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Reflections

Over the semester, my definition of writing has become more critical and deeper. I've learned how I need to take a deeper look into my subject matter in order to make a better analysis or debate. While writing my critical analysis, I realized that it is easier to write on a subject that I have a lot of sources or information for because it allows me to pick and choose certain things to discuss in my paper. Before I thought that having too many sources for a paper will just confuse me and prevent me from writing a more meaningful paper, but just the opposite happened when I wrote a paper using many sources because I was not forced to limit my discussions in my paper due to the fact that I did not have enough information.

Throughout this semester, I have learned that good writers go through many processes to complete a well written document. Many writers start by brainstorming ideas by jotting things down, then they try and organize these thoughts and ideas by putting them into a chart or graph. In that chart or graph, they organize their thoughts by placing them into certain categories such as logos, ethos, ECT. When they feel that their thoughts are organized, they begin by making an outline for their document, this allows writers to see their thoughts in paper form so that they can make an easier transition into actually writing their paper. When the paper is written, then comes the proofing and editing phase in order to perfect their paper to allow others to see it, understand it, and appreciate it. These techniques and processes are what I also took to complete my papers for my English 100 class.

While writing papers, it is important to remember to be ethical. To be ethical while writing, we need to remember to give credit when we receive and use information from other people or companies in our papers. I used ethical considerations in my paper when I gave credit for quotes or information at the end of my paragraphs and sentences. Then I provided a works cited page at the end of my paper which listed all the places that I received information from.

The products that I composed this semester have strength when it comes to the arguments that I make in my debates or when I am trying to portray my point of view, especially in my paper called "The Importance for Bilingual Education." I also saw that in my paper "Portfolio Critical Analysis," I did a good job of always referring back to my thesis. Even though I did good with those things, I often times forgot to back some of my good arguments with specific sources.

In order to improve my products and processes, I need to use more sources in order to make clearer and stronger arguments, I need to be better at citing my sources within my documents and at the end in better APA format, and I also need to remember to go deeper into my subject matter. In order to go deeper, I will need to continue certain processes to organize my thoughts like we did when we made charts and outlines for each paper that we did for English 100.