Reflection

I am a student attending Northern Marianas College, and this reflection will be on the Research Report for English Composition II under the instruction of Dr. Kimberly Bunts-Anderson. The topic I chose was about horror movies and games. I mainly wanted to find out why I (and those who feel/react similarly) are still attracted to horror games and movies even though there are a lot of concepts being used over and over again. As I watched Markiplier (a famous *Let’s Play* YouTuber) play horror games, I wondered that although I was quite frightened, I was more amused and wanted to watch even more videos.

This hobby of mine is actually recent, but it was before I attended Ms. Anderson’s class. So when she assigned us to do a research report, I immediately knew what I wanted to research about. I had so many ideas inspired by the horror videos I watched from Markiplier; however, as I actually started doing my research, I found it difficult to actually conduct them. Finding different demographics and participants for my kind of research—especially since many actually do not like horror—was a difficult task. I do not believe I was ready or organized enough, nor brave. My kind of research is deeply psychological and would need specific research experiments. Perhaps I could have gone more out there in order to achieve enough participants to fulfill my research target goals; nevertheless, I can say that I did not have the time or the right resources to actually perform my experiments properly, though I was very excited to conduct such experiments

I also believe it was ill pacing or inadequate organization that led to improper research conduction. As I did my literature review—which actually caught me off guard, since it was an extra essay I did not really have time for because of other class assignments—I realized how I could have asked better questions in my surveys (which we did during the early weeks). I think if we had more time to actually review our literature beforehand, then I could have been more prepared and well-read so that I could ask the proper questions in my surveys.

Since I had no experience whatsoever with APA and such academic research papers until I came to this class, I actually struggled to understand how to actually create my drafts. To me, it felt like we were discussing another thing entirely during class, even though it was connected to the research report. I believe that because although the information was orally explained, I had trouble actually processing the information because it was not jointly explained visually in class. I guess I’m a learner that needs to view how a method works in order to actually learn, as in having something put up on the board or on the screen. The content (such as examples, models, videos) were provided online through emails, but to not have it actually demonstrated visually in class somehow threw things off for me. We also rarely used the book, and because of that I think it’s better if we didn’t buy it. Since most additional information that we actually need in this class can be researched in the internet, I think the book serves better as a reference after we are done with the class.

Still, I learned a lot from this course. I finally learned how to create an APA paper. As for my research outcomes, I could have gotten more “out there” in getting good research data, but my main enemy was conflicting schedules. People either had no proper time for being participants, so I did my best to adjust my changing my methods to mostly online surveys, in which people can take in their own time. I also could not fulfill the last method I planned (having at least four people play a horror game and getting their reactions) because of the reason I mentioned previously. But I worked with what I have, and I still have some interesting results I can still share and write for my report.