

Reflective Essay and Introduction to Portfolio

Reflective Essay of English 1101 and 1102

Taking English 1101 my first semester at Clayton State University has impacted my writing skills in a positive way. This class has helped me to acquire the skills needed to become a better writer in college and for my future. I had a very good professor that helped me with my writing and showed me that I do not have to be a perfect writer to get my point across. I learned how to use the writing process effectively by brainstorming ideas for my topic, making drafts, getting in groups for peer edits, and revising my writing into a final draft. We had some group work in the class, and that was beneficial to my learning. I don't particularly like group work, but it helped me get input from my fellow peers. Also while in my English 1101 course, I learned about these rhetorical strategies: ethos (appeal to ethics), logos (appeal to logic), and pathos (appeal to emotions). I learned how to include these rhetorical devices in my rhetorical reading responses and essay to make it more formal and professional.

After taking English 1102 my second semester, I feel more confident in my writing style and getting my voice heard through my writing. I better understand how to include citations: how to cite sources, when to cite sources, and where to cite sources. My English 1102 professor made sure we cited our sources correctly and that we used the correct MLA format. This helped me to not plagiarize and to be more organized and clear with my writing. Some of the essays I did in 1102 made me get creative with my writing and show the readers who I am as a person and as a writer, for example the letter on my behalf. This made me more confident in my writing and made me realize that I am an okay writer. I wasn't a terrible writer in high school but I didn't know about all of the new concepts that my college English courses required until I had English

1101. These English courses have helped to improve my writing skills tremendously and I am so glad that I had to take English 1101 and 1102.

Everything I have learned from my English courses in college will be very beneficial to me in the years to come. A majority of college is writing papers and lab reports, so these English courses are very beneficial and a necessity if you want to get through college with good grades. My English courses have prepared me for my future career, because as a crime scene investigator, part of the job description is recording every inch of the crime scene. This means that I will have to write reports, such as where everything is located at the scene of the crime, what happened upon arrival to the scene, etc. My college English courses have taught me the importance of formal writing and that is a necessity when writing reports for my future profession because with any business report it needs to be professional. The writing skills I have learned throughout my first year at Clayton State will stay with me through college and throughout my future in the workforce.

Guide to Portfolio

In addition to this reflective essay of English 1101 and 1102, I have added some examples of my best writing thus far from each English course. In my portfolio you will see a rhetorical reading response, an artifact of my writing process and revision, an example of a peer review I completed, a revised paper from 1101, and a revised paper from 1102. My first piece of writing is a rhetorical reading response I did in 1102. I chose the reading response I did on “No Place to Go: The Importance of the Family Restroom” because I feel that this was the best RRR I have done since starting college at Clayton State. I agreed with the authors claim that family restrooms should be in more businesses and that led me to have more to say about this issue. After the rhetorical reading response, you will see an artifact of my writing process and revision.

I have chosen to add a few paragraphs from a rough draft of my argumentative paper in 1101 and a few paragraphs from the final paper. I chose to include this artifact because in my rough draft my introduction was the history of my topic and not so much an introduction and in the final draft I changed it. Also I revised and edited some of my body paragraphs to include more detail so I used one of my body paragraphs to show the revision. Next, you will find an example of a peer revision that I completed for another student. I chose this peer revision from 1101 because the paper I peer reviewed was an argumentative paper and this peer review I did had the most comments and suggestions.

The next piece of writing you will see in my portfolio is a revised, edited paper from 1101. I chose to include the personal narrative I wrote about my heart condition because this piece of writing is so personal to me and I feel that this paper really shows who I am as a writer. I wrote this paper from the heart and I opened up to my audience through writing and told my story of how I found out about my heart condition and how it has affected me since. The last piece of writing you will see in my portfolio is a revised paper I did in 1102. I chose the argument with sources paper I did on studying abroad because my writing over the last few semesters has changed quite a bit and I feel that this paper shows my improvement. It shows that I know how to cite sources in a correct format and that I can incorporate scholarly sources and research into my paper effectively. I have written several essays throughout these last two semesters at Clayton State but the pieces of writing I have chosen to include in this portfolio are pieces that I feel show me as a writer the best. I believe that every person has a different way of writing and a certain style that makes them unique. I hope as you go through my writing portfolio you see who I am as a writer, and how much I have grown in my writing style and technique through these last two semesters in English 1101 and 1102 at Clayton State University.

