**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.  Now within this project, I was able to demonstrate my creative thinking through several aspects. Having a some of the contributing factors fall under the category of novelty and value; in which I will elaborate furthermore throughout this paragraph. I was able to generate ideas when I “played” in this case, during my spare time. This resulted in my ideas being “fun for me”, thus making me happy. Now having mentioned this, I was unable to produce creative ideas from the very beginning that had been enjoyable for me. (Ex. Diary entries, essays, etc.). However, after a certain period of time, I caught myself developing an idea in the midst of an extracurricular activity that I enjoyed participating in; and that interest was in animation. Though most people will consider this either or a skill/ talent, without having a firm mindset on heave it set as to my future pursuit, I look at it as a hobby. Therefor meaning that I was able to develop the structure for my project while I had been “playing”. Furthermore, with this activity making me feel “happy”; it made the whole process more enjoyable, and additionally produce great content towards the end of the project. Nevertheless, adding onto this, I was also able to demonstrate the ability to build on other people’s ideas to create a new thing within the constraints of a form. After receiving the criteria in proposing some suggestions as to what our project could potentially look like, (ex. skit, video, infographic, etc.) Many of my peers had either chosen to go along with the “skit-video”, or infographic. Taking this into consideration, in addition to generating my idea during my spare time another contributing factor as to choose what I had chosen was wanting to build on other’s ideas to create a better project, which would end up incorporating many ideas together. Next, having developed the project outline in how I would want to display it; I was able to develop a body of creative work overtime in an area that I am interested in. Once I had completed my research, I was able to construct in a creative manner by putting into a cartoon-like video that would make the information that I was presenting seem more appealing for my classmates to learn about. I was able to express my creativity through a “hobby” I had been interested in (animation) to show it in a unique way.  When reaching the portion of the project where I had to construct everything, I was able to “creatively research”, add, and construct it, which I explain within this paragraph. Now considering the research portion of the assignment, I was able to deliberately learn a lot more about my topic, by doing research on the web/ through textbooks; along with learning about certain aspects in class (discussions, lessons, etc.). With the requirement mentioning that quality information had to be embedded within the project, in addition to the previous knowledge I had on my topic with having learned about in class (the Boston massacre), I decided to go further in depth to learn more about this incident. This consisted of looking at multiple perspectives towards this event, the opinions that historians had, examining how it affected our society today, and so on. Furthermore, after having noticed that that much of the information had been very generic “retelling of history”. I was able to build on others’ ideas and add new ideas of my own/ combine other people’s ideas in new ways to create a new thing. By combing the many opinions that various people had on the event (contrasting from each other). It gave “more depth” to the incident as opposed to just looking at it from one viewpoint (usually the positive one). By examining the views from the enemy, it provided an explanation as to their reasoning behind the event. In summary, by combining different aspects that I had gathered after having researched the Boston Massacre further in depth, not only did it stand out from many different articles, but it also gave more perspective as well. Now throughout the process of creating this project, there had been many times where I had gotten “bored” of it and lacked creativity. Which is why I was able to generate strategies for quieting my conscious mind (e.g. walking away for a while, doing something relaxing) so that I can be more creative. By doing this, not only did it give my brain a break from all the research, etc. But it gave me a chance to peruse my other interests during that time, in which I was able to become more creative, which would ultimately help to benefit my project. For example, when deciding to take a break for a while, to peruse my other interest (guitar/ singing), I gained more ideas as to how I could benefit my project, and with the singing component, it inspired me to create a poem based on the event, and incorporate it into the assignment.  Finally, in the sense of developing ideas, I was able to adjust, learn from, expand on my ideas, which I will followingly discuss. Now with having mentioned that I had chosen the Boston Massacre as my core topic. Beforehand, I had chosen the declaration of independence. For I had assumed that since we had received the most information about it in class, it would be the easiest to talk about. However, after beginning the research portion, I had quickly realized the huge quantity of information that the declaration of independence had supporting it. Being such a major event. Now with the time frame provided to complete this assignment, I realized that with the method that I was deciding to present it in, it would take forever to complete the assignment. In addition to this. With it being such a major event, many people knew the majority of what happened. This caused me to change what I had originally intended to do. Halfway through the project, I had lost a lot of confidence within my project with having been at it for a long period of time. This resulting in me procrastinating on the assignment cause me to finish it at the last minute. Nonetheless, I was able to build the skills of time management, and persistence I needed to make my ideas work, even though it took a few tries. I was able to demonstrate persistence by not giving up the first time that I had lost the majority of my progress, and furthermore show it towards the end when I “had lost faith” in the project. Through this project however, I am able to use my experiences with various steps and attempts to direct my future work. I was able to take away time-management skills and learning to not wait till the last minute to finish an assignment to prevent problems, such as risking not having enough time to finish an assignment in the event that my work is lost.  Ways I want to improve are…  As discussed above, something that I would improve for next time if I were to do the project again, is to improve my time management skills, and decrease procrastination to maximize productivity, and relive the stress of not finishing the assignment on time. Another thing that I would improve, is to spend more time to choose more reliable sites in order to make sure the information that I am recording is accurate, as opposed to sharing incorrect information. |  |