

Reflective Writing

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1. Researching My Role

To get started, I looked for reliable academic papers and industry reports. I'm proud of how I used the "CRAAP test" After I asked my teacher on how can I use it and she has explained to me what it is to check if my sources were actually up-to-date and trustworthy it made me feel much more confident in the data I found. One thing I learned, though, is that I spent way too much time doing broad searches. Next time, I'll use specific search shortcuts (like Boolean operators) to find exactly what I need faster.

2. Preparing to Present

I've been getting ready for my presentation by building a clear slide deck and practicing my delivery to make sure the transitions feel smooth. I'm happy with how my slides look—they really help make the key points easy to follow. One thing I'm working on is not relying too much on my notes so I can keep better eye contact. Next time, I'll use shorter bullet points on my cue cards so my speaking feels more natural and less like I'm reading.

3. Challenges I've Hit

The biggest struggle so far has been dealing with "information overload." I'm good at finding data, but I find it hard to decide what is actually essential versus what is just "nice to know." I also noticed that when I get nervous, I tend to rush my pacing. I think having a peer look over my work or doing a few timed practice runs would really help me feel more settled and confident.

4. How I Plan to Improve

Before next term, I want to get better at staying organized. My goal is to start annotating my sources as soon as I find them, rather than leaving it all until the end. I also want to practice "lightning talks" basically summarizing a big topic in just a minute to help me get better at being concise. If I stay organized during the research phase, the final writing will be much easier.

5. Next Steps for Task 3

To get ready for Task 3, I'm going to map out my report structure and put my new research skills to work. I have a three-step plan: use advanced filters to save time, double-check my citations as I go, and stick to a strict word count for each section so I don't ramble. My goal is to finish a solid first draft early so I have plenty of time to polish it before the deadline.