

Taleah Thomas

Essay One: Reflection

Throughout the semester Professor Hayes has stressed the importance of the conclusion paragraph. She has taught me that a conclusion is not used to mirror an essay. The purpose of a conclusion is to wrap a paper up. Being in Rhet 105 I have learned the importance of a coherent focused conclusion. In my original Rhetorical analysis of the democratic platform my conclusion was unfocused towards the goal of my essay. Instead of concluding my essay with references towards the Toulmin analysis, I jumped into another aspect. In Professor Hayes's comments she noted that although the conclusion was interesting, it was off topic. To revise this essay I took Kurt Vonnegut's writing advice and gained the "guts to cut." I've noticed that my conclusion was not doing anything to help my essay, therefore I erased it. When creating my new conclusion I took in mind that my essay was a rhetorical analysis and that I should focus on that. I also wanted to incorporate the recent election. I decided to connect Clinton's concession speech and how it relates to the "Protect Our Values" plank." My revised conclusion not only taps into recent news, but it also ties back to my paper.

