

Dr. Pantelides

Read the following excellent excerpts from your narratives. I've selected these moments because they were some of the most successful in the papers that I read. What makes these excerpts successful?

1. "I would consider Mark Jefferson the lungs of the campus, not the most exciting part of the body, but it is needed to survive."
2. "It's noon, there is plenty of light in the sky illuminating a normal chilly winter day. With only a light dusting of snow on the ground it is not slippery, and the few flakes in the air do not make it that cold. As students and a few faculty pass by not much noise is made, a few scuffs of feet, maybe a sniff of the nose, and even fewer words are spoken. Not many smells are traveling in the air today; the cold kind of restricts the ability for it to travel about, save the faint traces of automobile fumes lingering around."
3. "Over your head there is black ceiling that looks like an abyss shrouded by black steel bars and the lamps that hang down from them. Since the bars intersect at different levels you are left wondering just how far the ceiling goes up. Knowing that this room is on the first floor, and that you can walk directly above it on the second floor doesn't entirely shatter this illusion, because the question isn't if it ends, it's when it ends."
4. "Frustration is one of many words that come to mind in terms of Oakwood South parking lot. The commuter portion of the lot is located on the corner of Oakwood Street and West Circle Drive. On a good day, there are roughly 230 available parking spots in all. After a heavy snowfall, though, about 10 of those 230 spots are removed because of snow banks. Of the 230 grand total spots, about 15 of them are designated handicapped spots, 7 are for the biology and chemistry department vans, and 5 are for motor vehicles. The number of spots available in Oakwood South is miniscule in relation to the number of students attempting to get a parking spot in this lot on any given day."
5. "To some it probably reeked of sweat, but to me it was an aroma of enjoyment, of satisfaction, of happiness. As I enjoyed the pleasant perfume that surrounded me, I realized how loudly and frequently the squeaking sounds emanated from the binding foot structures worn by each maniac."

Project 1 Post-Workshop Recommendations

Important: Don't lose points for missing items! Make sure that you've included all of the process items in your portfolio, and double-check the assignment sheet before you turn it in to hit all of the necessary details.

Revision Requirements

If you choose to revise (and I highly encourage you to do so), please remember the following guidelines:

1. Revisions must be turned in by 3/4.
2. All changes in your document must be highlighted using "track changes."
3. Revisions must go beyond grammatical and mechanical changes that I've recommended and must instead substantively rethink the project.
4. I encourage you to meet with me in office hours to discuss your plans for revision.

Revision and Editing Recommendations

Narrative structure and Analysis

- After providing detailed, insightful observations, ask *how* and *why* these details matter
- Conclusions should provide the *significance* of your findings
- Avoid redundancy through careful editing
- Ensure that each paragraph has one clear focus that logically follows the previous paragraph
- Annotations must begin with a correct MLA Works Cited entry, an opening that identifies the title and source author, and authors should be referenced by last name throughout the text

Grammar and Mechanical Issues

- Incorrect comma usage
 - Use commas before and after introductory clauses, after a dependent clause, to set off parenthetical elements
- Comma splices (fused sentences and run-ons)
 - Remember FANBOYS
- Vague reference
 - Ensure that there is a referent for "this," "it," etc.
- Unnecessary conditional verb use
 - Use woulda, coulda, shoulda purposefully

Techniques and Tricks

- Using reverse outlines/ after-the fact outlines
- Reading out loud
- Watching for word repetition to avoid redundancy
- Showing not telling
- Replacing verbs