Holly Bernard

Mrs. Fields

English III

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1920’s Research Project Self-Reflection

An introduction to a self-reflective essay is a preview of what you'll be discussing. Developing a thesis statement that illustrates the major points of your reflection can give readers a preview of the content without giving too many of the details away in the beginning. A student writing an essay on her academic growth, for example, might write as a thesis, "Through my work on my final research paper, I've learned how to do stronger research and use an objective voice, but I still need to work on structure and transitions."

In this paragraph you might start by considering what your experience taught you and how it has changed you as a student or person. Specific details and anecdotes from the experience will help to clearly demonstrate your areas of growth.

In this paragraph you can begin by talking about skills, responses and actions that have been strengthened by this experience, then move into a discussion of areas that need work.

Throughout your reflection, you should make a case for how the experience has stimulated your personal growth. By the conclusion, readers should have a clear, specific idea of how the experience affected you and particular ways you have made progress. In a reflective essay, you can approach the conclusion by talking about how you plan to use what you learned from this experience in the future. For example, you can talk about how the knowledge and experiences you gained will be useful in future classes, jobs, relationships and other aspects of your life.

*Please note that this portion is also written in MLA format.*