

Sample Reflection

Reflections—Persuasive Writing

I struggled with Class Brainstorming in my rough draft for my editorial. I struggle with transitions. I didn't really have that many in my piece. I did do a coffin plan* and a pie for my rough draft. I really struggled with keeping my focused purpose in my proposal. One story would lead to another and then another and then I would totally get off track of what I really wanted to write. I think it would've helped me out a lot if I had used the Checklist/Scoring Guide because I never thought about it. I thought "Well I'm done" right after I wrote the last word of both of my pieces. I was happy with how well I did with the partnership "Written Response Sheets" It helped me to go back and support myself even more by what my partner wrote and questioned about my piece. It helped my to understand more about what my audience thinks and not just my opinion about the pieces That brings me to the point that I wasn't horrible at audience awareness but I did pretty well. I was really good with supporting myself and my focused purpose. I didn't do so great with Introductions. I could never find anything to start my piece and I was just dying to write down all these ideas I had jumping out in my head and I couldn't write them because I had no introduction! I didn't ever know what to write for a conclusion either. Sometimes I would think of something and write it but it wasn't good enough. In my editorial I wrote a conclusion (rough draft) that was short and to the point. It didn't really explain to the reader what the heck I was talking about! I changed it and changed it until I got it right! I was also good with peer conferencing. In my editorial—my partner stated that I needed to explain more when I got to a certain spot. So, in my final draft, I used his ideas and it made my editorial a lot better. I am also good at defining the writing task formula and it helps me to look back at it (and my coffin plans) and think and support myself with what I have written down and what I already know. At first, when I did my partnership conferencing, I didn't think it'd help me because I had never tried it before, but it helped me a whole lot! Those are the things I'm good at and some things I struggle with.

**Editor's Note: "Coffin plan" is another term Jenny Beasley and her students use for the handout "Ways to Organize a Problem/Solution Piece."*