

End of Term Assessment

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ENGL 21007: Writing for Engineering

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Despite only having 3 major assignments prior to this Self-Assessment, it is reasonable to say these assignments helped me realize how far I could take my writing if I followed closely to the main objective of each assignment. It is with these assignments that I was able to fully understand the purpose and objectives of this class, which all relate to writing and its many counterparts.

For the Lab Report Analysis, there were some things that I really struggled with. For example, how was I going to structure this analysis so that my audience gets the best of both worlds? And where would I start looking for lab reports to compare them to each other? What made this issue even worse was that the two lab reports that I was comparing needed to be around the same topic as each other. This was a problem at first because I was wasting too much time trying to find documents to write about that I never got to start on completing the assignment. To get over this issue I had to rely on a helpful tool that would take some of the pressure off me, City College One Search. This helped me out by introducing me to different databases that catered to certain topics, such as architecture, computers, health, and many more. In addition to the database, One Search also allows its users to automatically cite a source in either MLA or APA format. Practicing and learning how to use One Search was essential for me because it opens a whole new avenue of information to use in future college projects that I work on. Working on the Lab Report Analysis also helped me to understand how to fully utilize a source after finding out that I want to use it. This comes in the form of things such as paraphrasing, quoting, summarizing, and analyzing. This Lab Report consisted of me quoting our book, *Technical Communication 13th Edition*, where I was able to paraphrase information within it and apply it to both of my lab reports.

When writing, it is very important that you keep the audience in your head. When looking at the Technical Description assignment this rule plays a big role. For the Technical Description assignment, the objective was to pick an existing invention and describe how the product functions and the parts of it. It is here that you must realize that you are no longer writing for yourself and are writing with the hope of informing the person who will be reading your paper. With this in the back of my mind, I began to simplify any information that I read about my product to make sure that my audience could understand what I was talking about without being confused at any point since they don't have the same knowledge as me.

The most valuable assignment to me this school year was the Group Proposal. For this assignment, groups had to create a situation where their product would be needed and explain the product and its functions then give a presentation afterward. This assignment was especially beneficial to me because of the soft skills that I was able to learn from all of it. The first skill I gained from this assignment was learning how to brainstorm as a group which is a very important skill to have in every writing process. When brainstorming with my group I was able to find out that everybody had their own ideas and how they wanted to go about the project. Because of this our group didn't have a hard time coming up with an invention and we were even able to discuss materials that we needed for the project. From this assignment, I was also able to work on my public speaking skills with the presentation.

Entering this course, I only had one goal in mind and that was to finish my prerequisites. I didn't realize that the topics and things we go over in class would apply to other areas of my life, not just school. Each assignment that I have completed in this class, Lab Report Analysis, Technical Description, and Group Proposal, all have played a part in making me become more self-aware of the things that I am writing, the information that I give, etc. Each assignment

played a key role in teaching me different objectives that would improve my writing past what it is. When looking at writing from the surface level we can see that it is essentially just conveying your thoughts onto paper or screen. But when explored even deeper, it is reasonable to refer to writing as Communication. This could be said because of the way that we structure our writing so that it can be better understood by the audience. The way that I looked at writing from the beginning of the semester till the end of the term has completely evolved due to the assignments that we were given and the feedback that I received from it. Despite learning a lot from this course, there are still other topics that I wish I had more time to learn about such as advanced strategies for reading, drafting, revising, editing, self-assessment, organizing, and maintaining a stance throughout the entirety of a paper, but I have no doubt that these skills will be available to me as I progress through my college career.