscommunication among us. I could just do nothing

but take into account that I have risked someone of really, really valuable time. Big time. * what did you learn? Spell it out.

Putting that aside, the last time I was told that the office had hired a new librarian to handle all the work in the library. Therefore, we only had the garden to work on as of now. The garden seemed to be in relatively good condition since the last time I visited. We were given quite a lot of tasks such as harvesting the spinach in the garden and much more. From this I was able to experience real gardening work. True, it was tiring, but exhilarating at the same time.

What was it like?
What skills did you pick up?

While we were all working together to harvest and help plant some more plants in the garden, I saw a few children staring at us from a balcony of a nearby church (St. Barnabas Church). I took the guess that they were a few of the refugee children the learning centre have. I waved at them and they waved at me again. I felt that we were actually doing them a favour to maintain the garden in good condition. I remembered once when I was introduced to a few of them by one of the people helping out in the centre, being one of my teachers back in secondary school. I can't really recall their names by memory but as I worked at the garden and saw the area reserved only for them to work on their own plantation, I slowly recognised them all again just for that moment.

The three of us worked until 4:30pm before calling it a day. As of that day, those two who were with me still had an outstanding 4 hours left to work while I myself had about 8 hours. The other teammate would have the same outstanding hours left as I had if the whole miscommunication incident did not take place at all. The guilt followed me back until today, and for now, I really am not so sure as of what to do.

Nevertheless, I myself am made alert not to be easily deceived by the weather conditions around us. I only hope that in time to come I may find a way to redeem myself regarding this matter and do my best to help this other teammate to finish the job, even if it means that I have to work more than 20 hours at the learning centre. *Good show of a responsible attitude.* Besides, we have to have a contrite heart when it comes to helping; otherwise it just does not serve the purpose of us having to work at all. That's what I keep reminding myself to have myself motivated to finish off whatever that needs to be done.

i) Remember to display learning.

Dont passively talk about your day/experience; suss out key points of learning.

ii) Be concise! Leave out unnecessary information.

Refer to Wordpress for guidelines and expectations.
Limit journals to a max. length of 2 pages.

✓
2013/14



MPU: Service-Learning Assignment Cover Sheet

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Title of Assignment: Journal 4: Observation, Observation, and Observation.

Date of Service : 23rd March 2014

Date Submitted : 25th March 2014

Names of Group Members (only for group projects):

- CHEONG HSIEN HWA
- CHAU TING FENG
- TED LEE HONG

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Signature

Date 25/3/2014

I am grateful to have you to get up more leaves you have arranged to me. I did not like the smell so the smell was gone the work was made easier however this method seemed to slow slowing down as we sorted more than half the garbage bag full of leaves. Instantly I thought of an idea myself, and that was to

At least today I was able to get that fellow missing teammate back to work after his long, unintentional absence. On a side note, we are finally working as a full team again! (Yay!)

Things were going well at the garden, after being assigned work as usual by the person in-charge. The garden was growing even better as we continued working on to clear the pathways at the vegetable plantations and trim the bushes. Initially, during the process of clearing the path, all I did was trying my best to pull or cut off the weeds or plants that were in the way. However, one of my teammates, Hsien Hwa was quick to improving this method with a more efficient one, and this one involves teamwork between the two of us. He suggested that we use ploughs to dig out the plants from the roots, which was proven to be easier as we were able to finish this task in a reasonably fast duration. I was actually glad that he was in high spirits to continue working again. Through this I was able to become more alert to find more bright ideas and look for better ways to overcome problems, which has been proven millions of times by a lot of people through how they succeeded in life. (Somehow, I just can't really remember who they are at the moment..)

After that, we were supposed to occupy that path with dried leaves. While I attempted to grab two handfuls of leaves at a time and dropping them at the path, Hsien Hwa did it once again with yet another brilliant idea – what he did was that since there were some dustpan parts in the shed of the learning centre, he took the chance to use the remaining part after having the stick removed by scooping up the leaves from the large garbage bag and dropping them onto the path. It seems to be much more effective again as he was able to gather up more leaves per time compared to me. With this, I took the chance to do the same and again the work was made easier. However, this method seemed to start slowing down as we cleared more than half the garbage bag full of leaves. Instantly I thought of an idea myself, and that was to

empty the garbage bag full of leaves onto the ground; that way, the process of scooping up the leaves would be so much easier. I was right as with this, both of us were able to finish that job at a faster pace.

* Draw principles from your experience.
what can you learn about teamwork,
repetition, perseverance, etc. ?

The weather wasn't really as complicated as before, but it was just really, really hot as the hot sun beamed down quite an unbearable heat. Due to this we had to make quite a few short breaks before being able to work again. I could see that my teammates were getting really exhausted and if this were to persist, not only would their performance in working be slowed down, but this would also make it easier for their health to deteriorate. I felt that even if we had done quite little in everyone else's eyes, we should be rewarded a little once in a while. With this I took the chance to walk to a nearby 99 Speedmart and bought some cold drinks to cool themselves down. It didn't take long before we were able to start working again. Not long later we were able to finish up all the given tasks by the time we were able to stop. Consideration here really worked quite a long way, especially the fact that I was able to help them perform at their best once again.

After this session, I have 3 hours outstanding, while Hsien Hwa, being the one who was affected by the miscommunication the last time has 8 hours remaining. The other two of them had already completed their tasks. I then took this opportunity to discuss with those two whether they were able to accommodate time to work together with Hsien Hwa on a coming Friday in order to complete our project in time. After that, we agreed that one of them would go along with him on a Friday to help complete more hours of work after college while I help him out on this coming Sunday. The guilt still hasn't really left me yet, as I continue to hope that with this we would be able to help Hsien Hwa regain all the time he has left out. It's not long before we have to hand in our 800-word essay. We started work at 11.30 am that day and worked for about 4 hours total.

You implied that you learned; be more clear and concise about what you learned.



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Name : HENG HIAN WEE

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Title of Assignment: Journal 5: It's Never over. Always.

Date of Service : 17th May 2014

Date Submitted : 20th May 2014

Names of Group Members (only for group projects):

- Cheong Hsien Huai
- Chau Ting Feng
- Teo Lee Hong

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Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heng Hian Wee".

Date 25/5/2014

"Took me long enough; and here I am now," I thought as I stepped in to complete the hours I am still supposed to complete. It's been a while and at first I thought I was 'dead meat' as I thought we had to finish all of this by the end of March. However I was really relieved to find out that I can still finish this by the end of May. Nevertheless, it took me a while to be able to finally make it on this very day. I really have to reorganise my time better. Something I have RELEARNT (yes, again. RELEARNT.) this time now needs me to remember this skill the next times I face this same problem.

It's just two of us now, and this was a chance to repay what I've caused – time to help earn his hours back while I earn my remaining hours. We started work immediately when we both arrived, first off – to weed the garden. The garden that was once nearly empty and now healthy indirectly thanks all of us, including the two who weren't there with us for all our hard work. From here I have learnt that even if so little work has been done each day, as time progresses the result is surely rewarding. I've also learnt not to give up as I weeded the garden, since most of the area is filled with plants, making it harder to move about, I persevered under the not-so promising weather that was left for us after it rained earlier that day. We were then supposed to make another lot to plant more plants. However, including the fact that there were only two of us, we were out of time as the day progressed, so immediately at 5:30pm, we stopped work. After that, we left our working ground behind, hoping that the next group of students may come, having the same feelings we had throughout this course and continue the work we left behind.

JR
23/5/14