Rhetorical Reading Response

Rhetorical Reading Response

The persuasive essay “No Place to Go: The Importance of the Family Restroom”, written by Debie Goodson (2014), claims that family restrooms should be added in more businesses. The author develops her essay by using personal experiences and stories as well as providing facts and evidence from different organizations. The author claims that family restrooms should be added in all businesses in order to persuade business owners that it will be easier and more efficient if family bathrooms were added and would probably cause an increase in business success. Goodson’s intended audience is the business owners and everyone in general as to the struggles of not having family restrooms.

After reading this essay, I would agree with the author’s claim and I feel that having family restrooms in more businesses would be more beneficial to customers as well as business owners. I have never had a personal experience with this particular issue; however, I have seen families that had to go through it. It makes me angry when I see dads that can’t go into the bathroom to change their baby because there is no changing table in the men’s bathroom. I feel that there should be a changing table in the men’s bathroom because some men are single dads, and they should be able to take care of their kids the same way as women do. In addition, family bathrooms are needed because some family members need to be able to go in the bathroom and assist with family that has disabilities. It also irritates me that people cannot take their children into restrooms if they are of the opposite sex because they will get in trouble. I feel like if you can’t take your kids in with you then they have to wait outside by themselves, and that dangerous

because they could get kidnapped or wander off. Having family restrooms in more businesses will bring in more customers as well as better business outlooks for business owners.

The author uses pathos in this essay by adding personal experiences and stories to persuade us to see her point of view. In the essay, Goodson tells a personal story about her 18 year old son Jordan, who has a disease called Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, which is “a genetic disorder that causes non-malignant tumors to form in many different organs” (272). In the essay Goodson states “He is completely dependent on me, my husband, and the other caretakers for all of his needs, which include eating, bathing, dressing, and toileting” (272). The author uses this experience in her paper as an appeal to emotion because it is personal, it shows that she deals with this issue on a daily basis and it gives her credibility on this topic. Another example of pathos that the author uses is a tragedy that occurred in 1998, involving a 9 year old boy and his aunt at a beach in California. Goodson writes “Matthew Cecchi, a 9 year old boy, was brutally murdered in a public restroom at the beach in Oceanside. Matthew’s aunt was waiting for him outside the building. Due to his age, it would have been awkward to have him go in the women’s restroom with her” (276). A stranger walked into the bathroom, slashed his throat, and left, and the aunt didn’t know until a certain amount of time had passed. The author uses this as an example of pathos to show readers about the dangers of sending your kids in places alone, and to persuade people to add more family restrooms. She is appealing to pathos in order to get them to see her point of view, so that we as readers can make a change. The author’s use of pathos in this paper was effective because the author wrote this essay with a purpose and by using pathos effectively, I believe that she got her point across.

Works Cited

Goodson, Debie. "No Place to Go: The Importance of the Family Restroom." *Connections: Guide to First Year Writing at Clayton State University*. Ed. Mary Lamb. 5th Edition. Southlake, TX. Fountainhead Press, 2015. Print.

Writing Process and Revision

In my argumentative paper from 1101, my introduction paragraph from the rough draft was more of the history of my topic and not so much an introduction to my topic. After revising my paper and writing the final draft I changed the paragraph to less history and more of an introduction to my thesis, which I also improved. The third paragraph of my argumentative paper which I have included below needed some work as well. In the rough draft, my third paragraph had little to no detail, it was thrown together, and needed more explanation and argument. In the third paragraph of the final draft, I added a lot more detail and evidence, and I fixed my topic sentence for the third paragraph so that the paper would sound more argumentative.

