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9/15/16

Essay 2

**The importance of note-taking is stressed in chapter two; specifically addressed is the need to vary note taking strategies based upon variables—subjects, tasks, and speakers to name a few. In an essay of approximately 500 words discuss how the aforementioned variables might influence your note-taking strategies.**

Coming into college, I never really understood taking notes. In high school, you may have the occasional notebook check, but that is it. So almost done with my first month of college, although, it being fun it has been a definite change in regard to the transfer form college to high school. The main changes for me have been mainly in the note taking department. It has been a very new and challenging task for me to overcome, therefore, I think that coming to class ready and prepared, depending on the class notes take notes accordingly, and use of all school resources are all helping me succeed in completing my first semester.

 In high school, teachers would tell me to read a certain chapter and be able to discuss it next class. Most of the time, I hardly ever read the assigned chapter because if there was not an assignment like homework or test next class, I never found it necessary to read it. Therefore, I have found out that I would have to change that mindset entering into my first semester of college. After experiencing the first couple of weeks of college, I have gathered a lot of resources from professors and friends. Most professors are relying on me to take notes, read a chapter before class. This is a big change for me, because like I said before I never even read one chapter in high school. Something I have noticed is that taking notes during class becomes a lot easier if I would have already read the chapter and know what’s going on. Going into class already prepared and proficient on the subject at hand, I think it becomes easier to stay on topic and stay in the discussions.

 Certainly taking notes can be a tedious thing to do, if I do not know what the topic is on. During my first week, I found myself writing down everything the teacher said or wrote down. I soon found out that, that approach was not the right mindset. Therefore, I began not taking as many notes and listening to the professors, and writing down any points I think were key. This helped me pay a lot more attention to important details instead of writing down everything down the professor said.

 After finding that I was not alone in this whole college thing, and that people wanted to assist me in surpassing my first semester, I felt relieved. ­­­­­­I have entered into a study group with a couple of classmates that I share I few classes with. This study group has really helped me in creating and understanding how other people study and take notes, compared to my own study and note taking habits. I have also taken some of my writings to a Student Writing Review center. So that I can get a professor’s opinion about my paper and he can give me a few pointers and notes about it. These ways are helping me get introduced to the campus, and helping me get to know what can help me, and what cannot.

 Hence, note-taking can be very simple but successful, therefore, when I began reading the material before class, listening the professor and taking less notes, and using all my resources that are available to me. Taking notes can become tiring, stressful, noticeable around a big test. During my first week, I could not find out how to take a good set of notes. Since, I have adapted these changes to my note taking strategy I have found that college has become a lot less stressful.