**Core Competencies Reflection**

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|  | Core Competency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Creative Thinking\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Here is evidence that I can…** generate new ideas, build upon my ideas, build upon or combine ideas of others, develop ideas through experimentation or writing, use setbacks to advance my thinking, take significant risks with my thinking etc. During our English Society Sway assignment, it was very important to use my creative thinking skills in order to be successful. One of the ways that I was able to use my creative thinking skills was when working on this assignment was when I was designing the format of it. Since we were using a Sway to present our work, it was hard at first for me to learn how to use the tools provided because I had never used the platform before. However, after experimenting with it for a while, I was able to build enough basic skills to be able to merge my ideas with the tools available on Sway. Doing this also meant that I needed to use my creative thinking skills to change my original ideas to format them to fit inside the Sway. Both of these skills were shown in the final product through the overall pleasing look of the slides, as well as how easy it is to read and absorb the information that has been smoothly integrated in with the images. These aspects showed that I was able to learn how to use the platform and find creative ways to integrate my ideas with the tools provided by Sway. Aside from designing the presentation, I also used creative thinking when brainstorming ideas of how to present my work.  One of the most impactful ways creative thinking was able to aid our brainstorming sessions, was using it to build on each other’s ideas. My partner and I would regularly build on each other’s ideas during the planning stages for working out what key events we wanted to include, how much information we wanted to include for each event, how we could make our presentation more visually appealing, and much more. Another aspect of creative thinking I was able to utilize, was doing extensive research beforehand on each of the events so that I could quickly come up with ideas of how I wanted to format my writing. This was shown during the written information section of each of the 10 events included in our timeline. Lastly, I showed that I could generate new ideas that my group didn’t think of. For instance, I thought to use a title box for all of our written information instead of a normal text box because the title box allowed our text to be read easier and allowed us to put a nice background behind the text for aesthetic purposes. These were just a few ways I was able to use some creative thinking to benefit our overall product. Ways I want to improve are… Even though I can fluently use many components of creative thinking, there are still a few that I need to work on. One of the many aspects of creative thinking that I want to improve on for the future would be finding ways to calm my mind so that I can think clearer and more efficiently. Some steps that could push me in the right direction to succeeding my goal would be listening to music while working because it usually does a good job of keeping me focused or taking a short break to give my brain a rest. A different aspect that I want to work on is being more open-minded about new ideas and ways of doing things. I can often get stuck into my usual procedure for carrying out tasks because it had worked before. For example, if I needed to make a visual aid for a presentation, my go-to method would always be Powerpoint because it’s what I’m comfortable with. By trying to be more open-minded, I can introduce myself to new creative possibilities that would make my presentation stand out from the many that are all doing the same thing. I think if I can introduce these two skills into my repertoire than I will be able to raise my overall work to the next level. |  |