Final Reflective Letter

Dear Rebecca,

This semester, I have challenged myself to new ways of learning/doing things. I have progressed not only as a writer but also as a student and person. Normally, when I learn something new, I don’t fully take it in or understand it. Now, at the end of the semester, I take with me many important lessons and information.

I found identity the most interesting topic and it guided us throughout the semester with our biggest projects. I never thought deeply on the word let alone ever applied it. I learned a lot about myself by writing my critical narrative. Writing about myself can be awkward but I learned that when I actually take the time to evaluate, remember, and reflect; I could process how I feel and get a better understanding of myself. I find myself constantly thinking about my identity and applying it to others. I have a greater appreciation to who I am. My writing has improved during this past year but especially this semester because I take more time to try and make my writing flow well. Also, I feel the readers can easily understand and enjoy my writing. I will never think of myself as a good writer but slowly I have gained more confidence.

In this class, I have learned to overcome certain obstacles and weaknesses of mine. For example, it is very hard for me to choose a topic or think of something creative to write about, but this semester I had to be able to do that. Therefore, I overcame those obstacles. Also, one of my weaknesses is writing strong introduction paragraphs. We learned four interesting ways to write a strong introduction that can grab the reader’s attention and after practicing and learning, I feel more confident. Time is one of my biggest struggles because I am a very impatient person so a lot of times I rush through things when I have to complete by a certain time. Instead, I should plan it out better so I can write better and have more organized papers. My rough draft for the genre piece was terrible and sloppy. After, peer workshop and feedback from you, I was able to understand what went wrong and how exactly I could fix it and make it so much better. I really don’t believe that I would have been able to improve as a writer without the constant feedback from peers and you.

This semester, I have done things I never knew how to do before or that I wasn’t comfortable doing. For instance, I had never done an annotated bibliography before but it was a new and more interesting way to have all of my sources and summary in one place; neat and organized. The research paper was hard because we had to choose our own topic and I wasn’t used to doing this type of paper. The hardest part was finding sources that related to my topic and figuring out what information was useable. I was not familiar with weebly, prezi, interviews, research, sources, and other tools before and now I am glad I know more about each one because they are very useful tools.

In conclusion, I will never feel that I am an excellent writer but leaving this class I can truly say I am confident with writing. I know how to use different tools and different ways to express myself in writing. More than just progression and improvements in my writing, I also take with me a new thinking process and greater understanding of things like identity.