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End of Course Reflection

This year in AP biology, I learned how to read and think critically. Often, we had to write long essays to practice for the AP exam. I was required to read the prompt and respond in a timely manner, often handwriting an essay in twenty minutes or less, filling up at least the front of a page. I had to analyze the information before I could start writing, meaning I also had to do an outline. I became a better student because now I can write what I need to in a timely manner and get to the point much more quickly than before. I became a better thinker because I can look at a block of text and separate the action words, deciding what I need to do first and how to do it. “Explain” always jumps out because that means I should gather up all of my knowledge and use it to answer the question. I became a better scientist because I can use my knowledge and describe what I need to clearly.

It was difficult for me to engage in class discussions. I feel like I learn more when I sit and listen. It allows me to sort through my thoughts and I don’t have to unnecessarily stop the class to have a question answered that I could figure out on my own. My thoughts are fleeting as I listen, though. It might help if I write down my questions as they come so I can see which got answered and which I need to look into more. I might participate by adding more ideas to the conversation if I didn’t have to interrupt someone else. It’s just something I don’t like to do. I am most comfortable absorbing the information as I go, so I sit quietly in class.

In the future, I might study something in the science field. I’ve always said that, but this class gave me more of an idea of how it would be in college. I still enjoy science but am not any more or less motivated to pursue it. I do want to know more about neuroscience. We glazed over it in class and it got my attention, fully. Of course I feel better prepared to take on a college science course. I feel better about knowing my habits and how they’ll help or hurt me. I learned some more about how to study, and that is relevant to any class I’ll ever take. I feel better about my future as a whole as a result of this class.