Persuasive Essay: Death Penalty Rough Draft

The first established death penalty laws date back to the Eighteenth Century in the Code of King Hammurabi of Babylon, which made the death penalty available for 25 different crimes (DPIC). In the early Nineteenth century, the abolitionist movement came into effect (DPIC). Although some states ended the death penalty for good, most states continued this punishment and even added more crimes as capital offenses. Now more than fifty eight countries are continuing the death penalty, including the United States and China (DPIC). The death penalty should be used in some cases more than life sentences because of costs to house inmates, it should be used in certain cases to match the crime, and it will invoke fear into future criminals.

The third reason for having the death penalty used in some cases more than life sentences is the fear that will be invoked in future criminals. According to Ernest van den Haag, a professor at Fordham University, "By committing the crime, the criminal volunteered to assume

the risk of receiving a legal punishment that he could have avoided by not committing the crime. Therefore, the death penalty cannot be unjust to the guilty criminal (Haag).” If a person commits a heinous crime, I feel that they deserve the death penalty. The only reason the death penalty should not be used is if a person is deemed mentally insane, in which that person should be put in a mental institution. If we give more murderers and rapist the death penalty, then it will provoke fear into future criminals so they will not want to kill in the future for fear of being killed themselves.

Persuasive Essay: Death Penalty **Final draft**

Did you know that as of today thirty-two states allow the death penalty? On May 2, 2013, Maryland became the latest state to outlaw capital punishment, joining seventeen other states and the District of Columbia (deathpenalty.procon.org). In recent years, the death penalty has gained momentum and those that support it have sharply reduced appeals options to convicts on death row (Griffith, *Financial Times*). Crimes like murder and rape are the most serious offenses, and punishment should be sought out in a justifiable manner. Death Penalty advocates feel that capital punishment is the only justice for crimes of unusual cruelty and that it can deter those who are contemplating murder (Griffith, *Financial Times*). The death penalty should be used more often in some cases because it prevents criminals from committing more crimes, and the punishment should be justified and fair.

The death penalty should be used more often in some cases because the punishment should fit the crime. With life sentences, the criminals have a chance to be released early and they can continue to commit the crimes that put them in prison in the first place. In cases such as murder and rape, the criminals should be killed so that they will not be able to hurt anyone ever again. According to Ernest van den Haag, a professor at Fordham University, “By committing

the crime, the criminal volunteered to assume the risk of receiving a legal punishment that he could have avoided by not committing the crime. Therefore, the death penalty cannot be unjust to the guilty criminal (Haag).” This quote is stating that most people know what they are doing before they do it, and just don’t care. With that being said, a person who knowingly commits a crime must face the consequences of their actions. The only reason the death penalty should not be used in murder and rape cases, is if the suspect is deemed mentally unstable in which he then must be sent to an institution for further evaluation. According to the *Seattle Times Washington Poll*, seventy-seven percent of 401 state residents support execution as punishment for criminals convicted of certain violent crimes (Seattle Times). This poll shows that a majority of the people in the state of Washington support the death penalty in murder cases and other violent crimes. Using the death penalty in more cases will not only stop crime, it will also help bring the victim’s families closure so they can grieve for their loved ones knowing that justice has been served.

Example of Peer Review

Pro-choice Abortion Research Paper Rough Draft

In the 1973 court case of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court ruled a law in Texas unconstitutional. What did this Texas legislation outlaw? It banned all abortions unless the mother was at risk of death. Abortion, an action to terminate a pregnancy where an embryo or fetus is removed from the uterus of a woman, remains legal within the United States today due to the decisive outcome of this Supreme Court decision. Abortion should remain legal within the United States (1) to abide by the laws of separation of church and state which prevent those of high faith passing biased legislation, (2) to avoid medical issues that arise through the birthing or pregnancy process which affect both mother and child, (3) and to avert an unfavorable foster care alternative within America.

