

RI Sample 2

VanHeacke
Writ 101
12/3/12

Dear Professor VanHeacke:

First off, I'd like to thank you for guiding me towards becoming a better writer. I've learned so much this year about myself as a writer. When I first started the class, I was under the impression that we would simply be writing and editing our essays. Throughout our fastwrites, drafting, reflecting and workshops I've learned to look more at my paper as a process versus a product. I take pride in the fact that it took me all semester to learn this. I've also learned how to better my transitions through drafting and how to conduct strong and concise research with the help of editing and my research journals.

As I looked back on my drafting for the Personal Academic Essay I noticed that I added in transitions to help my paper sound more organized. Adding transitions keeps the reader from drifting off and helps the reader understand how you got from point a to point b. This was crucial in our Personal Academic Essay because the paper required a lot of hard facts along with a personal aspect. As you can see on page four and five, I transition smoothly from paragraph 2-3, 3-4 and so on therefore connecting the paper as a whole. I realized this flaw through drafting and peer editing. I also switched around the paragraphs to have a more organized paper because my peers had told me that the paper was poorly organized. Transitions help me, as a writer, stay organized.

Another thing that helped my organization was the narrative we wrote before we started drafting our Op-Ed and Personal Academic Essay. As you can see on page twenty I stated many of the points that I was going to make in the Personal

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Academic Essay. This was beneficial because it helped me better structure my paper and have a general direction in where I was taking my paper.

While I was conducting research, I made sure to keep inquiry, one of our course concepts, in the back of my mind. This helped me because I was questioning my research so that I could further my facts in my paper. As you can see in my Personal Academic Essay I went from having three sources to having four in my final revision because I was inquiring more information.

This Writing 101 has helped me become an overall more organized writer. As my portfolio conveys, pages are numbered, all essays have tabs directing you where to go, and everything is bound nicely in a folder. These acquired skills will help me write more professional, put together letters in the future. I'm majoring in business management and I'll need prime writing skills to write letters and prompts to my future clients.