

## Self Assessment Essay Second Draft

At the beginning of this semester, I didn't think about how much I would grow from my classes. Not just as a writer or reader but as a student and person entirely. I didn't really expect too much from the class since to me it wasn't super important at the time and I just didn't really care too much since it was just English. But I've learned a lot about how to express myself whether that be through an assignment, peer review/feedback, whenever we discuss in class and in Slack.

Because of you, I learned how to be a better writer and reader. I think the best way to show this would be to compare a paper of mine from the beginning of my semester to a paper of mine more recently.

Randy Nunez  
Eng 210

Too American

I was listening to music in my room and it was La Romana by Bad Bunny. I was chilling when I heard my cousin laughing outside. I asked him what was so funny, and he responded "Why are you listening to that song when you don't even know what he is saying?" I did understand most of the song but there were certain words that I did not know. Throughout my life, there have been many moments where I struggled with my identity, culture, and who I was.

My family always said that I would choose American things over Dominican things. I would listen to English music in Spanish. Read English books over Spanish books. I would talk at home in Spanish but when it came to writing it would be butchered. My family says I never struggled to learn English. I would choose American food over Dominican food. I didn't know how to dance bachata or merengue. My family thought I was more American than Dominican and the only thing that made me Dominican was the fact that I could speak Spanish and that was all. There was this one joke that my brother always used to make whenever I mentioned that I'm Dominican or Hispanic around him and he would always say "barely"

My parents and most of my family were born in DR and then moved to New York. I'm the youngest in the family so I ended up being born in Brooklyn. My skin tone is much lighter than most and my hair was straight, not curly. My parents and sister have the same skin complexion as me but compared to my cousins and other Hispanics, they have skin

***Phase 3: OP-ED, Final Version***

Randy Nunez  
Eng 210

Too American

I was listening to music in my room and it was La Romana by Bad Bunny. I was chilling when I heard my cousin laughing outside. I asked him what was so funny, and he responded "Why are you listening to that song when you don't even know what he is saying?" I did understand most of the song but there were certain words that I did not know. Throughout my life, there have been many moments where I struggled with my identity, culture, and who I was.

My family always said that I would choose American things over Dominican things. I would listen to English music in Spanish. Read English books over Spanish books. I would talk at home in Spanish but when it came to writing it would be butchered. My family says I never struggled to learn English. I would choose American food over Dominican food. I didn't know how to dance bachata or merengue. My family thought I was more American than Dominican and the only thing that made me Dominican was the fact that I could speak Spanish and that was all. There was this one joke that my brother always used to make whenever I mentioned that I'm Dominican or Hispanic around him and he would always say "barely"

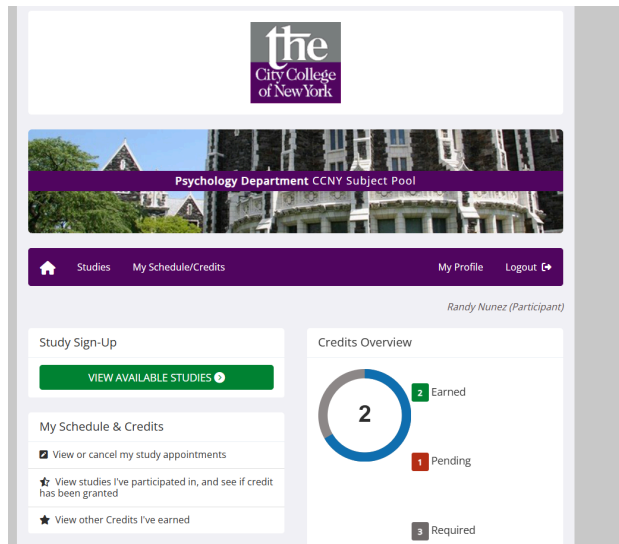
My parents and most of my family were born in DR and then moved to New York. I'm the youngest in the family so I ended up being born in Brooklyn. My skin tone is much lighter than most and my hair was straight, not curly. My parents and sister have the same skin complexion as me but compared to my cousins and other Hispanics, they have skin

***Phase 1: My Story, Final Edition***

In my more recent paper, I think I'm more professional and use stronger punctuation and grammar. This isn't the only example. You could compare a bunch of my papers and in the more recent ones, I have better writing structure, better sourcing, better understanding of the audience I choose and purpose of the paper and more. I also became a better reader in the process. Over time I was able to understand other papers of my classmates the more I read them and whenever we would have to give them feedback, that grew stronger too. I was able to develop a sort of a voice and understand different types/styles of reading.