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An intolerance dealing with abortion tends to include religious individuals who hold strong beliefs in the life of an unborn innocent. However, the very foundation of this country restricts religion and government to intermingle rarely if ever permissible. Within the United States Constitution, there lies written the First Amendment which broadly details the separation of church and state as "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," (US Const. amend. 1). Interpretation of this document has varied by government official and individual thinking. Officials, such as Senator Sam

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Commented [DB3]: Needs transition

Commented [DB4]: Use another word for intermingle, very verbose

Brownback, have firmly stated their interpretation of this Amendment as, "The separation of church and state would not establish one religion, not a removal of religion from public life," ("Church-State Separation 'Misinterpreted,")". Brownback believes that separation of church and state is a narrow topic which only details the inability to establish a single religion. However, James Madison, the father of the Constitution, appears to disagree with Senator Brownback's

Commented [DB5]: Interpretation of this document has varied by several government officials, and individual thinkers.

theory. James Madison “was never one to tolerate any official ties between church and state,” (Boston). **Madison held a strong belief in the broad idea that church and state must remain separate entities where neither side should interact; the two would simply coexist.** Abortion comes into play due to a comparison of public opinion polls dealing with this subject. In a 1991 to 1994 poll, those of religious faith held a lower tolerance for abortion compared to their nonreligious counterpart. The percentage of Catholics who agree with abortion only if the Mother’s health were at risk was 84.9% while those of no faith held a higher percentage of 88.9% (Simon 130). Similarly, in a 2001 Gallup poll, “two thirds of very religious Americans (68%) think abortion should be legal in few or no cases,” (Saad). Due to these two instances, it is safe to assume religion plays a high role in an individual’s stance on abortion rights. However, due to the Madison’s broad statement of separation of state within the First Amendment, religion can play no key part within the government other than to exist as an entirely different entity. Therefore, religious beliefs hold little to no accountability in the creation of lawmaking, including abortion, for the nation due to the interpretation offered by the founding father James Madison. **Although a large percentage of religious individuals oppose abortion rights, there still exists physical birthing defects which could possibly affect both the mother and the unborn fetus**

Commented [DB6]: You can use this sentence but it is not really needed.

Commented [DB7]: Not needed

Name: Destiny Brookshire

Peer: [REDACTED]

Date: November 10, 2015

Issue: Pro Choice Abortions

Read and complete each editing task as follows:

- Highlight the THESIS in the opening paragraph.
- Number each subpoint in the THESIS that supports the claim—insert numbers (1), (2), (3) etc.
- Highlight each body paragraph topic sentence and BOLD at least one piece of evidence used that supports the topic sentence.
- Underline the refutation and counterclaim twice.
- Highlight the conclusion to be sure the thesis has been restated.

Briefly advise your peer as to what information should be added.

Paragraph 1: (Introduction/thesis- should include reasons and be a POSITION statement)

The thesis is really good, it has all the main sub points in it, and it also lets me know what the essay is going to be about.

Paragraph 2: (2-3 elaborated reasons for support, plus evidence)

Paragraph two is really long, and very wordy. I would decrease the size a little more because I feel like it's too much information, you should just get to the point. You have really good evidence and I see your point so just fix the length and wordiness. Also you need a better transition to paragraph 2. Also topic sentences need to be at the beginning of each supporting paragraph.

Paragraph 3: (2-3 elaborated reasons for support, plus evidence)

Same thing with paragraph three, it's very long and wordy, needs a transition. You have great points and evidence to support your topic. Very good amount of research and I enjoyed seeing your opinion about this issue.

