

Self Assessment

My name is Manuel Sacasa Moran and the class is Killer Stories at CCNY in Fall 2025. I took this class because I wanted to get better at grammar, write better essays, and understand stories better. At the start of the semester writing was not always easy for me. Especially when it comes to analysis. Over time I think I improved in some areas but there are still things I need to work on. My thinking about writing changed this semester and I do think I grew as a writer.

One goal I had for this class was to improve my grammar and writing skills. At the beginning of the semester, I didn't always check my grammar or sentence structure. Sometimes my ideas made sense in my head but not on the page. After doing different assignments, I started paying more attention to grammar and rereading my work before turning it in. I still make mistakes, but my writing is clearer than it was before. I learned that writing takes time and that first drafts are not supposed to be perfect.

Another goal I had was to get better at analyzing stories. In this class, we read stories about killing and violence, which made me think more deeply than I usually do when reading. At first, I mostly summarized the stories instead of explaining their meaning. As the semester went on, I learned how to explain why things happened in the story and what they might say about society or human behavior. This was hard at times, but I slowly got better at it.

The assignments we did in this class helped me improve in different ways. The annotated bibliography helped me learn how to explain sources in my own words and say why they were important. Reflections helped me think about what I learned instead of just finishing the assignment. Peer reviews were also helpful because reading other students' work showed me mistakes that I also make. Even though we did not write a full literary analysis essay, the work we did still helped me grow as a writer.

There are still things I need to work on as a writer. I need to keep improving my grammar and work on explaining my ideas more clearly. Sometimes I know what I want to say but don't know how to say it well. In the future, I will try to use what I learned by proofreading more and taking feedback seriously. Overall, this class helped me feel more comfortable with writing and helped me understand stories in a deeper way.