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English 2010

Mrs. Briggs

01MAY2014

Reflection on English 2010

Excited and nervous would best explain how I began the spring semester in Mrs. Sue Briggs English 2010 writing class. It’s been almost ten years since I have taken the time to participate in college level courses. The huge span of time between my educations kept me leery about what to expect. Did I make the right decision to take on a writing class that will challenge my time and abilities? Do I have what it takes to fulfill my obligations in order to make the grade? I asked myself these questions before stepping into English 2010. Cheerful and witty Mrs. Briggs welcomed me to take on the challenge.

I remember one of the first assignments that I was tasked to do. It was a simple but enlightening task to complete a few pages of reading in the required text book, “writing processes and strategies” was the title. I remember reading these pages word for word and taking notes as I went along. How much easier could it get I thought to myself. The teacher assigns me a task and I put in the time and effort to complete it and it’s done. Little did I know how challenging some of the assignments would be to complete.

It was the fourth day of class; I completed an assignment that required printing and stapling together a piece of literature that was to be turned in at the end of class. How I fumbled to turn in the assignment I will never forget. It was like a bell ringed and class ended so abruptly I forgot to turn in my homework. “Oh no” I said to myself, Mrs. Briggs doesn’t take late assignments. How will I ever recover from this mistake? It felt like it was the end of my college career. I quickly learned that this class was for real, and I alone control the grade I get.

As the course progressed it was time for the first major writing assignment. Write a “profile” that which had to correlate with two remaining papers, and ultimately fall under an umbrella topic. I chose and umbrella topic that is highly debatable and well known, global warming. I profiled Earth itself but used Gaia as a substance that made earth seem like a person. This profile assignment was fun to research and learning about the earth in my geography classes helped me to gather information to complete earth’s profile. I only had one speed bump in finishing this profile paper. A few friends of mine were in town visiting me and time seemed to fall off the calendar to when it was due.

The review of the 11th hour documentary was soon to be the thorn in my side that helped me to realize how extremely hard writing is. “There is no definitive answer” I would scream in my head! How can I possible get my thoughts onto paper? There are so many different ways to explain what is happening. Even now when I think about how irritable I was during the writing of a review it upsets me. I spent hours trying to create a master piece that would earn a good grade. If there was ever a word that upset me in the writing process it would be “commentary.” I looked up this word in the dictionary more than once asking myself how I get around not voicing my opinion. Ugh, how I started to struggle with getting my English assignments done to my satisfaction.

My position and proposal seemed a little more natural because voicing my opinion is kind of what the assignment was about. There was a little more freedom in the writing style which gave me an upper hand to finish the assignment. Of course doing research and finding hard evidence to support your opinion would be required. This added a bit of spice to the completion of the paper. How do I incorporate someone else’s published work to correlate with my own? This again was taxing and very time consuming to finish because I want it to be good you know.

Oh how this English class has worked me, it only got harder when the flowers came out and the weather got nicer. I would sit in front of my computer angry at the fact I could not be outside playing in the spring, sunshine. Now that the hardest English course I’ve taken is finally coming to an end I am truly excited, more than I was on the first day of class! I am grateful to have taken this course. It has severely opened my eyes to how great of a challenge college writing can be. This course has certainly done its job to prepare me for the next stage in my educational career. I can confidently say this because of time spent keeping up with a schedule is pivotal to success.