

CM220 SAMPLE DISCUSSION POST:

UNIT 2

*Please note that this is a **sample** Discussion post to help inspire and guide your own original writing of the Assignment. Your Assignment does not need to look exactly like the sample, as this sample is just a possible response to the Assignment prompt. Be sure to review the Reading and grading rubric, complete each task in the instructions, and contact the instructor with any questions.*

DISCUSSION:

My writing process definitely changes depending upon the writing situation. I just started a blog with informal movie reviews, and I find that I write my posts best when I have just seen the movie and have details fresh in my mind. I might jot down notes about scenes I really enjoyed or parts that disappointed me, but I do not need to do any formal prewriting. For a school assignment or work-related project, I try to do more preparation, but too often, I write my school assignments with less preparation than a blog post. I think the main change I need to make to my writing process for this class will be reviewing the discussion and assignment instructions very carefully prior to writing. I have a tendency to glance at an assignment and just start writing, and too often, I end up leaving out an important part of the assignment.

My idea generating process is pretty scattered at this point, but I felt encouraged by the subtitle of Boone's article, "from mess to masterpiece" (2011). To get inspiration, I reviewed Steve Johnson's (2010) TED Talk "Where Good Ideas Come From." I loved his point that ideas do not have to come in a single "illuminating moment" but instead usually emerge from a "network" where people and their environment inspire each other to come up with solutions to problems, like the "neonurture device" made from car parts (Johnson, 2010). I don't have to have all of the answers right away; this class and my professor will help me nurture my ideas.

Trying to come up with a problem to tackle is a little intimidating, but I do have several issues that interest me. The one I think I will write about for this unit is rooted in my personal experience and tied to my future career. I have a son on the autism spectrum who is nonverbal, and I am studying to become an ABA (applied behavior analyst) therapist so I can work with other children on the spectrum and be better equipped to help my own son. I believe that this topic is interesting to a lot of people given the increasing number of kids with autism and ADHD, and I know I can find research on this topic on the internet and in the Library since I have already been reading some articles on this topic for my education classes.

References

Boone, J. (2011). Prewriting: From potential mess to masterpiece. Retrieved from https://kucampus.kaplan.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/WC/Prewriting_March2011.pdf.

Johnson, S. (2010, June). Where good ideas come from [Video file]. *TED Talks*. Retrieved from http://www.ted.com/playlists/20/where_do_ideas_come_from.html.

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RESPONSE POST:

Hi Kelly,

I think your topic is a great one! My sister has a daughter on the autism spectrum, and she has been very frustrated by her insurance company's refusal to cover even a couple of sessions a week. On her recommendation, I read a wonderful book called *Let Me Hear Your Voice*, a memoir describing a family's struggle with autism and their use of ABA to help their two children. Catherine Maurice (1993) wrote the book, and she offers a lot of great background on ABA and its creator, Lovaas. The book also made me think of the network of innovators that Johnson describes — so many people worked together to help these children, and they actually ended up being "recovered" from autism according to Maurice (1993). I think you would find a lot of helpful ideas in the book; Maurice even includes the ABA curriculum they developed for her children.

I look forward to seeing where this topic takes you!

John

References

Maurice, C. (1993). *Let me hear your voice: A family's triumph over autism*. New York: Random House Books.