

### Improvement in Style

I found myself as a writer and developed my own style.

**From looking at my first writing piece that we did in this class, I have noticed how scrambled and unorganized my first draft was. The piece has notes all over it, and is actually very hard to read. My drafting process was not the cleanest. Now I look at my most recent writing piece, multi-genre, and I have noticed how much more focused and clean my first draft is.**

I finally let my emotions out on paper for the first time and it was overwhelming experience.

The style of work ethic, learning, and teaching has really changed the way I think.

I never thought my writing had a purpose besides getting a grade. Now my view has changed. I do enjoy writing now. I now believe that my writing has a purpose. It is to inspire people, and to tell my story.

**But frankly, I wasn't just a student in a classroom, I was a student in the world. The world, of inspirational novels, the world of passionate pieces of writing, and a student in a world of thought.**

I thought that because mine did not happen to have long drawn out paragraphs that is was wrong. But- it was the complete opposite. My writing mattered. And it made an impact.

My style of writing changed also with the more I wrote and played with sentences and how I formed them. I went from writing like an author of a textbook, to using my own voice and putting my own style on my writing.

### Work Ethic

**I've never really spent two solid weeks to finish an essay. I felt pressured to make it amazing**

This class has actually helped me in a lot of my other courses. From just becoming a better writer, to knowing how to find research more efficient. In A.P. Biology, we write essays all the time. The first two trimesters my essays honestly sucked. My writing sounded so unprofessional, and just seemed like I didn't put any thought into them. Once third trimester came around, we had two essays in the middle of the trimester. Just from working on the first assignment, descriptive essay, I noticed my writing in A.P. Biology soared up in how it sounded. It actually was beginning to sound like I knew what I was talking about. The knowledge I had learned in that class finally was coming out of my brain and being placed nicely on the paper. I remember being stuck on one essay in Biology and my first instinct was to write down who my audience was and what the purpose of the essay was.

It's easier and more fun to help peers with their writing than to not say anything or act like we don't care.

I had to think harder

This class was a lot of fun and a lot of work

The learning in this class has combined well with AP Biology. We had to write a lot of essays in that class, and it was very helpful to be confident in my writing so I could focus on the information. Because of this, it was easy to efficiently convey the information I needed to. There were essays on the AP exam as well, so having writing as a strength was definitely a plus.

After bonding with them through vocab work, sharing our writing pieces, and editing I've grown to like every single person in this class.

I have learned that hope, courage, passion, and hard work can take you anywhere you wanna go. If you love something, then nothing's going to stop you from following that passion.

As an individual, I have grown also. I hold myself to higher expectations now, and learned how to deal with such expansive freedom. I had to learn to hold myself accountable for note-taking and actually making progress and that has given me maturity.

**Normally in projects I would do the bare minimum to get an A, but I did a lot more than that this time around.**

### **Power of Audience**

A strategy I found successful was putting myself in the audience's position and viewing my writing from someone else's perspective to keep it fresh and interesting.

I didn't really know how to react when I found out that we would actually have an audience to share our projects with. In the end, I was very happy to have that experience and I think that it helped with my comfort in sharing my work.

**The MLA research paper showed me that its okay to stand up for what you believe in and send it out and have your voice be heard**

Having an audience has made me want to try harder and make my writing interesting.

Who will hear this? What do I want them to think/feel? Those are two common questions I had to fall back on.

The type of audience really impacts how you write a certain way.

It was different knowing our audience was young kids, but it was nice because I had to process the information more thoroughly so I could make it easier to understand.

### **As Readers**

During third tri I actually pushed past my reading goal and read three books instead of just two.

I notice that when reading now, I tend to look for a good inspirational sports (basketball) book, or a great action-packed and suspenseful fiction book like the Hunger Games. This has changed because normally when I have to read a book for class I try to pick a short, little book so I don't have to consume my time with reading.

I read four books this trimester, and enjoyed every single one! I have never read that much in one trimester.

This term I have expanded my reading range. I never read nonfictions before but I tried one.

Even sometimes I would anxiously be waiting to have our quick reads in class. I do not know why I would have that feeling in this class because I honestly really did dislike reading, like a lot.

As a reader, I have advanced myself to the point where I actually do enjoy reading. I always used to think it was boring and a waste of time, but reading "Freedom" by Jonathan Franzen really changed my perspective on reading forever. If I can read such a large book and enjoy it all the way through, I could read anything.

I feel I have improved as a historian because I can still remember the things I read during the first project of the trimester. I usually am a read and forget type of person, but just like in my reading I think it was because of our projects.

So now when I think of American Lit, I have a picture of who the faces are, what the names are, and what they are famous for.

I have improved as a reader more than I ever thought.

Based on movies I've seen, I always thought that living in the 18th or 19th century would have been a lot simpler than it is today. It seemed that with little technology and the bad things in the world weren't advertised as much, that it would have been a lot happier and easier. But after reading the literature of those times, I have come to realize that it would have been a lot harder back then.

I think that by reading the play "The Death of a Salesman" I have found other types of literature that I like

I never thought of reading as building up an archive of data, yet in this class I have been

transformed from a reader to a historian.

### **Punctuation**

One of the types of punctuation that I have learned to use effectively over the course of this term is the semi-colon. For example, “Now just think if we would only check our Facebook once a day or limit ourselves; we could save ourselves a massive amount of time” (Persuasive Research Essay).

**My first paper had a lot of errors. They were all silly grammar and punctuation mistakes. I checked my last paper, and it had very little mistakes if any at all. I have improved as a writer over this term. It really helped me when we went on Purdue Owl. I learned how to use grammar and punctuation correctly and I used some of them in my papers!**

### **Enjoyment**

My writing now compared to the past is probably a lot more enjoyable because I have been amused by writing instead of loathing it

**I had found my love of writing renewed entirely.**

The best part of this whole term has been that I want to continue writing over the summer.

I have done some of my best work this term.

Freedom and technology and having a real audience and all that good stuff. Way better than a traditional classroom.

I have felt in this class I was given a purpose.

**Now I have a desire to write with passion.**