

Tutoring Form – Appointment

Last Name:

First Name:

Student #:

Phone #:

Email:

Purpose of Visit: **Discourse on Art Work**

Date of Visit: **November 3, 2005**

Tutor: **Tom Robles**

Student wanted to discuss her artwork. She needs to write about her most recent works, but was concerned about not being able to do that because of the disparateness of her work. This seeming lack of consistency was something that worried her.

Student started to talk about her artwork in the context of her overall interest, which has to do with nature, environmental concerns, and sustainability. She talked of how her approach to art was something very raw, unrefined, unplanned, and primal. She laid out on the floor four examples of her art work, each distinct from the other, yet still possessing the overall theme of nature in its use of colour, materials, texture, and un-geometric, anthropomorphic shapes. She also spoke of how she went with her gut instincts every time she embarked on another art project, resisting the subjugation of the linear and the sophisticated.

I assured the student that talking about her work is one way she can learn about it, that despite the limitations of the linear, the rational and the sophisticated, talking aloud—in other words, expressing freely—can help her manifest ideas. Student agreed that talking about her work allows her to crystallize in her mind what her work was all about. More importantly, this exercise has helped her focus on the connection between her artwork and her personal life—how doing art helps her release her fears, angst, and anger.

In future, student will bring a tape recorder to these tutoring sessions as it may help her inform and organize her notes for future writing projects.

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Purpose of Visit: **Feedback on Critical Essay**

Date of Visit: **March 14, 2005**

Tutor: **Tom Robles**

Student wanted some feedback on her outline for a critical essay. Assignment requires student to do a comparative analysis of two books on the theme of 'place'.

Student had already written an outline as well as composed a thesis statement on her topic, but she felt stymied by what she had to do next.

I provided the student with a handout on the writing process, which I reviewed with her. This handout outlines the steps of the writing process: from the planning, drafting, revising, and editing stages. Key questions and strategies were concurrently proposed that could help in generating and clarifying ideas, identifying objectives and her audience, and devising a structure. I then engaged the student in a discussion on the concept of 'place' by asking her questions on what this meant to her. From this discussion, student's questions were answered and apprehension somewhat allayed .

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Purpose of Visit: **Feedback on the progress of a research essay**

Date of Visit: **February 22, 2005**

Tutor: **Tom Robles**

Student wanted feedback and advice on a research essay she'd started but hadn't finished yet. She was having difficulties maintaining cohesion and clarity.

Her topic had to do with an analytical essay on Italian Renaissance interior architecture and decorative arts, with a specific focus on the relatively recent need and use for furniture. I suggested that her topic needed a context on which her audience could develop a better understanding for her topic. The student had been developing this context but she was concerned about it because she feels the need to comply with certain writing conventions for which she doesn't have an affinity.

I reassured the student that many of her concerns were part of the writing process and that she shouldn't be critical of her own approach to writing. Student feels the need to reconcile her critical self-reflections and the lack of an affinity to specific writing conventions; however, I reassured she needn't because the writing process is a very personal one and should, therefore, be based on initially developing a connection with one's topic. Without this connection, one cannot write about a topic. Student now feels better about the notion of choosing a topic that resonates with her, and that she doesn't have to expend much energy writing about.