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WRIT5 Section 28 – Cultures of Place

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Project 2 Postmortem Reflection

Reflection

In writing this research essay, what was most new to me was the idea of gathering a large number of sources from which to synthesize an idea. I am used to writing argumentative essays, so simply answering a research question and taking less of a biased approach was difficult at first for me. For a while, I was still arguing a thesis, but I managed to evolve my ideas past this and actually create and answer a research question. Some techniques that really helped me were applying the IMRD structure to the ideas I already had, and organizing them accordingly.

I also gained a great amount from the idea of constantly tying my newly introduced ideas back to my main point or main idea. At the end of every paragraph, I started to incorporate something that related that idea to my point. The re-stating of ideas was something I originally found redundant, but I now see how important it is to clearly communicating ideas. I also have found myself, even now, writing in more active voice and with clearer syntax and vocabulary, which I learned from Williams and Bizup. Overall, the most helpful part of the writing process to me was the thorough planning of organization. I spent a lot of time just writing out an outline of my essay and arranging my ideas in an intuitive order before I even wrote the content, and this hugely influenced my final product.