

Sydney Bramlett

10/6/15

Reflection essay

Mr.Harrison

Honors English 3

Throughout a student's English school career, they are expected to improve on many areas, like reading, writing, or comprehension. For me personally, I'm at the end of the line, I'm almost ready for college, and my English school career is nearing an end. I have always been a pretty good writer, and I haven't had much trouble with putting an essay together, no matter the length. I guess through time I've evolved in word choice and detail, but even then I used a significant amount of bigger words and compelling details since a young age. But like everyone in the world, I'm not perfect, and I do have some writing flaws. I've always had a problem with beginning statements, and thesis statements. It's not that I can't write them, it's just I have to think a lot before hand. Especially with beginning statements, I don't want to make it sound weird or uninteresting. Through word choice and detail I've evolved as a writer, while beginning statements, and thesis statements have been holding me back.

In a recent essay I wrote about Mary Rowlandson, I felt sort of accomplished after having written it. Finishing an essay for me is always a breath of fresh air, but for this particular essay I felt complete. I say complete because, this essay made me open up about my life, and my failures, and compare it to someone who lived so long ago. I actually had trouble comparing my first world problems, to a colonist who got captured by Indians. My particular situations didn't coincide with Rowlandson's entirely, but the idea of expectation was throughout all of it. Expectation is in both of our lives, we just had different ideas of what those expectations were.

In my portfolio I also added another essay, and one was about Pope Francis' joint session of congress, I decided to include it because I did pretty well on it. It's a very informative essay for those who didn't listen to the popes address.

As a writer I have grown in the sense of word choice and detail. Through the years I have tried and spent countless hours learning new words and practicing them to use in everyday life.

Nothing makes me happier until someone says "oh, you use big words". To me the sad thing is that I don't even use that big of words that I don't think majority of people don't know. I use these words in essays, or at least I try too. I've also grown in the area of detail. There shouldn't be a time that I give little detail, I try to give the most detail I can and then some. I would say that word choice and detail are the strongest points of my writing. On the lower end, starting off essays, and their topic sentences. I think I've always had a problem with that. I've always spent way to much time thinking about how a person will read it too much. I think about how it will be interpreted, and by the help of my many English teachers, they all have different opinions on how to start an essay. With topic sentences, I have the same problem, I think way too much, I end up just restating what I'm about to write about. I'm not sure how to fix it, but I consider the topic sentences to be less of a problem compared to the beginning of an essay.

In conclusion, I think I'm a pretty good writer. I think my perceptions of subjects differ from an average person, and I interpret things different. Something that a person would find positive, I would find something negative in it. I wouldn't say I'm a negative person, I just have a more realistic view on reality. I believe myself to be a good writer, and once long ago I believed that I could be a writer. That dream long gone, I just focus on trying to write good essays or papers. Over all I think every writer has things they aren't good at, or don't like writing about, but for a person in school not having much control over what they write about, we all have to adjust to

what is given. The act of writing an essay to me shouldn't be easy, it should make people stress a little and figure out who or what to write about. I think the worst thing is freaking out, especially if it's a timed essay, it's nerve racking but that's what's expected of a person that's in high school being tested on their skills to read and write. In all I find essays to be helpful, they sum up whatever is being learned or talked about. As long as a person is taught how to correctly construct and write an essay it can be extremely helpful in life.