

In this reflective piece I will be drafting together a personal review on my own development during the process of making and preparing the group video. I will be discussing how I interpreted Gibbs' reflective cycle into my own work and how I used the design thinking strategies to exceed in my own personal development. I worked closely with 2 individuals; we all communicated and assigned each other jobs to each person so the load was equally shared. Gibbs reflective cycle is a framework for structured reflection on experiences. It involves describing, reflecting, analysing, drawing a conclusion, and creating action plans. I lightly used Gibbs' reflective cycle in areas of the presentation we were asked to provide. Our task was to create a Pecha Kutchu presentation and base it around a 'wicked problem'. As a group we communicated a few known wicked problems and decided on one that stood out to us the most, a category that is known to people and a global issue. For our presentation, we chose 'Homelessness and children in education' Homelessness is a strong and powerful subject, many are drawn attention to the significant subject, especially that it can involve young children and their education. We decided to rename the title and have a more attention catching title, we renamed our presentation 'Hidden in the walls – homelessness and children in education'.

Our lecturer arranged us all into groups and I was placed in a strong group of 3. Myself and my other fellow team members were first had a teams meeting online to discuss and brainstorm ideas and suggestions on what we were planning to do. To begin with we each individually decided on titles of what we could each research and have a set target to meet. Discussing with effective communication, we all produced a game plan and a date for each next team meeting. I chose the subject of my contribution to be based on 'Temporary accommodation, this I personally chose because children in temporary accommodation face a greater risk to their education being effected. Our aim was to make the subjects a sales pitch and use design thinking and interpret how we could erase the following issues. Whilst I was working on my first subject, I started to feel slightly nervous that I wasn't on the right track I needed to be on with my research. Whilst communication with my group about the subject I recognised I was in a 'fight or flight' situation. I felt unsure on whether to go ahead with the following research I had started or to ask for further advice. To fight against, me and my team arranged a teams meeting with our lecturer. I felt slightly stressed and trapped which put a pause on my work and confidence in what I was doing. We used the meeting to an advantage and took on any information we were given wisely. After this I was able to understand a little more of what I needed to individually produce. This put me more at peace, I asked any questions I needed to in confidence and drafted lots of notes to help myself.

During the experience me and my team were choosing dates on when to complete our specific research by so that we were able to have targets of when to complete things

by. Unfortunately, due to family commitments we were all unable to meet up physically, however we communicated strongly to decided on dates and times that suited us all and have regular meetings and check-ins. I was able to create the beginning of the presentation by sharing on one-drive a link for us all to edit in our own work so that we could do it all in our own times. This I felt was a slight challenge sometimes, I felt this because it was intimidating when other work was being uploaded not by me and I wasn't sure if mine was good enough. I felt slight panic and a bit stressed. To erase the problem of this I communicated with my group to see if they were happy with my evidence. It was particularly challenging at times as we were in control of the work load ourselves and were not in a room all together to produce ideas to help one another.

In evaluation of the experience and naming what went well; our strongest asset was our confidence in one another. At some points there were times I was struggling and felt in fight or flight situations; however, my team gave me the confidence to continue but also, I gave back the same positive attitudes. If we could have improved on something I would suggest we had more team meetings, it became slightly challenging and stressful at times to make sure things were correct, everyone was happy, and we all had a clear picture. One of our fight or flight situations as a group, arose during our pre-planning and first attempts of our presentation, I began the first editing of our PowerPoint, however wasn't fully clear on instructions. I began creating a PowerPoint presentation instead of a Pecha Kutcha presentation, resulting in my two team members questioning my work I had started for a few days. My two team members assured me it would be wise to meet with our lecturer before we continued and wasting work time and efforts. I felt unsure of this as we had a date target we had to hand in by which made me feel uneasy about not doing any further work. I decided to listen to my team and wait for the meeting with our lecturer, however it still made me feel nervous. By my team having a strong and positive connection with me they were able to communicate their feelings without me feeling any negative thoughts about my previous work and or research.

In analysis and to dig deeper into the experience, I would ensure my group was 100% happy before all of us going off to our own work, I would've even suggested a few more meetings during the first few weeks and maybe done screen-shares so we could all see what was happening. To work with a group that is unable to be physically present to every meeting can be particularly challenging and demanding.

As an action plan for the future, I would ensure that before me and my group were to go off and do our own research, we all had a clear understanding of the tasks given and ask any questions at the start to our lecturer. By leaving it for a couple of weeks to pass by without asking our lecturer for help, it set us back and also wasted any research we didn't need to provide. Because the previous research we did was

incorrect, it set us back. As a team there needs to be strong and positive communication, have a clear development plan, consider any specific strategies and or evaluate regularly. Feelings and behaviours also need to be revisited and approached regularly to ensure everyone is happy and no one is feeling any negative feelings.

In conclusion and to summarise the following reflective piece I have drafted together about the progress and personal development of making a group video, personally I would ensure that I would revisit any tips and advice from my lecturer more early on before going ahead and gathering the incorrect information and I will also listen more to my team about their own personal achievements and what they would like to get out of the task. As a personal target for myself, first look at the task on the assessment sheet and decided personally what I would like to achieve and get out of the subject. I would extensively use Gibbs' reflective cycle and design thinking to support all my strategies going further. Being in academic circumstances, design thinking gives me a wider range to be more self-aware and promote self-confidence. Whilst researching and providing my personal workload for my group, I believe I could have potentially added more notes and created a visual brainstorm of my own ideas and research before I were to begin drafting. I would ensure that I used design thinking religiously as part of my academic studying, this would help both myself and help my other team members to achieve higher. I thoughtfully enjoyed working closely with the 2 individuals I was put into a team with. I believe a smaller group can be more challenging due to less ideas and less minds but with effective reflective cycles and design thinking, you will be able to provide a more structured, systematic way to analyse experiences and closely show areas for improvement. Overall I was and am happy with the task we were given, it was a lovely experience to work with other students and collaborate ideas and see how each person completes their work in specific ways. I enjoyed the overall experience and there is room for personal development in each area of work.

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