Paragraph 4: (refutation [i.e. "*some proponents argue that....*"), counterclaim, plus evidence) **You need a counterclaim paragraph. I saw some points in your other paragraphs that stated some counterclaims so that is good, but you need a paragraph for counterclaim and then reverse it back to support your topic.**

Paragraph 5: (Summary, restatement of thesis) **Your conclusion is very long. The conclusion is supposed to sum up everything you covered earlier in your essay. I would decrease the size of the conclusion but other than that you concluded great.**

In-text Citations and Works Cited [3-5 relevant citations]: (formatted according to MLA guidelines) **Your in-text citations and works cited page is good! It's in MLA format and correctly cited. You have 3-5 citations so you are good to go on this part.**

If you had to give your peer a grade on this essay, based on the criteria assigned, what would you give him/her? **B-**

A B C D F

Why? I would give her an B- because her essay was very long and very wordy. She had a lot of good points and several pieces of evidence to support her thesis. Her works cited page and in-text citations were formatted correctly and she did a great job. I just felt that the essay was too long and it made me feel like the paper was never going to end. Other than that she did a great job on this paper.

Revised and Edited Paper from 1101

My Heart Condition: Bicuspid Aortic Valve with Regurgitation

On June 12, 2013 my father was life-flighted to Piedmont Atlanta in Buckhead for immediate open heart surgery. We asked the surgeon if we could see my dad before he went in but the doctor said there was no time. If they had not gotten him into surgery his aorta would have ruptured and he would have died right then. My mother and I waited in the waiting room for what seemed like days, waiting for the surgeon to tell us how everything went. After hours of waiting the surgeon walked in and told me and my mother that my dad made it out of surgery and that he was going to be fine. After visiting with the surgeon about my dad's recovery progress, he suggested that my brother and I should be checked for this heart condition because it could be hereditary. My brother went to the doctor first and they told him that he was perfectly healthy which was great news, then it was my turn.

My doctor ran a series of test and reviewed the results, then he sent me in for an ultrasound on my heart. After reviewing the ultrasound results for several minutes, he came into the room, sat down and told us the devastating news. He looked at me and my mother and said, "Ms. Brookshire, you have a Bicuspid Aortic Valve with regurgitation." My mom started crying because I have the same heart condition as my dad. The doctor told my mom that everything was fine and that there was nothing to worry about. He said I will definitely need heart surgery but the yearly checkups will help so that they can catch it early instead of me needing immediate open heart surgery. I am so glad that I went to get my heart checked because if I hadn't, I probably would not know about my condition and I would have probably ended up having immediate open heart surgery like my dad.

The week of my high school graduation I went to Piedmont Henry Hospital with severe chest pains. They admitted me into the hospital for further observation and tests, which they came to the conclusion that it was tachycardia. My heart rate would go up to 150 and then drop down to 70. The doctors wanted to continue to run tests to figure out why my heart was causing the tachycardia. Throughout my time at the hospital friends and family came to visit me, and although I was extremely exhausted from all of the tests, it made me happy to see how many people truly cared and were there when I needed them. The day before my graduation we had a senior walk, where all the seniors would walk through the halls one last time and teachers and students would congratulate the seniors and say their goodbyes. I wanted to do the senior walk and graduate with my friends so I asked the doctor if I could be discharged, because I didn't want to miss out on one of the most important events in my life. I wanted to walk across the stage and get my diploma because I earned it. My doctor was hesitant about letting me leave but he said that since it was my graduation I could go; however I had to keep myself hydrated and I couldn't be out in the heat for too long. I felt so miserable the day of graduation because I was drained and it was extremely hot, but I walked across the stage, got my diploma, and ended that chapter of my life.

