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The Most Educational English Course: Writing For Engineering

This course's value to me, based on the knowledge I've obtained, carries more weight than all the other English courses I've ever taken combined! I never knew I could learn so much in a single course. In this English course, I have had the opportunity to engage with various assignments that have contributed to my growth and learning. These assignments include the Intro Paragraph, Resume and Cover Letter, Group Proposal, Lab Report, Technical Description, Quest, and Elevator Pitch. All of these assignments have taught me valuable skills such as **information literacy, citation, drafting, collaboration, critical reading, synthesis, audience awareness, and the use of technology.**

One of the first assignments I completed in this English course was the Introduction paragraph. This assignment taught me the **importance of getting to know my peers and understanding how technology is being used in the course.** Initially, I was worried when the professor explained that we would be creating introduction paragraphs. However, after reading other students' introductions, I felt like my classmates and I had a stronger connection. When we were told to reply to two of these introduction paragraphs, it made me feel a bit excited to talk to other students who had similar interests. For example, that's how I met one of my good friends, Harvey Kim. I read in his introduction that he likes to go to the gym, and I love to go to the gym too. Surprisingly, when I saw him in my class, we were already acquainted beforehand in the gym. Another thing I learned from this assignment is **the importance of using technology.** I've

never used certain functions in Blackboard, so I was clueless when the professor told us to go to the discussion board to complete this assignment. After feeling like I didn't know enough about Blackboard, I started to learn about the bells and whistles of this website, and I'm grateful for that.

Another assignment that I learned from is the Resume and Cover Letter. Some things I learned while doing this assignment were the importance of a cover letter, the process after submitting your application, how to make your resume stand out, and how power verbs increase your chances of getting a job. When applying to any professional job, it's important for you to have an elegant resume. This is crucial because it allows the hiring manager of your future job to take you seriously and see you as professional. First impressions are crucial.

I also learned what the process is like after submitting your application. For example, what happens on the other side of this process? Who looks at it first? How does it get filtered out from all the other resumes? I learned the answers to these questions while completing this assignment. For example, who's the first person to look at your resume? It's actually not a person, but a robot. Companies use machines that filter out all the resumes they receive. These robots look for keywords that the hiring manager tells them to find based on the job that is hiring. That's why you always have to keep in mind the **audience and purpose** of your writing. If you understand the **audience and purpose**, then you will understand what you need to write about and to whom.

A really fun assignment that we completed was the Group Proposal. I learned a lot from working with other people. I grew from their strengths and helped them with their weaknesses. I learned the importance of **drafting** and effective **collaboration**. Since my three other classmates and I were making a proposal to build a student center at The City College of New York, we had

to learn the skills of how to draft when working on a big project and how to collaborate efficiently and effectively. Since we were working in a group of four, we all had different schedules and free time. This was going to be a problem until one of my groupmates recommended that we write a draft first. Owaish told us that when writing a draft, our writing can be better organized and structured. While Owaish was explaining, Akeel added that it will help with clarity and coherence. Since four people were working on the same text, this was crucial. With this assignment, I really fell in love with collaborating. When a group of people collaborate, they all grow from one another.

The Lab Report assignment was one of the most knowledge-packed assignments that I had. The last time I wrote a lab report was back in 11th grade, so it was like experiencing it for the first time. The action and the race to find the answer, the possibility of your hypothesis being upside down—I really missed it. So when Mr. Bubrow said we would be doing a lab report on dice probability, I was ecstatic. I wasn't so good at looking for information and scholarly resources, so I didn't know what to do. Not to worry, Mr. Bubrow took that into account, knowing that some other students would be facing similar scenarios. So he taught us how to use The City College of New York library, where we could access thousands of databases. Databases that I could have never accessed and utilized. This helped me increase my **information literacy** and my ability to **read research articles**.

One of the last assignments that I completed in this course was the Technical Description. Just like the lab report, it was a lot of fun. It reminded me of the time when my dad and I completed a tri-fold poster. I hadn't done a poster since middle school, so it brought back a lot of memories. I also learned how to **cite and synthesize**. I really took some time to learn how to cite because when I saw my other classmates' posters, I was surprised at how long their reference

lists were—they were a whole page long. I never knew the different cases of what to do when there is no author or date. Learning this skill will be very useful because in college, citing is very important and commonly used. Another essential skill is the ability to **synthesize**. This is important when you are trying to persuade or inform your audience. When synthesizing information, you analyze, evaluate, and interpret the sources to extract key concepts, arguments, or findings that are relevant to your topic or purpose. This helped me put together a poster that helped my audience understand drones.

Some other assignments that I completed were the elevator pitch and the quest. In the elevator pitch, I learned how to introduce myself and make a good professional impression. This came extremely handy because around the time I completed this assignment, there was a job fair that I attended. When I went with my elevator pitch and my resume, I felt ready. The quest was not just an assignment, test, or quiz—it was a quiz and test hybrid. This quest served as the final for this course, testing us on grammar. I never really used grammar until Mr. Bubrow showed us that without proper grammar, sentences can completely change in meaning.

In conclusion, this English course has been an absolute game-changer for me, far outweighing the collective impact of all my previous English courses combined. The knowledge and skills I've gained throughout this course have been nothing short of extraordinary. Engaging with a multitude of assignments, such as the Intro Paragraph, Resume and Cover Letter, Group Proposal, Lab Report, Technical Description, Quest, and Elevator Pitch, has been instrumental in my personal and intellectual development. These assignments have not only honed my abilities in **information literacy, citation, drafting, collaboration, critical reading, synthesis, audience awareness, and technology utilization**, but have also transformed my overall perspective on the subject.