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Self-Assessment Essay

Writing for Engineering

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### **Self-Assessment Essay**

In English 21007 class, I achieved the learning outcomes as shown in my work throughout the semester. I was required to write multiple engineering related documents like resume, cover letter, proposal, lab reports etc. These enhanced my reading and writing skills. First, I was so bored about the class but once I started to do the classes, I started to love them. And gradually it was developing my skills as a writer. In this digital portfolio, I will show my journey as a writer from the first day of my class to now.

In resume, process description and lab reports, I got peer reviews and learned how others use my same writing in different styles. In the proposal and presentation, we worked in group and shared our thoughts to one another which developed my rhetorical sensibility. Throughout the semester, we had a lot of quizzes. We all were given the same questions but at the end of the exams we got various answers. From others' writing style and way of thinking, I developed my writing style. Thus, I used our linguistic differences as resources to develop my rhetorical sensibility.

For every assignment, I made at first a shitty first draft. Then, I modified it myself and got peer reviews. Finally, with all the advises, I made my final draft which is totally different from the first draft. This is how my strategies for reading, writing, editing, drafting, revising and self-assessment is enhanced.

During the semester, my rhetorical situations for the assignments were different. I worked with different genre of writing like resume, lab report, proposal etc. When I wrote a resume, my audience was the hiring manager of a company. On the other hand, when I wrote a lab report, my audience were scientists, students, teachers and all other person who is interested in science. Again, when we wrote our proposal, the audience were the entrepreneurs, government officers etc. The purposes and stances of these writings were different too. Thus, I changed my rhetorical situation according to the need of my writing and audience's expectation.

In this course, I worked in group during the proposal and presentation. For almost every assignment, I had peer review classes where I got valuable advice from my peers about my writing. This is how I was engaged in collaborative writing process. Moreover, the audience for each assignment was different that represents the social aspect of writing process.

I practiced different genre of writing process through the semester. Each genre has its own writing technique. The way I wrote my resume, the words I used there are totally different from those of my lab report and proposal. Thus, I learned to use different writing technique according to the need of situation.

I took different stance in each writing assignments and in class writing. Sometimes the tone was very formal, sometimes it was a bit casual, sometimes it was neutral, sometimes it was self-supportive. For example, in resume I tried to prove myself best for the proposed job. I used the words in a way that support myself. On the other hand, when I wrote the process description, I tried to use my words such a way that made my description very clear to my audience. Again, when I wrote my part on the proposal, I took a side to support our group proposal. Hence, I learned to change my tone of writing process.

Throughout the semester, I had several library sessions where I learned how to use the CCNY library resources and online database. The ccny online database contains tons of articles, books, journals, lab reports and writing on various topic. I often used these resources in my writing assignments.

In this course, I had to use a lot of reference and cite them in the IEEE format. For example, I used IEEE citation in my lab report, process description and proposal and presentation. I also quoted important speeches several times. Sometimes I paraphrased and made summary and used in my writing. For example, in lab report, I analyzed the data and cited sources from useful reference. Thus, I strengthen my writing using these references.

I was always an introvert. From the beginning of the class, I was silent and chose not to talk until I was asked. But gradually I became changed. Seeing my friends and colleagues participating and giving their opinion, I learned how to get intermingled with people. From peer-review workshop, I learned to criticize as well as to get criticism. This taught me to respect other's opinion and advice. Moreover, group work taught me work more efficiently with less pressure. From the proposal and presentation project, I learned how to lead a team. Advertising of my work in front of a group of people who are ready to criticize made me brave and conscious about my work. In fact, I discovered a whole new myself at the end of this course.