Because of your class, I learned to be more social. In the beginning of the semester, I would say I was somewhat social. When we all shared things with each other through Slack. I took it as an opportunity to talk to other classmates and just try to relate to them. If something like that didn't happen, I probably wouldn't have gone outta my way to be as talkative in your class as I am now. Last semester I was somewhat social, but I definitely wasn't as social as I am now. I would keep to myself, and I would rarely talk with others unless I HAD TO. Overtime, I ended up just talking to more people in your class and kinda stopped being awkward. Also, when I was getting ready to present my slideshow to the class, I was a bit nervous. If I were to do that again at any time now, I would be more than happy to. Making friends in this class turned into something that was super easy, and I was able to make more friends in other classes. Eating pizza and playing charades on the last day was definitely a lot of fun, and I think it is a good example of how I grew to be more social. I look forward to my future classes and how I can socialize with others in more and better ways.

I also learned how to be a better student. This might sound confusing at first, but you'll see what I mean. I learned to communicate with my professors more. Be on time to class and turn work in more often. If I need help on something or if I get confused, it's obviously better to ask a professor or student about something and not just stay quiet. Last semester I was a lot more quiet, and I wouldn't reach out to anyone. Now, whenever I have a question, I also try to ask or email someone who can help me. I would also go out of my way to do extra credit even if I didn't need it.



***Completing Experiments for extra credit in Psychology***

Randy Nunez  
Eng 210

Peer Profile

Reader: Me (Randy Nunez)  
Writer: [Aaryan Minocha](#)

After reading Aaryan's research paper, I learned a bit more about him. His research paper shows a lot of signs of professionalism, but he has moments where he wants to joke around. Aaryan isn't afraid to speak his mind and writes in a bold, confident manner. He writes mostly about politics but also about human nature and how power should be handled/used. What I think makes Aaryan's paper so good and stands out is how honest he is. Right from the title he is very blunt, and I think that makes the text better. I added more depth and personality to both his paper and himself. Even though Aaryan jokes a bit in his text, he remains serious. He also doesn't just stick to one type of topic/source; he talks about groupthink, insecurity, authority, and more. It shows how he wants the reader to understand what he is talking about, wanting us to understand. Aaryan does a pretty good job of quoting and citing during and at the end of his document. After reading his paper, I think I could say that Aaryan is someone who likes to think/ponder a lot. He cares about how people feel about each other. He wants people to be more aware of how we think and do things.

***Extra Credit from your class***

However, one thing that I did not learn, though, is how to speak more about my own thoughts. What I mean is that every now and then, I would respond to a quote or a comment, but I wouldn't really say how I feel but rather what the quote/comment is saying. I noticed that you would say things like this in person and online, whether it be because of homework or assessment. You weren't the only professor to say this either. In every class from this semester and the last one, I had some sort of feedback that would mention, "I needed you to explain this more in your own words instead." I feel like I learned a little but definitely not enough. I feel like it's such a difficult thing for me to do because I'm used to assignments giving me directions. I actually prefer it when I'm being told what to do because whenever I'm doing a task and it's not telling me what to do, I get confused, and I end up taking FOREVER to complete it because I'm not sure what I'm doing at times. Ever since I was a kid, listening is something I've been good at. Receiving feedback, following instructions for a quest in a game, my parents talking to me about something I did that was bad, etc. So it's kinda hard for me to do stuff without some sort of instructions.

Randy Nunez

Eng 210

### Overall Feedback

Randy,

Good work. Make sure to articulate the main argument a bit more clearly as I mentioned in my notes. Your examples in Prompt 2 begin to address the tension between protecting identity while accurately conveying tone and representing the person. I needed you to explain this more in your own words instead of relying heavily on quotes.

### ***Feedback my Anthropology Professor Gave me on my Midterm***

Looking back at this semester, I'm super proud of how far I've come. I become stronger in many different ways, and even though I still struggle a lot with other things, I know my pros and cons, and hopefully in the future I can turn my negatives into positives. I'm proud of how I turned out and of completing this course. Your class was something I enjoyed a lot and helped me grow in many ways, and it's something I will carry with me into the future.