**Self-Reflection Formal Paper**

Students—you are finishing your freshman year of high school! You have taken many tests (pass or fail), homework assignments (completed or not), and hopefully made many connections (peers and teachers). Confucius is a world-renowned philosopher who once said: "*By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest*." Essentially he’s saying that we become wise by: 1) Reflecting on what we do, 2) Copying what other great people do, and 3) Learning from our experiences and putting ourselves out there. So even though you are just starting your high school career, it will be over before you know it, and you don’t want to start preparing for the future and realize you haven’t done what you should have!

Therefore, you will complete this formal assignment to analyze where you’re going in comparison to where you are right now. You’ll evaluate your progress and think about how you can fix any mistakes before they become dire!

This assignment is a paper, and should follow the paper formats, grammar, and punctuation conventions that we have been working with and perfecting in class.

**Paper Guidelines**

* Three (3) *full* pages, double-spaced
* MLA format
* Works Cited (only if you use quotes)
* 1-inch margins
* 12-point font, Times New Roman or Arial Narrow

**Paper Assignment**

Your paper will be a how-to guide for current 8th-graders who will be in your shoes next year. You will write it in *third person*, as if you are a professional (which you are becoming!) You will write it for a student who is like you and wants to go into the job you want to go into. For example, if you want to be a doctor but the module made you realize that you don’t study enough, you will write the paper as if you are knowledgeable about how to become a doctor and how to change those habits. On the flip side, if you want to be a doctor and you have found that you have *good* study habits, you will encourage your reader to perfect those skills to get where they want to go.

Your paper should ***NOT*** include “you”, “your”, “I”, etc.

For example, if I were a student in the first doctor example, I might write something like this: **“Many students aspire to be lawyers, but one of the most noble professions is to be a doctor. There are different kinds of doctors, but one of the best kinds of doctors are [insert type of doctor you want to be]. Students who want to be doctors should evaluate their poor study habits. Poor study habits include procrastinating, cramming the last minute, or not studying at all. These are bad because…”**

Throughout this paper, you will reflect on your own practices as a student and why your methods may be good or bad, but you will not mention yourself at all. Instead, you will write it as if you are teaching someone else how to either:

1. Keep doing what you have been doing
2. Or how to make changes

To help you evaluate the type of student you are, there are two quizzes you can take to reflect:

1. <https://goo.gl/TD6SN3>
2. <https://goo.gl/YJ4Yfc>

This is your time to put everything we have learned so far to the test! If you get confused about your notes, please ask a friend or ask me for help.

If you decide to use quotes from online, **you will need a Works Cited page**. If you have any quotations and no Works Cited page, you will automatically lose 20 points. Any MLA format errors will result in a loss of 10 points, and late papers will lose 10 points per day late.

**Paper due: Wednesday, May 10th**

*If the date needs to change I will let you know. Due by THE BEGINNING OF YOUR BLOCK.*