

***,

First, your personal essay to ***** was a pleasure to read. Your passion and knowledge, in addition to your well-roundedness, comes through in a wonderful balance of sharing your personality and your ability to approach things from a scholarly perspective.

In editing this essay, I had the advantage of knowing at the forefront that I would be working with a tough client. I took the approach of a very heavy edit since the essay, aside from a few smaller errors, was nearly flawless. Your strong written skills allowed me to consider this piece on a much more linguistically philosophic level. I considered especially 1) clarity in the structure of the sentences and paragraphs, 2) flow of the essay, and 3) maintaining your written voice: a particularly well-balanced combination of both informal and formal writing.

When facing a situation of whether to change something in the direction of being more or less formal, I considered the change in “stiffness” of style, the effect on flow and diction, and, most importantly, your audience being ***** . In regards to the last item, I tended to make changes to make the essay more formal when it did not significantly impact your voice as an individual.

The comments found in this marked-up version of your essay address changes in much greater length than I would with a typical client. Because you have such a strong voice of your own—and because I know that you will be able to reflect on some potential changes—I have chosen to leave certain things unchanged but have provided some considerations instead, allowing for you to come to your own conclusions.

These considerations include references to the Chicago Manual of Style along with other resources. Know that much of the commentary is neither right nor wrong but rather indicative of ideas and concepts that should be considered based on *how you interpret your own writing's purpose* in very specific cases. These considerations mostly come in regards to the use of italics throughout the essay, and they should be addressed on an individual basis. I encourage you to read through this carefully permitting you have the time.

Lastly, I have turned track changes on in the attached version of your essay. I am uncertain of your familiarity with Microsoft Word's track changes function, so I am providing a brief overview. With track changes turned on, you are able to toggle between various different views. Under the “tracking” tab, you may choose to view my version of the essay (your essay with my changes), your original essay with my changes added, or your original essay without changes. You may also accept or reject the changes I made via the “changes” tab.

Again, it has been a pleasure to edit your work. Let me know if you have questions and or comments, and I will gladly give you my take on the matter.

Thank you for allowing me to edit your work,

Brendon