

Habiba - Final Submission

by Habiba Hassaan

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PART A

Create a personal website to showcase your professional brand

Personal Website showcasing my Art Portfolio:

[Habiba Hassaan \(habibahh.com\)](http://habibahh.com)

PART B

Write a Zander letter to yourself (600 words):

Dear Habiba,

It is December 16, 2023, and I am so proud of myself because this year I have achieved so much. I successfully passed all my classes in the fall and spring semesters at California State University Long Beach (CSULB), with positive feedback from my professors and a great GPA. In the summer, I was a Visual Development Intern at Walt Disney Animation Studios, an experience that was exceptionally enriching and beneficial to my career. In addition, I also started working on campus in January 2023.

A year ago from today, the new year of 2023 was approaching and I wanted to do things differently. I needed to be prepared for the workload that starts as soon as the semester begins. The possibility of changing bad habits into positive ones, made me eager and curious to know how good change can lead to a positive impact to my artwork and career. I realized that for me to improve in any way it is essential to understand the challenges and issues I struggle with. I wrote down the difficulties that make it harder for me to focus on tasks. My biggest problems were bad sleeping habits, getting distracted easily, and not having enough motivation to work on projects. Therefore, I decided to plan my weeks in a way that will make me more focused, productive, and motivated. To do so, I read various articles on how to manage my time more efficiently, make better sleeping habits, and become self-disciplined.

For years, I have always been very tired and sleepy in classes, as well as unable to work on my assignments all day because I have not slept well the day before. A change needed to be done. I started by setting a specific realistic bedtime that I gradually aimed to reach every day

and stopped looking at any screen an hour before I went to sleep. I created a routine that signals to my brain that it is time to rest, by reading a book before sleeping, and listening to the Quran because it soothes me.

Moreover, one of the major reasons why I was able to achieve so much this year is that I realized how I work more efficiently in the computer lab, libraries, and coffee shops, because I am less distracted and more energetic than if I was in my room. I started planning and scheduling specific times each week to go study and focus on a specific task.

Another issue I deal with is that I get overwhelmed when reading the briefs each semester because of how much work needs to be done. However, I was able to finish projects more smoothly by taking small steps daily that helped me break the task down into smaller, more manageable tasks. I made weekly goals after understanding the workload of each week and schedule studying times that are suitable with the workload. With planning ahead, I finally started working on projects right away and did not wait until the last minute to work on them. I am no longer procrastinate.

I am not someone who is usually self-disciplined when it comes to setting goals and being motivated to achieve them. But when I set specific time to work on assessments, I used some of the techniques that I read in articles, that made me more motivated and self-disciplined. I tried the Pomodoro Technique which is a time management method that is based on focusing on a task for 25 minutes and taking a break for 5 minutes. That made me able to improve productivity and become more focused on the task at hand.

With the end of another year, and looking back at my achievements last year, there are some techniques and tools that really helped me reach my full potential that I will continue doing next year.

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FINAL GRADE

70/100

GENERAL COMMENTS

Instructor

1. Engagement With Literature Skills (68%)

A good amount of research has been submitted in the e-portfolio, with a range of sources relating to study techniques, web design and portfolio production. This has been presented in IEEE format as requested – good work.

2. Knowledge & Understanding Skills (70%)

A good understanding of web design and development is present in the website, with visual consistency and a minimalist approach letting the work do the talking (rather than the platform it is hosted on). This is what a promotional website should do.

An appreciation of the Zander letter technique has been evidenced in the submitted work, with additional independent methods of increasing productivity applied such as the Pomodoro Technique. This is good as it demonstrates an ability for individual learning and taking responsibility for your studies.

3.Cognitive & Intellectual Skills (70%)

Analytical processes are evidenced in the Zander letter where problems have been identified and solutions (or suggestions) have been offered. This is important because by acting on these solutions you can actually help increase your wellbeing, creativity and productivity. I hope some of the solutions

proposed help you in the future!

4. Practical Application Skills (73%)

The website is a clean and easy to navigate design with consistency and simplicity at its core. This is an improvement on the initial navigation menu and helps make the whole presentation feel more professional.

The Zander letter is written well with your concerns, weaknesses and solutions put forward in a clear and articulate manner. It is also written in context – as a future version of yourself, looking back on the successes of 2023. Good work.

5. Transferrable Skills for Life and Professional Practice (68%)

The e-portfolio has been submitted on time and follows the criteria outlined in the brief.

The website contains a lot of your work, which will hopefully serve you well in the future – adding to this over time will ensure that you build up a strong selection of content for people to see.

The letter is written well with no evidence of grammatical errors or typos in the work.

