

Wesly Morales

Self-Assessment Essay

Reflection PINK

Descriptions (feelings, things, actions) BROWN

Characterization BLUE

Claim GREEN

As a person whose first language isn't English and it's continually being replaced with Spanish daily, learning English hasn't been so easy for me. Knowing big words, knowing how to formulate sentences, correcting grammar errors and praying to understand others and to others understand me because of my accent is my daily battler. This semester I have noticed that I got and still getting better everyday. This semester I've grown a lot as a writer. I've expanded my vocabulary, I grew my confidence talking to others, and also grew my capacity to complete long/difficult assignments.

I normally have many grammatical errors, that's one of the things that keeps me up at night but recently, very recently I felt that my grammar has improved. Now I know Different big words I didn't even know about 4 months ago or that I knew about but never knew what they meant and how I could use them. Being part of this class, and college in general basically pushed me to expand my vocabulary. It's something I feel they demand and when I say 'Them' I'm not talking about a group of people in expecific, when I say 'Them' I'm referring to the journal in college, your whole educational word literally changes.

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When I was in High school I personally never felt that the professor cared too much about the grammar. As long as I completed the work everything was fine and that wasn't something that settled right with me. I wanted to know how my progress learning English was going, I wanted to know from anybody whose English was perfect or close to perfect how my English was going and I also wanted help. I even tell my English-speakers friends to correct me every time I make a mistake talking to them or texting them and also to explain to me why they are right so I can apply the same explanation to any other grammar error I could make in the future.

I remember my first assignment in college for English 110 Professor Orwing pointed out that my grammar needed more improvement and she was totally right. The assignment was 'WLLN (Final draft)' I unfortunately don't have the feedback she gave me because I started to edit the assignment on the same document she shared with me and I deleted it when I finished editing but it was a four-pages essay explaining about an impactful moment in my journey learning English, giving as much details as possible and explaining how we feel about that moment and did it impact my life.

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my head figured out a question in English out of nowhere. I didn't even know if it was correct but during Spanish class I was learning the basics in English, I said 'For what?' the guy didn't understand what i said and he had more time than me in the country and school but my friend did and translated to him, that did is stick to my head because I be realizing how smart I am, it don't matter if it's other language somehow i'm going to learn, My english isn't perfect, i still having an accent but spanish is also part of my daily life so yeah i have to keep a balance on both. This moment is so meaningful to me because even though I was around people whose only language was Spanish I could still find my way to learn English, no matter the circumstances and the environment and it makes me feel proud of myself everytime I think about it.

Evidence from my WLLN.

I'm lucky enough to have a teacher who understands that her students are not perfect and we all have a different background and most of us have struggles with English. She has always been helpful, starting with giving us the opportunity to express ourselves about our background and our history with English with the WLLN and SLLN assignments. Providing us with sources to help us for example during the first Phase of the course she gave us a hand-out that contains different verbs we can freely use in our assignments, I am still using that chart and currently we are getting into the fourth and last phase.

Here are some additional verbs to draw on (avoid thinks, believes, says/states, discusses):

Try this format: The author [VERB] [IDEA] by [EXPLAIN HOW].

Acknowledges	Concludes	Exemplifies	Problematises
Advocates	Contrasts	Explains	Proposes
Amplifies	Contradicts	Extends	(Sets up a) parallel
Analyzes	(Presents)	Forecasts	Qualifies
Argues	Counterarguments	Faults	Questions
(Constructs an)	(Presents)	Frames	Rebuts

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(A preview of the chart, it's longer)

In the past 3 weeks I was assigned with two essays, The research paper and Politics and Big Money paper and while I was typing my essays I decided to use different words than what I commonly would use. I started to look for different words that meant the same thing to the word I wanted to use at the beginning and that made me realize how many words I already knew they existed and knew they meaning but my brain never came up with them when it was time to talk or write and from there I decided to memorize more words. Right now I've noticed, I'm and have made a progress and still do, I.m expanding my vocabulary, I'm fixing my grammar little by little of course. I'm very proud of myself and thankful for having an amazing English professor.

Reflection

This has been an impactful journey for me, I haven't been under so much stress and making these last assignments are making everything so much easier like I feel my body is so much lighter than how it was a day ago. I had to come up with different meanings for the color to start doing my revision because this essay is more personal so I don't do thesis or topic sentences or any of that. I did feel I had claims so I added that section to my revision but something is telling me I did it wrong but I don't know I'm 50/50 about that. Making this revision made me re-read this essay and it helped me to notice again that I need to give myself more time to learn and to expand myself. I know I'm capable of doing so much more than what I'm doing right now but I can not give myself more stress so chill. I do think my essay needs more examples of what happened during class and my experience during this semester in class, I kind of left that to the side and I talked more about my last assignments and last experiences out of the classroom, adding more in-person situation could have my essay seem realistic and could take the reader to a more visual feeling of what happened and how I felt but I still did a good job. I will try to hype myself up on everything I do and this strategy just reminded me that I definitely made progress and that I just need to keep pushing until I achieve what I want to achieve. For my next essays of course I'm going to apply this revision strategy to make sure my paragraphs are well distributed and clear.