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Writer Reflection 3

Going through this course has helped me realize my weaknesses and overcome them. Before this class, I used to just sit down and begin writing without thinking of any particular organization. This has led to some papers that were incoherent and hard to understand. For all the assignments for this class, however, I always started with some basic outline. This outline helped me in both finishing my papers quicker and expressing my thoughts in an organized format. Outlining has really helped in writing papers. Well, if the outline wasn’t so helpful, the reverse outline always helped in reorganizing my thoughts and ideas. These tools were really helpful throughout all the assignments in this course. Because of these tools, I’ve come to think of myself as a more organized writer. Improving my organization helped in understanding other people’s essays and how they’re organized.

This organization also assisted me in being more straightforward with my ideas and examples making them easier to understand. Working through these assignments, I began thinking of myself as a more confident writer. I know I’ll make mistakes through the first drafts of my assignments. However, I also know now that I can fix these mistakes. Being able to find and fix these mistakes has helped me in becoming a stronger writer. If I couldn’t spot my own mistakes, I took a look at the comments I received on the SafeAssign submissions. These comments have proven to be very helpful to me. They helped me in understanding how others read my paper and if I should elaborate on my points more. Knowing that I can fix these mistakes has helped me in becoming a stronger writer.

If I had to do a final revision, I’d revise the film analysis paper. It was a really tough paper to write at the time and I regret how little time I spent on it. Since I already have my arguments and examples from the movie in the paper, I could work more on elaborating on those arguments and examples. This would help in making my arguments more complete as I would add more explanation to justify them. At many parts in the essay I mentioned camera angles or lighting, but didn’t go any further than that. I needed to explain the significance of these elements of the movie. For example, when I talked about the lighting on Curtis as he kneeled before Edgar’s body, I only mentioned it highlighted him. There was more to that effect than to just show that Curtis was grieving. It was probably one of his most impactful moments after everything he’s been through and that’s why the light outlined him. When I mentioned the specific camera angle of a scene, I didn’t elaborate on the significance of that element of the movie. Elaborating on these points could’ve given me a stronger argument.

There were other times that I mentioned specific ideas on the representation of the main character, but I didn’t elaborate on what these ideas meant. When I began talking about the beanie that Curtis always wore, I could have elaborated more on what it signified and how his appearance is important to him as he maintains his posture as a leader. When I wrote about how Curtis reacted so strongly to his mentor and friend dying, I should have mentioned the grave impact Curtis’ image had on his many other allies. I could branch out from how the camera portrayed him to the audience to how his posture and expressions were portrayed to the rest of his allies. Furthermore, I would mention how his allies in the movie saw him to further prove my point that Curtis was facing an inner struggle that prevented him from becoming the absolute strong leader the rest of the tail section needs. I also needed to change some of the wording of the sentences to make it easier to read. As I reread the paper It became obvious the I overused Curtis’ name throughout the whole paper. I could try to address him in other ways to make the paper more readable.

I’ve learned that often times I don’t elaborate on my ideas, and this leads to confusion. I have learned to be more straightforward when writing or speaking about something instead of providing vague clues for my audience to interpret. This will come in useful as I will write more in ENG 1020 and the computer ethics class I’ll be taking in the near future. I understand now that I have to get straight to the point and present my main idea before presenting my examples with analysis. This chronology of presentation will come in useful for talking in job interviews in the future. Speaking through this order of giving my main idea first and then following with example will assist me in appearing more organized. Another helpful tip was to be more succinct with my explanations. If I go too long with my explanations I end up losing my point somewhere and end up mentioning other irrelevant details. I’ll be using all these techniques to help me in becoming a stronger writer.