I had to wear a heart monitor for a week after my graduation because my heart rate was still weird and they wanted to monitor it. After the week was over, I had to see the doctor about the results and he said everything was good and that my heart sometimes skipped a beat while I slept but it was nothing to worry about. In the present time my heart really doesn't give me many problems, I have the occasional chest pain, sometimes tachycardia, and shortness of breath but nothing too serious. Now before I conclude this personal narrative about my heart condition, let me give you some insight on what this condition is. Typically in a healthy heart, you have three

leaflets total that come together to pump blood thoroughly through the aorta. In a bicuspid aortic valve, two of the leaflets fuse together making it one leaflet. This condition only occurs in one to two percent of the population, predominantly in males. My heart is also regurgitating, which means that my leaflet where the two fused together, does not close properly and allows blood to leak back into my heart. This makes my heart work harder to pump blood through my aorta into the rest of my body.

In conclusion, my condition has impacted my life as it will for the rest of my life. I will continue to have my yearly checkups to stay on track with the progress of my condition, so that when it is time for my surgery I will be ready to go. I also would like to say I am blessed beyond words because my dad's open heart surgery led to me finding out about my heart condition. My heart condition is something I try not to worry about a lot because I know that when I have my surgery, I will be taken care of.

Revised and Edited Paper from 1102

Argumentative Essay: Studying Abroad

Have you ever thought about traveling around the world and seeing new things? Maybe you have wanted to travel to another country and learn new things, like how other cultures live? What if I told you that there is a way for you to travel the world, meet new people, and learn new things? Studying abroad is a great way to travel outside the country and see all the places that you dreamed of visiting but haven't been able to because of costs or bad timing. One of the greatest concepts about studying abroad is you can travel to great places but also learn in an educational environment that will show you how people in other countries get their education. Studying abroad is beneficial to student success, and students who study abroad are sometimes more successful than those that do not participate in this wonderful experience.

One of the reasons you should study abroad is because of all the great places you will get to see. Studying abroad will help you experience new territory, and you will also get to see all of the famous landmarks, for example, the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Study abroad allows you to go outside your comfort zone, learn about different cultures, and their way of living because every culture is different and has different customs and traditions. Studying abroad doesn't limit you to just one area, say you go to France, you'll be able to go to other parts of Europe, like London or Barcelona on days you do not have class ("10 Benefits of Studying Abroad"). Studying abroad will give you a new perspective on the education in your country as well as the other cultures. Studying abroad will provide you with memories that will last a lifetime.

Another reason to study abroad is the lifelong friendships you make with the amazing people you meet. I made a lifelong friendship with a girl named Daniela who came from Brazil to the United States for a year. It was my senior year in high school, and she was also still in high

school but she came to see what education was like in the U.S. We had some classes together, and throughout the year we became really close. We talked about our countries and how we celebrate certain holidays and events, and it was surprising for both of us I think. Our cultures are so different and it was fascinating to know how other countries live their day to day lives. After the school year ended Daniela had to go back to Brazil, which was really sad because I knew I was going to miss her so much, and saying goodbye was really hard. The best thing about this experience is we still keep in touch with each other from time to time. Studying abroad is beneficial to success because not only will you gain lifelong friendships but you may also develop future business connections.

Studying abroad is a great way to better your future because it provides you with experience, education, skills, and a better job outlook. According to Caleb House, “Study abroad translates into resumes and job applications better than any other experience abroad” (House). Having study abroad on your resume or job application is very appealing to future employers and it makes it more likely for you to get the job. Studying Abroad is also beneficial when applying to graduate schools, because the admissions board looks highly at study abroad experiences (“10 Benefits to Studying Abroad”). Admission boards look at study abroad experiences because this shows that the students are serious about their education and committed to learning and achieving excellence. It also shows that students are not afraid of a challenge, they can handle the pressure of difficult situations, and they are able to go outside their comfort zones. Studying abroad can lead to future business connections and it’s a great way to impress future employers because the skills and education acquired from study abroad is very beneficial to success.

Studying abroad benefits students because they will grow as a person and become more independent. According to Soumara and Kakoli Bandyopadhyay, “Personal growth refers to the

increased confidence and self-reliance likely to be instilled in study abroad program participants”

(89). The study abroad experience will likely increase student qualities including leadership skills, problem-solving skills, and the ability to cope with unfamiliar, stressful situations.

