Report Progress Journal

* How did you begin your report? What was your starting point? How did this help you begin  
  progress for your report?
  + I was watching MWC (Mobile World Congress) and they released the new BlackBerry phone with its own native BlackBerry secure software for that specific phone. Which made me think for a while that we are in an era where we need security software and/or anti-virus for phones. I wanted to know if it was possible to browse the internet with complete security or have a fully secure machine.
* Reflect on the research process and how you have found this portion of the project to be. Have  
  you enjoyed the researching period? Have you struggled to find sources or did you have a wide  
  array of research available to you? How has the course structure and content supported the  
  research process?
  + Researching portion of this topic has proven to be quite difficult. There are many different types of routers, anti-virus, VPN, TOR, etc., which gives an uncountable variation of settings that can be used for a single machine. This leads to very opinionated/biased reviews or facts. On top of that, I was looking for facts on the latest devices and software which has more opinionated review by many people. At the end, I could find credible sources with cause and effect pattern for facts.
* What new information have you uncovered about your topic that you were surprised to  
  discover? Why was this surprising? Will this be helpful for your discussion and recommendation,  
  or will it change the track and scope of the report?
  + While researching about VPN and TOR, I found that free VPN or TOR are not actually free. They sell user’s information on the machine (example: logs, files, statistics, etc.) to pay for the server. There is no definite way to prove this claim but it is an unspoken truth. This does not change anything in my report. I will most likely not talk about this in my report because there is no definite way to prove this unspoken truth.
* What new questions/thought processes, if any, have you developed on your topic that you plan  
  to evaluate further since you initially began the research?
  + Using a VPN and/or TOR is one of the most secure ways to connect to the internet. However, malware can still enter machine through hardware components such as USB or DVD/CD. So, if malware were to infiltrate a machine directly through hardware components, how can one rectify that problem? That is something I have been researching upon currently.
* If you are working individually, what have you learned about your own work processes? What  
  valuable takeaways will help you grow individually on future assignments?
  + Working in teams/individually has its own pros and cons. Working individually, I like to address the loopholes in any concept/topic and find the respective solutions to it. For the future assignments, I would like to demonstrate live examples (which will not be possible in this topic as malware infection can take hours or seconds).