

Dear Portfolio Reader,

If you have stumbled upon this WRT 102 ePortfolio of mine out of the blue, or are just curious to know my endeavors throughout my Spring 2017 semester, I sincerely welcome you! Throughout the 14 weeks I've spent in this class, I have formulated, drafted, revised, and published two different types of essays each unique within their own category: A textual analysis and a research argument paper. Though I have composed many term papers and essays throughout my 4 years in High School, this course has significantly developed my skills on constructing clearer theses, finding conclusive and reliable sources, and expanding multiple analyses on my core paragraphs, as well as improved my knowledge on approaching different topic propositions and criterias. I hope that by reading and evaluating through these papers, you, the reader, are able to perceive the amount of commitment and devotion I put into making these papers as flawless as I can make them out to be.

The world we live in today is far from the idea of a utopian society, but that doesn't mean we can continuously keep causing havoc to those around us just because our world is imperfect. My textual analysis paper, *Love in Society, Nowhere in Sight: Musical Analysis of a Decade-Old Song*, goes in-depth of the societal issues relevant today that have remained since many decades ago, which were brought to light in The Black Eyed Peas' hit 2003 song, "Where is the Love?". I chose to analyze this song because it has always been a song that has stuck to me since I was a child growing up in the US, and it always astonishes me how issues that were present so many years ago, such as racism, terrorism, and hate, still continue to linger today even though so many things have changed in the last ten years or so. Writing this piece has helped me grow as person because I was able to really see the underlying issues of the world today and what we, as a

society, can do to help rebuild the broken remnants that were caused as a result of these issues. Analytically speaking, writing this piece improved my sense of interpreting lyrics of a song, and refined how I view and grasp the real and underlying messages of poetic lines and songs alike. This definitely helps in the future when I take on tougher writing courses because it will allow me to analyze text in such a way that others may not necessarily be able to see.

Many people are afraid of Donald Trump because of the policies that he will presumably implement during his presidency, but there are a plethora of reasons as to why America should not be afraid of what he brings to the country. In my research argument paper, *Delusional or Reasonable? The Issue of the 45th President's Daunting Aura*, I propose many points as to why Trump may not be as dangerous as the media depicts him to be, and offer some insight on why some of the current fears Americans have against Trump are irrational. I chose to write about this specific topic because ever since his victory in November 2016, many people across the country have been very vocal about how him getting elected will “lead to the end of the world”, along with other exaggerations that non-supporters seem to keep reiterating. Besides gaining more knowledge on politics, writing this type of paper has helped me considerably in devising my own arguments instead of those that scholars have already articulated on their own research for an argumentative paper. Some of the feedbacks I generally received were that I was too fixated on one specific argument and expanding upon that, or that I was too hesitant to counter the points that people had against my stance. Because of these criticisms, expanding on this paper has assisted in making me think outside of the box to come up with points that others may not discover so easily. This is a very valuable asset to have in future writing courses because it will

certainly help me brainstorm new ideas on certain topics that other people may not necessarily come up with immediately.

Ultimately, writing these two papers in this course this semester has not only improved my skills as a writer, but has also expanded my glossary on different writing styles and techniques that I can implement on probable papers in the future. I hope that by reading these two distinct pieces, you, the reader, will have a deeper appreciation of what type of writer I have become and what type of writer I continue to strive to be.

Sincerely,

Daniel