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Dear Prof. Pickrel,

From the beginning of the year, I have really changed in my view of writing from being in my English class. Throughout the course, I noticed many trends that I was shown when I was writing. One thing that eventually became a habit was to avoid using the five-paragraph formula in my writing, and to use organization differently. Another trend that eventually came to me was to revise the draft that I create first, and get feedback from my peers or the instructor. In high school it wasn’t a concern to me, but now in college I learned that it is very helpful and sort of became part of my writing.

From looking at a draft that has been marked up, I did noticed mistakes that I have made before on other papers. A higher order concern difference between my rough and final drafts would be organization and clarity. Sometimes I would get off track, make the reading difficult to understand. I would go back and attempt to reword what I’m trying to clarify. Sometimes I wouldn’t be addressing the full prompt, and would have to go back. Some lower order concerns but would be crucial are sentence fragments, missing topic sentences, word choice, and citing in proper format. I like revising because it reminds me to learn from my mistakes, and makes me become more cautious when I write.

From last semester, the first day we were asked what we thought we would learn, and then we shared our answers. Some said reading, revising, analyzing, etc. I thought a lot about writing, but really had no clue, other than it wasn’t going to be a walk in the park. From that day, I have come a long way. What I actually learned was about my writing process and how it evolved. I wrote papers of different genres like reports, research papers, letters etc. I have explored my process of writing more than I ever did.

As any writer, I have my strengths and weaknesses. From the beginning of this semester, I would say that my weakness involved making effective revisions to my drafts. I didn’t look at it closely for what I thought of it, only what my peers and instructor thought. My strengths I would say would be to address the prompt and go through it in order. I would read the prompt and go back to it to see if it made sense to me, and my writing. Organization was another strength I had, I mapped out how the paper would be like if someone read it. Making sentence fragments is another weakness, along with making other small but crucial mistakes. I don’t notice them until someone points it out and explains it to me.
portfolio. We worked cooperatively and shared our thoughts and experiences together. For our research paper, we were to read multiple articles and compare them to the book *Gone Tomorrow* we were reading. We had to compare the ideas with each other to see if they were still relevant or not. It involved a lot of new terminology from the topic that I was writing about, I was comparing those communities ideas towards each other.

Overall, it's been an entire year since I started this course. I am really glad I decided to take this course because it really shaped my view of my writing. It really helped because I am going to take more English classes that will even be tougher, along with the English essay exam. Not to mention all the papers that will be coming my way for when I am going through my other courses in my college career. There is much more for me to explore as a writer, and this only the first step of many to come.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

C+ well written sentences
more details & specifics needed to support ideas in every part of letter