

My Academic skill achievement

In my first year at college, I experienced a moment that greatly reshaped the way I approached academic work. It happened at the end of the year when deadlines were piling up and I didn't believe I would've complete it all in time. The experience happened when I stayed in the college library after my class finished. I had gone there to complete a research task for my course.

The assignment seemed simple enough. I got tasked to a prepare short research portfolio analysing my work. I assumed it would be no different from the type of online research I had done before. When studying at the library I felt the confidence overwhelming me, I was someone who believed they could complete the work in one afternoon. When I opened the assignment brief, I felt certain I understood what to do. But as soon as I began the actual research phase, I realised I had underestimated the complexity of the task. The assignment needed a very in depth research document including Harvard referencing. When I started my research it all looked overwhelming; and for the first time in a long while, I felt completely out of my depth.

My initial thought was, This can't be that hard. Everyone else must be doing fine, maybe I just need to try harder. But every search brought up hundreds of articles, most of which weren't relevant. I stared at the bright computer screen, feeling the beginnings of frustration, even the clicking of keyboards around me was slowly nerve wracking me.

After a while I still didn't have anything useful. At one point, I was thinking to my self how am I already stuck? Eventually, I forced myself to pause. I took a deep breath, closed the browser tabs, and tried to rethink the situation. Instead of panicking, I decided to break the process down into steps. First, I opened a blank document and wrote, What exactly do I need to find?I tried again and attempted more specific searches. Slowly, things began to make more sense.

I found a useful research articles that related to my Assigment Once I put everything together in my head it made more and more sense as I went along. What had seemed impossible an hour earlier It suddenly felt possible. By the time

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I finished the research and saved my notes, the sun had set outside the large library window, leaving the sky a deep shade of winter blue. I felt tired but proud. The experience had been far more difficult than I expected, but I walked away with a new appreciation for the digital academic skills university life required.

A positive aspect was the resilience I gained from working through confusion rather than giving up. It would have been easy to close my laptop and return the next day, hoping the task would somehow feel easier. But the difficulty taught me that academic growth often comes through confronting unfamiliar situations and adapting quickly. The patience and focus I had that day became useful in many of my later assignments. The downside was that my stress levels increased quickly. Sitting alone in the library surrounded by students who all looked confident made me feel uncomfortable asking for help. Looking back, I regret not trying to get support sooner from either classmates or from the library staff who were there to help.

Finally, the experience revealed gaps in my focus when it comes to complex issues that I had been unaware of. While it was useful to discover these weaknesses, it was also humbling to confront how limited my skills had been.