1. **Why did you choose your topic?**

I choose my topic since “The Shawshank Redemption” is one of my favorite movies, and I watched it many times so I can have a detailed review of the movie.

1. **Did your evaluation and thesis seem obvious from the beginning, or did you have to think for a long time before settling on them?**

I would say my evaluation and thesis seems obvious from the start, freedom and redemption is the movie’s core theme.

1. **What made this topic personally appealing?**

For me, I found the “institutionalize” concept rather interesting. When we are young, we are unavoidably accepting the training and forging from the system and authority. Between this continuous training, we can forget what we want in the first place and get lost. The redemption plot in the movie can serve as a good reminder for people of the vital role of hope, perseverance, and self-awareness in overcoming personal challenges and achieving true freedom.

1. **What was easy about composing your essay? What was hard?**

The easy part is about thinking about the plot and characteristics in the movie since I have watched it many times, some details are still pretty clear in my mind.

The hard part I believe is how to effectively review the movie in a way that can reveal the awareness-raise idea of what I try to express here.

1. **What would you do differently if you could start over again?**

Maybe I would do the same.

1. **In what ways did you revise your essay between the first and second drafts? Be specific.**

In the second draft, I finished the characteristic Red part and the plot part which are two following evaluation criteria after the characteristic Andy part. Also, based on the feedback I have from my classmates, I’m aware that the background information is not enough since I should not assume everyone has watched this movie, especially for those who are not quite enthusiastic about the movie. In the second draft, I split the original introductory paragraph into two parts: the new introductory paragraph which contains a hook and my thesis/evaluation about the movie, and a new background information paragraph about the movie itself to help readers better understand the context in my review. What’s more, I also included a conclusion paragraph that follows the structure stated in our class to help me build a more effective ending of my review.