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English 111/ENF 3

Reading Literacy Narrative

My History as a Reader

I don’t like to read, I only like to read books that I have to read if its work related, or for school, growing up as a child, my family did not read to me. When I became older I had to do a lot of reading on my own: like reading magazines, books, and the newspaper to be informed about things that I needed to know to be educated about in life. I don’t have any children at this moment but I hope to have children one day, and to be able to read books to them from a very early age in their lives. In my passed school work I used to skim through texts for answers instead of reading through word-for- word, but I, found out that wasn’t helpful, because I was just answering questions and didn’t know what it was about. So I, started to spending time to read out the information, even if it means reading it more than once to get the proper understanding of what I am reading.

I have not been taught specific reading or text comprehension strategies such as SQ4R or others in the past. I don’t have a reading experience as a reader, because I don’t read a lot the only books I have read so far in a long time is *Warriors Don’t Cry* and the *Autobiography of Malcolm* X books that I had to read last semester for class. I haven’t listened to audiobooks because I didn’t have to but if needs be I would be more than happy to listen to audiobooks.

I do feel that reading well was important to my success in high school. Because in life if you’re going to be successful you have to be able to read with understanding. Based on my experience, my expectation that reading well will play in the role of my success in college, is that I will be more informed about things that I need to be aware of. So this means I need to read a lot more to be successful in my school work. To my knowledge I don’t have any reading difficulties, I understand what I read when I read. I do consider myself as a first generation college student, because neither of my parents went to college.

Since the start of this semester my interest for reading has improved, because am reading more books now than I was before, because I have learned that for me to be successful in collage or out of college I must read. I should read books that are related to my nature of work, such as human services books and that will give me some interest in reading, rather than just reading books that are of no significant.

I have also learned in this semester some very important skills that have been very helpful to me, such as using the Cornell notes taking. With this note taking skill I divide my paper into five sections, write the course name, date and topic at the top of the paper, all my notes must be to the right of my page. Notes should be written in shorthand and abbreviation as much as possible, write down only the main ideas, then summarize the notes for futher references. At the start of this semester I didn’t know what SQ4R meant. Now I know that I should always skim through the chapters that am reading, write down any question that I need answers for and to always read the chapter, and rewrite in my own words and review my work. I have also learned how to paraphrase my work, by writing in my own words the key points of a paragraph. And to summarize by writing out the main point from a paragraph. I have also learned in this semester how to go about start writing my essays, that first I have develop a thesis statement, introduce the topic, write the body of the essay and present my conclusion.