SAMPLE DISCUSSION POST: UNIT 1

Please note that this is a sample discussion post and peer response 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 requirements. Be sure to read the discussion requirements and grading rubric, and to contact the instructor with any questions.

DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT POST:

Chad Rigby’s Bio

Chad Rigby’s writing and technology experiences began at the same time: senior-year of high school. Although he did not have any interest in journalism or television production, a friend convinced Chad that he had a “camera-ready” face. Initially, Chad only read on camera from a script written by another staff member, but just saying what someone else dictated was frustrating. This prompted Chad to research and write stories of interest to his peers and teachers. He also contributed to the production editing process using the software available in the AV Lab. Although these experiences had a positive impact on Chad, ultimately he decided to pursue a career with the US Air Force. While serving in the military for ten years, Chad was required to write reports and give PowerPoint presentations. The writing needed to be concise and in line with the style-guide provided by the Air Force and his commanding officer. Upon leaving the military, Chad decided to go back to his “high school roots” by pursuing a college-degree in Communication at Kaplan University. While he may not consider himself to have a “camera-ready” face, he does realize that his insights about video production will help him in a career in corporate training.

PEER RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT:

Hi Chad--
Your bio was very clear and concise. You did a good job not using first person pronouns, which is a challenge for me since I want to write about myself from my perspective. I can see, though, how using third-person makes the bio seem professional and objective, rather than a personal narrative.

After reading your bio, though, I had a few questions that you may want to consider. 1) Do you remember the name of the software you used in high school? If so, does it compare to any current software? I think that a reader might like to know about specific software qualifications beyond PowerPoint. For example, the company I work for only uses Adobe Presenter (http://www.adobe.com/products/presenter.html) for their training videos. 2) Are you
Currently employed? If you’re working, you may want to indicate how writing and/or technology apply to your current job. 3) Do you have any hobbies that are related to writing or technology? This information might help give a more personal look at you, though I can understand that you don’t want the bio to get off track with too much personal information.

--Melissa