Personal growth is necessary as your progress through life because you need to learn about who you are as a person, and where you want to be in life. According to Soumara and Kakoli Bandyopadhyay, “A study abroad program teaches students to take responsibility for their own decisions as they are away from direct family contact and cannot rely on other adults to make decisions for them” (89). This independence is an expected outcome of participating in a study abroad program. This newfound maturity is essential as you enter the working world and global business organizations because if you are immature and not focused on your future employers will be less likely to hire you. Personal growth is an important part of studying abroad and could be beneficial towards your future endeavors.

Students who study abroad are likely to become more successful than those that do not. Studies have shown that students who have studied abroad during high school or college, are more likely to get a job within the first six months of graduating. According to Tomer, “Ismail says a recent survey of study abroad alumni revealed that “nearly 90% secured a job within the first six months after graduation. 50% felt the overseas experience helped them get their first job; and 90% got into their first or second choice graduate school” (10). This survey shows that studying abroad could be one of the best things to have on your resume because it could be the difference that makes you the better choice for a job. Employers look for things like study abroad because it shows that you have already traveled in a business type setting. It also shows them that you are mature and can handle being away from your family and friends for a certain amount of time. It shows employers that you are trustworthy when it comes to traveling for business

reasons, depending on how good your study abroad went. Having a study abroad experience under your belt could be the thing that helps you accomplish your goals in the future.

Many students do not participate in study abroad because they feel it is too expensive and they cannot afford it. However, this statement is inaccurate because studies have shown that “In many cases studying abroad is more affordable than studying domestically” (Bruce). Scholarships are becoming more available to colleges and universities around the world, and this is helpful for students who are low income or who have other financial issues. Students can also raise money using websites like GoFundMe.com and ProjectTravel.com on social media. Another way students can get money for study abroad is to do bake sales, car washes, or even helping neighbors with the yard work. There are several ways that a student can get the necessary funds to study abroad. According to Bruce, “Roughly 46 % of Americans own a valid passport, international travel is a reality that cannot be avoided” (Bruce). This shows that eventually people are going to have to travel out of the country, so you might as well start with studying abroad. There are several ways to raise the funds for study abroad and you should really try to go because it can be very beneficial to your future.

Studying abroad is beneficial to success because students may go to another country and realize that some cultures are not much different than their culture. Studying abroad is an eye opening experience for some people and it makes them see other cultures and even their own from a whole different view. Studying abroad also makes you appreciate your family and your home more because you will see how other people live. Studying abroad gives you freedom to do what you want, like travel to other places and it allows you to be spontaneous and adventurous. While you are studying abroad take some time for yourself and go do something fun that you wouldn't do at home, like visit a famous landmark or zipline, etc (“10 Benefits to

Studying Abroad”). This is a time for you to explore your surroundings and make the most of this study abroad experience. In addition, while studying abroad you will begin to learn a new language, most likely the language of the country you are studying in. “Studying abroad grants you the opportunity to completely immerse yourself in a new language, and there is no better way to learn than to dive right in. (“10 Benefits to Studying Abroad”). Studying abroad and learning a new language is very beneficial because it can show that you have good international skills.

In conclusion, studying abroad is beneficial to student success and students who study abroad are more successful than those that do not participate because they will obtain the necessary skills to succeed in the working world. Am I saying that people who do not study abroad will be jobless forever? Absolutely not. However, studying abroad looks better on resumes and job applications because of the skills acquired while studying in another country. Studying abroad provides you with experience, skills, friendships, business connections, view of different cultures, and the ability to become an independent person , all while having fun, learning, and making memories. After reading my essay, I hope that you develop a better understanding of why studying abroad is so important and why you should do your best to go study abroad because anyone can go and it is definitely something that could help your career.

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