

Diary Entry #3
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My work with my partner during our peer review session was a major part in the start of our portfolio assignment. Having someone else read my work helped me get a sense of whether or not I began to accomplish what I have envisioned in my attempt. Since information is always communicated with a certain audience in mind, having a member of that audience to read it before it was completed was the perfect way to make sure my ideas were communicated through my portfolio. In all forms of presentation and in any kind of work, effectively transferring ideas to your work is crucial, so my partner and I discussed this in detail while talking about our portfolios. We gave ideas to how our ideas could be further communicated with more detail such as adding how all the artifacts relate to one another, rather than simply explaining how writing techniques improved in each artifact. We also discussed how both of ideas are well organized, but an introduction could be helpful to give the audience some context of what we were about to discuss. This, along with a conclusion, would make the portfolio seem more cohesive rather than separate discussions of artifacts.

As it says in Chapter 5 of Portfolio Keeping communities “insist on responsible membership”. So in order to successfully work together, it was important that we both do our part to the best of our abilities. We had to be prepared for the peer review session by completing adequate work to allow for helpful comments, and give our partner comments and suggestions to help them achieve their best work possible. The peer reviewer has a big role in the power to positively impact their partner’s grade on the assignment, so we should each give our best advice in hopes of getting the same from our partner. This was achieved when my partner and I critiqued each other’s work. I carefully read his portfolio and offered any and all advice I could think of. When said everything I had to say, I read the guideline questions given to us by Dr. Cooke and answered those to give even more help. It was important that we talked to each other first and had a conversation before simply answering questions that were given to us, so that we could provide as genuine of feedback as possible. This is especially true since the process of writing becomes as much of a social event as possible when sharing your work with someone else for feedback.

It takes practice to become good at giving feedback, but we both tried our best. The advice I was given was definitely helpful and I have already started to use it to improve my portfolio. We did everything we could to give the best advice possible including having each other’s draft on our laptop screen, actively reading, discussing, and typing out feedback so that we would not forget what was discussed. We even pointed to specific quotes in the portfolio rather than only giving general comments. I believe we had a very successful peer review session because we were both very honest, attentive, and gave constructive comments.