Semester 1 reflection

Since the first semester I have seen considerable progress in my reading and writing abilities. My improvement in the Humanities course is a result of reading more advanced literature such as *The Odyssey* and *A Christmas Carol* and by learning new writing strategies and by writing more frequently than before. After reading *The Odyssey* my reading comprehension significantly improved as a result of the story’s difficultly to read and the questions that followed. After writing the TKAMB research paper I improved my understanding and ability to analyze information and properly relate it back to my thesis. I hope to see greater improvement and progress in my reading and writing skills in my Humanities class in the upcoming semester.

Over the course of the first semester my understanding and capability to analyze information and relate it back to the main idea has improved significantly. As time went on and I completed new essays I saw that analysis started to become one of my strengths rather than a weakness. In my Christmas Carol Theme essay my analysis was graded as a 3.5 out of 5 and was described as a solid analysis of text within the context of the prompt that could have been fully developed. This essay was the first of my essays to have analysis noted as a strength and this shows an improvement from my past works. In my Scrooge characterization essay I was given a 5 out of a possible 5 in the grading of my analysis and it was described as an excellent analysis prompt in terms of text. This grading was an improvement for the previous essay which shows progression in my analysis skills. Finally in my TKAMB research paper I scored a 4 out of a possible 4 in the analysis section, my performance was described as a clear articulate analysis in which the author thoughtfully connects examples to the thesis statement showing a mastery of material and critical thinking. My analysis performance on this essay was exemplary and shows improvement from past essays. Toward the second half other the first semester my essay grades began to increase due to better analysis. I was able to learn and improve my understanding of analysis with help from my teacher and by gaining writing experience by writing essays.

During the second half of the first semester I noticed that my reading comprehension skills improved significantly. One indication that my reading skills improved was that I scored highly on my Christmas Carol unit quiz. My high score proves that I am able to better understand and comprehend difficult literature. Another indication that my reading has improved is that during the reading of The Odyssey I found I was able to understand and correctly answer the study guide questions that followed the reading. My comprehension of The Odyssey proves that my reading skills have improved since the start of the year. Lastly my high score on the stave 1 reading quiz proves that I have developed better comprehension skills. I scored an 8 out of 10 proving that I am better able to comprehend and understand more advanced literature. I was able to improve my reading skills in semester 2 by reading more frequently and by reading more carefully and paying close attention to detail.

Over the course of semester 1 I have significantly improved my understanding and ability to analyze information and properly format it into an essay as well as improve my reading comprehension skills. I was able to achieve this improvement with help from teacher and by gaining more experience with reading and writing by challenging myself. In the future I hope to see further improvement in my reading and writing skills as well as improvement in other academic aspects of English class.