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# Reflective Writing



# Purpose



Reflective writing is designed to stimulate your learning by asking you to think about (“reflect on”) what you learned from a particular experience. The process of thinking consciously about your learning deepens and reinforces that learning.

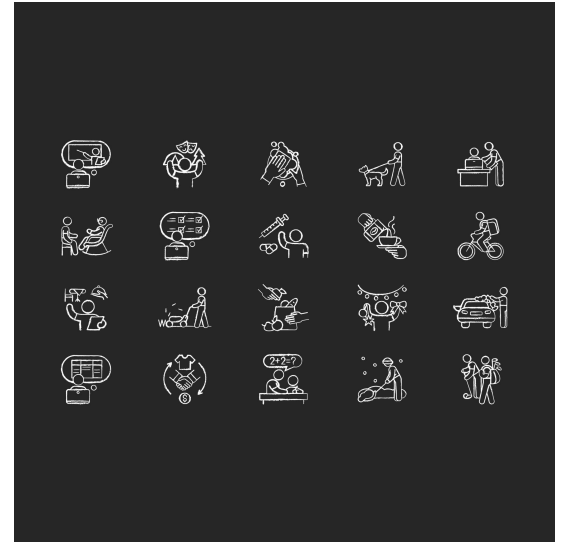


## Setting Yourself Up to Reflect

- What expectations do you have about the experience? What do you expect it to be like? What do you expect to learn from it?
- Are there any questions you have at the outset?
- Is there any aspect of this text or experience that you expect to be challenging for you?

## Engaging with the Experience

- Is it similar to or different from what you expected?
- How is it answering the questions you had at the outset?
- Is there anything you find to be challenging about this experience?
- Are you engaged by the experience? If so, what is engaging to you?
- What, if anything, do you think you are learning from this experience?





# Writing the Reflection

1. Describe: What was the experience? When did it occur; who was there; what went on?
2. Interpret: How did the text, event, or experience meet your expectations (or not)? What questions did it raise for you? Was there anything you found to be particularly surprising, meaningful or challenging? If so, what was it?
3. Evaluate: What did you learn from this experience?
4. Plan: How do you think you can use what you learned during this experience in the future? In what situations could you use what you learned?

# Style, Tone, Length



- A reflection is an essay, so provide full, thoughtful responses to the questions in your instructor's prompt.
- The style and tone of your reflective essay should match the purpose of the overall assignment. This is a personal essay meant to showcase what you learned from the text, event, or experience that you are writing about. You can use the pronouns "I," "me," and "mine."



## Style, Tone, Length

- Describe the experience fully, using plenty of descriptive words. Include enough detail for your audience to understand that you were engaged with the experience that you are reflecting on; the reader should come away with the understanding that you learned something from the experience you are writing about.

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## Style, Tone, Length

- Reflection for this will be 250 - 300 words in length, at a minimum.
  - The length of your reflection will depend on your instructor's instructions for the assignment.
  - The best source of information on length is your professor, so find out what the word or page-count is from them.



I've always felt I excel in written communication. The skill of effectively communicating my thoughts and feelings through words and expressions seemed to come easily to me. However, I didn't realize how much my writing was lacking until my thoughts and feelings on writing were pushed nearly to their breaking point through my creative writing course.

Learning the best way to manage time was a huge hurdle for me. I wasn't able to completely kill the procrastination habit I developed in high school, but I did learn some much-needed time management skills. I also learned how writing without the looming cloud of a deadline could open a creative door.

A natural thinker and writer at heart, I thought I understood creative expression and wordplay... until my professor handed me my first grade. Upon looking at that striking "D" on the paper, I realized I would have to push myself harder and explore the depths my writing could reach. Not only did I learn to sharpen my technical writing chops, but I have found out how to dig into my creative soul to view my emotions and experiences in a whole new way.

Going beyond [the five-paragraph essay](#) and fully exploring my feelings about a situation or action was challenging. This creative writing class pushed me to realize there isn't a limit on words when it comes to expressing something. I can convey a simple action a million different ways, and I mastered how to explore each one to find perfection in my written words. I also picked up new flexibility in my writing by opening my mind to different scopes of expression.

Expressing all the changes that this class wrought in my writing is truly difficult. But, over the course of the eight weeks we spent together, I became a more competent writer. Not only do my words contain more depth and soul, but my writing itself has entered a whole new arena I didn't realize was possible. By studying new techniques and researching other approaches, I now have a sturdy foundation and a robust writing arsenal for future endeavors.

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**CC2 - 05/12**

**Part 1: Group Projects**

**Part 2: 250-300 word Reflective  
Writing**



# CC2 - Reflective Writing

You will write a 250-300 word essay on something we've learned in class.  
Choose one (1) of the following:

1. Horror Films
2. Advertising
3. Storytelling
4. Group Project

Write about why you enjoyed it and how these skills will be applicable in your future career paths: