

Eng 53 Reflection Essay

(400-500 words minimum)

Draft and final version due: Tues., Dec. 1, at the start of class

Turnitin deadline: 7:30 a.m. Tues., Dec. 1

Now that English 53 is nearing the end of the semester, here is your chance to tell me what you think helped you the most as a student in this class. Your assignment is to write an essay that expresses your thoughts on the course. (Yes, you can use first person, and no fun-filled MLA in-text citations and Works Cited pages are required. 😊)

While you do not cite any research for this assignment, here are some questions you should address:

- 1) Did you know ahead of time before you enrolled in Eng 53 that this was an accelerated class (a combination of two classes in one semester, Eng 60 and Eng 50)?
- 2) Do you believe you were placed correctly in this class?
- 3) Was this class too difficult for you? If so, how?
- 4) Would you have preferred to take just one regular class instead of two classes in one semester?
- 5) Do you feel you have the writing skills you need to take and pass Eng 1A?
- 6) Did having assistance outside of class (PLATO, the Writing Center, BC Tutoring, and the library research workshops) make any difference in your writing and research abilities? Please explain.
- 7) Did you find the Cornell system of note-taking helpful? Did you use this for the quizzes throughout the class? If not, what did you use that helped you review information for quizzes?
- 8) What steps in the writing process (research cards, draft, peer review, typed paper, and revision) worked for you and what steps didn't? Please explain why.
- 9) What assignments in Eng 53 did you enjoy and what assignments did you dislike?
- 10) What suggestions would you make to improve the course?

You can write a regular essay or be as creative as you want in this assignment as long as the voice that comes across in the writing is yours. This means you can write a personal essay; a letter of advice to future students; a tabloid news story; an obituary (yours or mine); or even a short story. This assignment can take any essay format you wish as long as it includes at least 400-500 words and answers the questions above with a clearly stated point of view.

This assignment will not be graded on your opinion of the course but on how well you present it. It will be graded on all the concepts that we have discussed in this class, including:

- HIT formula: An interesting hook and introduction that ties in with a clearly stated thesis that is the controlling argument for the essay.
- Development of your argument using logical organization and transitions to connect ideas and examples.
- Critical thinking skills by including a counter-argument to your thesis.
- Clear writing that is free of grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors.
- Correct MLA paper format (header, double-spaced, 12-pt. Times, etc.).
- A rough draft that shows significant revisions.
- A typed, revised version. This version also should be submitted to Turnitin on time.

You might find it helpful to review your Writer's Notebook before completing this to recall what challenged you in this course.