Elizabeth Palacios

March 21, 2019

Instructor: Joseph Furlong

English 21001– Writing for Social Science

Reflection

The entire assignment was out of many students including myself, comfort zone. To further explain, in the beginning, I was challenged by getting paired up with a shy, quiet person; that doesn’t like to open up and express her feelings and thoughts. This challenged me to ask a lot of open questions to help me understand my partner, Ashely. Her subculture was being an active gym member, and I was able to relate to her because I also participate in this subculture. The interview process became easier once we found the connection of being a part of the same subgroup. Apart from my selective subculture questions, I also asked Ashley questions based on my experienced at the gym to see her perspective on it.

The most difficult part was the writing process; it was different from any given assignments that I had dealt with because of the way the writing had to be structured. The assignment was expected to be in the form of a story, that elaborated and explained the ritual, behaviors and the relationship that the interviewee experiences from being a member. Although I was aware of the paper’s form, it was still unclear to the specific way it had to be constructed. I had trouble with the writing process because when I compose a story, I incorporate myself into my writing. This was something I frequently caught myself doing, basing the narrative on my opinions and thoughts. However, my purpose was to give my readers insight and have a better comprehension of the life of a gym member. Throughout the process, I did strengthen my ability to transition into a set of ideas into another. I had difficulty in this aspect of the paper, being able to organize the responses that I received from the interview and making it flow nicely. After reading a well-written example of one of my classmates, I was able to have a better understanding of what was required and expected. Overall, the assignment made me confront an unfamiliar writing style that I would like to improve.