PAPER #2: REFLECTION

Rough draft due _______________
Final (revised) draft due _______________

Reflection1:
• A fixing of the thoughts on something; careful consideration
• A thought or an opinion resulting from such consideration

This week you will work with reflection leading to rewriting—this is a shift from a personal narrative to an essay reflecting on the personal experience that was the subject of paper #1.

Assignment:
• Paper #1, the personal narrative, will be REWRITTEN/(RE)VISIONED into paper #2, the reflective essay.
• In this new paper, no more than 2/3 or 1 page will contain the actual personal experience you wrote about in paper #1. This is because the experience of #1 serves only as the starting point for the reflective paper #2.
• Therefore, the first step in this rewrite will be summarizing and condensing of #1—a tighter, shorter version of the experience you are about to reflect upon.
• This is a shift from “showing” readers a particular experience, person or place to thinking about and exploring the larger meaning of that experience for you, the writer, and your readers.
• Now the writer’s primary concern is why this experience matters—to you and to the world at large—in other words, it’s time for generalizations about this particular experience. That generalization can take several directions—students could:
  o Explore the experience in relating to social problems and customs
  o Virtues and vices, or morality
  o Hopes and Fears, or emotional issues
• This point is to discover—not just what this experience means to the writer (in fact, that may be the conclusion of the first paper), but to learn what this kind of experience means to people in general (what is says about human nature, or society/world we live in, etc.). This is the analytical aspect of the experience rather than the experience itself.
• Length requirement: 2-3 pages. Any papers less than 2 pages long will not be read.

Format:
• Use word processing (i.e. Microsoft Word), double spacing, 12-point font, Times or Times New Roman, and standard 1” margins.
• Provide a title page with the following information:

      Title of Paper
      Your Name
      Course and section numbers
      Date the paper is due
      Paper #2 Reflection

NOTE: All peer edited drafts must be turned in with the final draft.

1 The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition