

Sample Reflection Prompts You Might Encounter

Summative Reflection

- In what ways have you improved as a writer/artist/scientist/etc.? What brought about those improvements? Point to specific experiences, readings, assignments, or discussions in this course.
- What was your biggest accomplishment in the course? How did the signature assignment and other course elements help you reach it? Be specific.
- What skills did you master in this course? How are they reflected in the signature assignment and other course work? Be specific.

Process Reflection

- What problems did you encounter in completing the signature assignment? How did you troubleshoot them, if you did?
- Talk about the aims and strategies that led to the completion of your assignment. How did your thinking about it evolve over time (point to specific experiences while working on the assignment)? How did the assignment evolve (or not evolve) with your thinking (again, point to specific experiences) about it? What went according to plan and what surprises did you encounter? What still needs work?
- Outline the steps you took to complete the signature assignment, and tell me about your thinking at each step.

Evaluative Reflection

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of your signature assignment? Explain while making specific references to your work.
- Discuss your best work for the course and explain why it's your best. Be specific.

Reflection on Learning

- Make connections between what you studied in this course with what you've learned in other courses at SLCC or before. Make specific references to your work in this class and in the other courses. How did what you learn in the other courses enhance what you learned in here, and vice versa?
- Take a look at SLCC's learning outcomes for General Education at the end of this syllabus. Note that while no specific course helps students move toward achieving all of those outcomes, each Gen Ed course is supposed to help you make progress in achieving as many of those outcomes as are relevant to the course. Making specific references to your work in this course, tell me how you have progressed toward achieving at least three of those outcomes.
- Reflect on how you thought about (course topic) before you took this course and how you think about it now that the course is over. Have any of your assumptions or understandings changed? Why? What assignments/activities/readings were influential in this process? How will you approach (course topic) differently in the future?

Suggestions for Reflection

- Use reflection to put your assignments into a broader personal or intellectual context.
- Reflection can often raise more questions than it answers, because you are pushing the boundaries of your learning--and that's a good thing.
- Think of reflection as a conversation with yourself.
- Elaborate: Just saying something like "I learned a lot" or "I liked this assignment" is not reflection.
- Intentional reflection can take on many forms: memoirs, personal essays, reflection essays, video diaries, audio tracks, documentaries, lab reports, research journals, etc.
- Reflection helps determine what you know and discover what you don't.
- Reflection is a more personal form of expression, so don't be afraid to take risks with it.
- Reflection is about more than what you feel; it's about what you are thinking and about connecting your thoughts to your recent actions and your future actions.
- Don't use reflection to evaluate the course or the professor.