

EN100 Semester Progress Report

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This semester so far has been a bit of a wake up call, as I had to learn a good deal about how to professional, college grade paper on the spot. What I had considered to be quality papers before taking this class turned out to be little more than the concepts for good papers without any citations to support my thoughts, or clarity of speech. I can confidently say that my biggest improvement so far has been in learning how to cite properly to avoid any confusion as to where my information came from, and most importantly to avoid plagiarism. Because of the higher demand on quality information, and a proper “work cited” page, I have used the Etown college library as well as the local Elizabethtown Library for sources.

It is also worth mentioning all of the digital programs that have helped as well.

- **ACM Digital Library:** Full text of every article ever published by ACM and bibliographic citations from major publishers in computing.
- **EasyBib:** Website that automatically cites a website, book, or other work in MLA.
- **Etown’s Credo:** Reference website the searches text entries in reference books.
- **Openstax College:** General textbook database.
- **Project Gutenberg:** International book database.

I believe that I have significantly improved the quality of my writing after taking this course. Most of my writing before college tended to drift toward the argumentative even at times when a paper was intended to be a descriptive writing, for instance. Some of my future goals in writing is to be able to effectively describe pieces of music on paper, as I have been, and plan to take future music courses. Another goal of mine is to be able to write completely neutral without leaning too far to one side of an argument or point of view, as I tend to do. I’d also like to press

myself further to write more every day. I rarely write outside of school or work, so I will make that a priority from this point onward. Most importantly of all, I will try my hardest in future papers to cite using only the requested citation method. In all my courses so far my professors use a slightly different version of MLA which is confusing. Some use the book while others use the website, which changes speratically.

Overall, I would rate my improvement as +5 average grade points of skill. I would say my current writing quality to be at a novice level.