

To Whom It may Concern,

In the class English 101 The Personal Is Public: Writing With Archives and the Arts taught by Professor Cooke, we thoroughly examined and developed our skills as writers and journalists. In the beginning of the year, our first lesson contained the important skill of audience and rhetorical situation. We were asked to analyze different writing pieces and create responses depending on our audience and by taking into account specific facts of the audience or author. Soon, we used these skills in our term project, the Curated Exhibit. We began the Curated Exhibit project by practicing writing as a process. Each class, we were tasked to create a portion of our proposal by writing topic such as the Statement of Purpose or the Plan of Action. In each subsequent class, we were given feedback from our professor on how we could improve our writing. Through this process, I learned and practiced the skill of drafting, revision, editing and reflection. Another important aspect of the Curated Exhibit was being able to use multimodal artifacts such as pictures or interviews in our exhibit. For this, we visited the Rose Library for many weeks, giving us an opportunity to interact with physical artifacts and learn more about the authors and plays we were about to research. Soon, we were introduced to the idea of the Known-New Contract. The Known-New Contract is a grammatical skill that helps writing develop connections between sentences. This skill allowed me to develop ideas with a flow, connected each idea after another. This skill alone helped me tremendously in the writing and editing process. The next part of my exhibit was to create a proposal. To do this, I needed a central theme that ties in the play what I chose to the message I wanted my audience to receive. For this I use the skills Critical Thinking, Analyzation, and Synthesis. In the portfolio above, I

outlined the ways I used synthesis to create the main message of my exhibit. I analyzed themes and ideas shown to me through multimodal artifacts to synthesize the theme of my curated exhibit. I presented the ideas through my proposal objective, one of the writing drafts we were tasked to continuously in the beginning of the year. Finally, working on the curated exhibit, I used most of the skills I developed through the class to create this project. First, I had to pay attention and take into account the audience of my exhibit. I made slides that introduced background information and information that was essential to the main theme of the essay. I also provided summaries of each section of my exhibit to help my audience synthesis the main point of the section. Next I applied summaries to create captions that captured the story behind each picture or media. By implementing multimodal artifacts, I revealed the ideas from my exhibit to the audience. Throughout the year, I have developed and put to use many of the key skills this class has offered. From basic skills like drafting and editing to rhetorical listening my skills as a writer have improved dramatically.

Thank You,

Allen Chak