

Title: Writing Assignment #2
Course: USU-1350
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My wife just reached the 32nd week of her pregnancy just the other day. As fate would have it, we are having two identical twin girls. These are our first children and as such, I don't think the gravity of the situation has quite hit either of us yet. However, given that we are, at most, now just a few weeks away from their birthday, I have been thinking a great deal about theirs and my wife's safety throughout this process. Because she is having twins, both my wife and the babies are at higher risk of complications but I have been relieved somewhat by how attentive her OB, as well as the specialists we have been working with, have been throughout the process. It has gotten me thinking about how science has helped make advancements in the medical field and how the risks today may not be as extreme as in previous times, perhaps even as recently as within the last few decades. I was surprised to discover from the site "What to Expect" that ultrasounds have only been used as a standard in pregnancy observation since the 1950s (<https://www.whattoexpect.com/news/pregnancy/most-important-maternal-health-advances-century/>). Additionally, we were told that women having diabetes during pregnancy is not uncommon and required testing to identify if my wife had become diabetic. There have been recent studies to determine what factors may contribute toward this risk. An example of this is the study titled 'Technology and Pregnancy' available at the national library of medicine that discusses a study that identified that women that were exposed to tobacco usage in the womb are more likely to be diabetic during their own pregnancy (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3920899/>).

This is just the tip of the iceberg when considering the advancements made in pregnancy observation and treatment. It seems that more risks have been identified and are taken into

consideration and it provides me with some relief knowing what is to come in the next few weeks!