WP1: Reflecting on Who You Are as a Writer

Reflection is a really important part of learning. Because of this, your first assignment will ask you to look back on writing that you have done in the past to consider what kind of writer you are now.

The Basics
- Before you begin writing WP1, look at various kinds of writing that you've done in the past or do currently. Consider writing you've done in various contexts: for school, for work, or for fun. This may include many different types of writing, such text messages, status updates, online comments, chats emails, homework assignments, class essays, grocery lists, etc.
- Reflect on these types of writing and consider which types you are best at and which types you enjoy the most.
- Based on your reflection, come up with a **central claim** about who you are as a writer. This claim should be unique to you. For example, here are some possible claims:
    - I am a writer who enjoys writing about other people.
    - I am a writer who writes to build personal connections.
    - I am a writer who sticks to the facts when I write.
- Your entire paper needs to focus only on the central claim. To do so, you should provide **evidence from your past writing as support**. This evidence may come in many forms:
    - Screen captures of past writing. This is particularly useful if you are using from online. You might consider taking screen captures of your Twitter account, screen captures of text messages, or screen captures of online chats.
    - Quotes from your past writing. This is useful if you think a certain passage from your writing represents your point well.
    - Anecdotes about your writing process. This may help your readers get into your head as you write and see what you were trying to do.
    - NOTE: You are not required to use all three. Certain types of claims are better suited to different kinds of evidence.
- Your evidence should **connect directly to your central claim**. You should try to make this connection clear for your reader. How does each quote, screen capture, or anecdote support the claim?

The Audience
The audience for this first assignment is simple: you should write this paper to our class. Consider what knowledge class members are likely to have and not have when writing the paper.

Additional Requirements
All drafts must:
- Be a minimum of **1300 words.**
- Be double spaced
- Use Times New Roman font
- Have 1-inch margins
- Have a file name with your name, the assignment, and the draft (i.e. Ryan Shepherd WP1 First Draft)

Learning Objectives
In this assignment, you will learn:

- To reflect on your writing experience for assistance in current and future writing projects.
- To identify your own likes and strengths as a writer.
- To make a claim and support that claim with evidence.
- To gather primary evidence from past experience.
- To incorporate visual modes of communication into writing.

Grading Criteria

Your assignment will be graded on the following:

- **Clarity and Depth of Claim**: The claim that you make about your identity as a writer is clear, explicitly stated, and unique to you.
- **Focus on Who You Are as a Writer**: Your writing identity is the clear focus of the paper. You do not go off on unrelated tangents or write about things that do not help support your central claim.
- **Support for Your Claim**: You have used clear evidence to support your claim, such as screen shots, quotes, or anecdotes. The evidence is clear and explained well for your readers.
- **Connection between Your Evidence and Claim**: Your evidence is clearly connected to your claim. You state this connection directly and explain how the evidence helps to support the ideas presented in your claim.
- **Content Organization**: You have organized the content of your writing project in a reasonable way. Your information is easy to understand, and your points are easy to follow. There is both an introduction and a conclusion. The content is organized so as to present the information effectively. Paragraphs are ordered in such a way that they cannot be reordered at random, but instead provide logical transitions between ideas.
- **Attention to Assignment**: You adhere to the assignment as presented above, including main objectives, word count, attention to audience, and the additional requirements. You clearly understand what the assignment is asking you to do and are attempting to do it.
- **Manuscript preparation**: You have made changes between drafts that reflect attention to both instructor and peer comments. You have made an effort to improve your paper.

Drafts
- **First Drafts** are due on **Friday, June 27**th at the end of class time**.** First drafts are graded only on "The Basics" above.
- **Revised Drafts** are due on **Wednesday, July 2**nd at the beginning of class time**.** Revised drafts are graded only on attempts to respond to comments from the first drafts.
- **Final Drafts** are due on **Thursday, July 3**rd at the beginning of class time**.** Final drafts are graded on the "Grading Criteria" above.