

I think I met the expectations for this course overall. The name of the course is self explanatory. From all the writing I think I held up pretty well. Throughout the semester there was a lot of analysis. Within that analysis was using some form of evidence. These were the two key components that are essentially intertwined and were more or less a part of each task. With that consistency as we watched more musicals, read more text and had more sources it strengthened these abilities. I was able to understand the material for the day, write about it, what I got from it and take bits and pieces of it and use it for my own writing.

In the very first essay, I analysed the song "Snow" by Ty Defoe and Tidtya Sinuke. My emphasis was the contrast of attitudes shown by the two singers in the first half of the song. I strongly feel like I did well on this. I was listening to it and also reading the script of it just to really make sure I don't miss anything. I was able to get a glimpse of the attitudes, tone and characteristics behind each word. It was very thorough and I was able to explain it from what I saw, heard and read. This essay was a great exercise to improve my analytical skills. My work was flowing very smoothly and I genuinely don't see any area to improve upon for that section.

The second essay was about genre translation. We were given a whole assortment of ideas to choose from and I decided on a backstory for a character we've seen in a musical. I wrote about Laurey from Oklahoma. We learn how her love life is all over the place. A cowboy loves her and so do a few others. With that context in mind I kept the backstory about her love life. I made it more about a fellow "farmer" that seemed to love her but it was a total hoax and ruined her perception of love. I had to get really creative and think of something reasonable that would still make some sense with

the actual music. I decided to show what seemed like an innocent love story and how it went so wrong. I like the way it turned out. It was very free and just an interpretation of what I think could fit as a backstory for her.

The final essay was making a claim based on a part of the arts. I chose the jazz age and how important it was for black Americans. I had to use multiple credible sources from the CCNY library. There was plenty of information to choose from. I focused on the ones that showed unity, positive change and power for the black Americans. There was also a piece of media, in my case a picture. The picture was a parade filled with black Americans gathering together and using their voice. Simultaneously while using evidence I had to explain why they fit my claim. It was a little harder because from all the information I had to find relevant stuff but after that it was easy. I was able to show the significance and meaning. I used mostly primary sources as I felt that would best support my claim.

Out of all the essays, my favorite was the “snow” song analysis. I liked that song a lot because even at the same place, everyone's circumstance is so different and it can apply to real life fairly easily. I enjoyed analyzing it and it just made me reflect on my life and things I take for granted that others yearn for. All in all, these essays greatly strengthened my writing capabilities. It's different from high school writing and this is that next step up the ladder.