

Dear Professor Bottai and fellow students of English 109h,

It has been a very long semester adjusting to my new life here in Tucson. As it comes to an end, it is only fitting to reflect on it and evaluate my evolution as a writer over the course of the last few months.

Coming into college, I was confident in my abilities as a writer. Once we had gotten started writing our first blog posts and our first project, the Quick Reference Guide (QRG), I knew that I was seriously lacking in areas of writing I had previously thought came to me naturally. As time progressed, I had a rough time adjusting to this new style of writing. It was not exactly my forte, as I thought it was previously. However, I did improve my writing. It took time and focus, but I was able to manage it. Due to my lack of skill in these new areas of writing, I was forced to evaluate my time carefully so that I would be able to have the correct amount of time needed to ensure my own growth and success in this class.

As these new writing styles were something partially new to me, there were plenty of times where my methods were tested and sometimes had to be changed so that I could improve personally. Originally, I was taught to use outlines and plot out what I was going to write. In the past that had worked for me partially, although it never truly felt comfortable in any way at all. After a few hiccups along the way this semester, I decided to forgo the outline and just start writing right from the beginning. This has proved to be much less stressful and much more effective. I was able to write more effectively and clearly. Along with this, I found that small revisions after the fact, rather than draft by draft, were more effective than what I had been doing previously in my papers. In project two, revision had been exceptionally helpful. "Looking at

how far back his business career went before his political career started. we can theorize that Perdue took part in the outsourcing of jobs at every company in which he was involved.” The previous sentence from project two had been especially tricky. It took a lot of time and effort to determine which words fit right and got the idea across best.

As a business major, I can almost guarantee that my style of writing will convert to a more business formal style of writing. Business writing, primarily written in APA format, is much more formal and professional than many other styles of writing. Over the course of the next few years, I hope to see my writing become more professional and sophisticated in relation to the writing of the business world. Along with that, I know that the longer I am here for, the course work will become thoroughly more difficult and time-consuming. Knowing this, I will have to develop a good system of time management. It will become incredibly important to develop this system so that I do not fall back in any class or so that I do not hurt any progress I am making in, not only my writing, but for any subject at all. The gradual improvement of my writing is connected to the development of my time management system. Should I fail to have good time management, I will ultimately do poorly in my classes.

Personally, I do believe that I will improve my writing. I see myself improving my overall analytical skills along with my ability to convey it into my writing. It is very difficult to promote yourself from one grade to the next without improving whatsoever. Apart from this, I have complete faith in my own abilities and in my own drive to become a better student.

Throughout this semester, there were many issues and worries. Looking back, they were all for naught. I can look back and see the main goal of this course was not to complete meaningless homework assignments but was instead to help us slowly develop better time

management skills and to develop our understanding of genre and our own writing styles. I am very excited to see where my writing style will go over the course of the next few years.

Sincerely,

Evan Markovitz