Joanna Bea

EN 202-02

Class Reflection

As I took English Composition 202 class, we were required to make a research report. I chose a topic about social networking. However to narrow my topic, I chose a topic title “Social Networking Addiction.” I chose this topic because in this generation almost every teenagers and even adults I know uses social networking sites, including myself. I observe that some of my friends in social networking sites, such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, are very active in these sites and they post stuff in the news feed multiple times in a day. So I was interested if social networking can be addictive or not, and if there are real studies about it. Throughout the process of doing the research paper there are new things that I learned, some challenges and new outlook towards social networking.

With the topic I chose, I feel that it was a good topic and I would work with it further more because it is one of the issues that nearly everyone are affected. This is the topic that first came t my mind and I am happy about it. Technology now has been evolving and that makes social networking even more expose to the community, and I think that there is no way that it will be out existence. Also, as time goes further, the people that uses social networking becomes younger and younger and there are a lot of negative effects when using these sites, such as addiction. Many news and crimes that already relate to social networking.

The method of writing course essays relating to my research topic does helped a lot. It made me search more about my topic and gather more studies about it. However, most of the course essays that we did weren’t related to my topic. We were given a different a topic, which made it more time consuming focusing on other topic rather than our research topic. Although it helped me how to write different types of essay, it would have been better if it was related to our topic. In that way, I could’ve have focus more on my research topic.

The given time to find literature sources throughout that course was helpful and I am satisfied with the sources I found. But at first, I had hard time looking for the right and helpful sources. Then, I found some really good ones, both from the EBSCO and Google site. Of course, I had to narrow my topic and add hint words that would really help with what I am looking for. Then the right information came out and it helped me with my research project.

The types of sources that I find most helpful to me in learning about academic writing are the book and other handouts of sample essays. These helped me to know the construction, flow, and strategies of different types of essay or academic writing. Moreover, the visual aids, such as the contents and description of a research paper, and the APA hand out helped me a lot on doing my academic research. I think the sources given was enough however, it would have been better if instructions and other samples of writing academic or research were provided in class.

The four types of essay course requirements and a research paper plus practice summaries, quotations and paraphrases as well as the use of APA were very helpful too. I do think that I achieved it but there are circumstances that I get confuse with however, I can still find to get back on the track. Also, I think that I can use these skills in the future, such as doing research report in science, social science, business classes, or any other classes that required research report or project, and in my future career. There will be a time that I have to search about certain topic about business and I should know how to write it and give credits to the original author or sources.

Furthermore, I can definitely use the skills that I learned in writing academic essays. I do think that I can write at least three kinds of academic essays, such as classification, process, and compare/contrast. However, I find compare/contrast essay the strongest, and I hope to develop more on doing classification and cause/effect essay. I can say that I learned enough about APA, and I did use that skill to write my research report in my current classes and I know that I will use this skill in my future classes. I think with this APA skill, I will most likely use it when I look for and analyze literature to inform and support my writing, most especially because I must give credits to the original author and to avoid plagiarism.

In business major, the primary research that I would probably do is looking for findings and data. I do think I can do it and I would like to learn more about doing a primary research such as methodology. Although it can very time consuming and takes a lot of effort, it is very interesting and challenging. Yet, the primary research that I learned the most is using databases, literature and/or searching for sources.

I think the strengths I had in regards with this research project are being able to find literature or sources. But my weakness is not being able to plan ahead and conflicts with my time schedule. I had so much intense classes and I wasn’t able to follow my planned schedule with my research project. Thus, I would like to work on my time management and I also want to work on my paraphrasing and some grammar errors in my academic writing. But I can say that I have improved more on writing compared before.

With the research outcomes, I feel that there are different kinds of good results. However, it would have been better if there were more time to do my research. I do think I spent enough time with my research questions, but I think I could do some adjustment by narrowing more my questions down, and do another methodology. With the research questions I have, there were many different results and there were more important parts that I should have focus on.

Overall, although there were many challenges and confusions, I have learned many things about doing research report and all other methods. At the same time, I also learned many things about my research topic, which is social networking addiction. I found that there are real studies about it, although there are few. Also, I found that there are good and bad effects with social networking addiction, so it can be an advantage and a disadvantage to active individuals on social networking sites. Nevertheless, I would definitely use all the skills I learned in my English Composition class with any type of classes as well as in my future career.