

Individual Work Reflection Prompts

During the semester, we will think and write about our experiences with individual work through structured reflections following the “Three What” model. While I don’t expect you to write extensively for each reflection, I do expect you to address each area (What? So What? Now What?) and use the prompts as a way to think deeply about your individual writing experiences and connect them with our course readings. These should be at least one single-spaced page.

Reflection 1

What?: By this point, you have begun work. What are you doing at this point to conduct research on your set of instructions? How do you feel about research so far? Have you selected the sources you will use to find out more about writing in your field? How do you feel the project is going so far?

So What?: Why/how have these experiences been meaningful for you? What have you learned from them? Did you notice overlap between class readings and your experiences? If so, what were they?

Now What?: Did you notice anything about your research that relates to your goals and expectations for a career or graduate school? How do you plan to apply what you learned from the experience and your class readings to your work in this class for the middle part of the term?

Reflection 2

What?: By this point, you have conducted some research for your technical summary, and you may have even begun work on the document. What have you learned so far from this research? How do you feel about these experiences?

So What?: Why/how have these experiences been meaningful for you? What have you learned from them? Did you notice overlap between class readings and your experiences? If so, what were they?

Now What?: What do you plan to do next to ensure a successful outcome for your summary?

Reflection 3

What?: By this point, you should have done enough reading and work for the class that you can think about how professional writing might connect to your future plans for graduate school or employment. Using what we have read for class and your experiences, try to address these questions: What connections do you see between writing and technology and your project? How do you see the reader-centered approach working in this project?

So What?: People often take technology for granted because it is a such a normal part of our everyday lives. But in fact, the skills we use to navigate through our technologies as we act and write are highly refined. Considering technology as the frame for this question, how do you think usability – or the lack thereof – impacts the use of technology in our society? What about conducting usability testing on your summary was meaningful for you? What did you learn from Project 3 in terms of your skills and attitude but also in terms of technology and writing?

Now What?: How might your work on this project impact your actions in the future? What skills might you apply to your time in graduate school or on the job? How might you use your skills in technology, usability, and writing to help others?