

Final Reflection

This semester has been a journey that caused me to critically look at how I have progressed in my writing. My midterm reflection noted that writing is not an easy thing for me to do. I would usually just try to get ideas down on paper to complete an assignment. I have found that this is not such a bad idea, but I now realize that this was just the first part of the writing process. I would normally have just stopped when I got those ideas down on paper, but this class has helped me refine that process by going over my paper several times to actually give more clarification to my writing and help others understand my topic.

I found it thought-provoking to balance the “They Say/I Say” statements in my final research paper. I felt that I could summarize the thoughts from the articles I researched fairly well. However, as my peers who reviewed my paper mentioned, I had a more difficult time getting my own thoughts about the subject into the paper. This was one of the areas that took me several revisions and having others look at my work to give me suggestions. As I reflect on this, I can see several things in this class that have helped me with this process. The readings from the text helped me to see how other authors used the summarizing and rhetorical analysis process to express their ideas. The research process made me aware of the ways authors have differing views and this assignment made me look at my own opinions and how to get those into writing with comparison and contrast of the ideas.

Another area that proved valuable to me was the process of doing the peer reviews. It was important to have my peers look at my papers, but I found it even more valuable to have to look at another person’s paper. It was during this process that I took the time to look over the requirements for the research paper and other assignments and tried to find those components in my peer’s papers. This helped me to be able to see what I was missing in my own paper and get

ideas of how other student's viewed the assignment. This class has given me a new prospective on the writing process and made me realize that it is not a hurry and write down your ideas and be done process. It really does take much time to reflect on your own writing and being able to analyze what you want to say and how you want the reader to receive your ideas.