**Year 2 Reflection Essay**

Ultimately, the value of the year will be in what you have learned about yourself.

**Articulate what it is that you learned about yourself throughout your time at The Tech Center?** Once you identify to the reader what it is that you know about yourself that you did not know in September or the past September, use the graphic organizer to determine how to organize your thoughts. Then write a two (2) page personal essay. The challenge is to be objective and open. Organize your reflections in a coherent and insightful manner.

Discuss each of the following. Each bullet will be a separate paragraph. (Make sure to explain your thoughts):

* Introduction: introduce the trade you are in and why you chose it
* What did you expect from The Tech Center (in the trade, English and math (if applicable) when you walked in the door last September? Were your expectations met? Why or Why not?
* What new skills/techniques did you learn in your trade? English? Math(if applicable)? Give a description of a skill you learned in each of the (3) three areas. Explain how these skills will help you in the future.
* What part of your trade program do you enjoy most? Least?
* Choose 1 project that you completed this year in your trade. Explain why you liked the project and what you learned.
* What are you doing next year? Academic college? Technical college? Industry? Return to Tech? Explain Why? If applicable, how will you use your Tech Center training?
* What will you take away from Tech this year that is relevant to your life and your future? (This doesn’t need to be trade/academic skills, but communication, punctuality etc.)
* Conclusion: conclude with your overall opinion about your trade program and related field.

**YEAR 2 Self-Reflection Graphic Organizer**

Introduction:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| State your trade |  |
| Why you chose it |  |

Paragraph 1:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Expectations for the trade |  |
| Expectations for English |  |
| Expectations for Math (if applicable) |  |
| Were expectations met? Why/why not? |  |

Paragraph 2:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| New skills/techniques in trade class |  |
| New skills/techniques in English |  |
| New skills/techniques in Math (if applicable) |  |
| Explain how these skills/techniques will help you in the future |  |

Paragraph 3:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What part of the trade do you enjoy the most? |  |
| The least? |  |

Paragraph 4:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| One project you completed |  |
| Why did you like it? |  |
| What did you learn? |  |

Paragraph 5:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Plans for next year: Academic college, technical college, industry, return to tech? |  |
| Why? |  |
| How will you use your tech center training? |  |

Paragraph 6:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Takeaways from tech |  |
| Relevance to life/future (Ex: trade/academic skills, communication, punctuality, etc.) |  |

Conclusion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Overall opinion about trade program & field |  |

**YEAR 2 REFLECTION RUBRIC**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Examples, Evidence, Content** | **All concepts** are explained clearly, accurately, thoroughly, and logically - using data, examples.  **All** **information required is present.** | **Most concepts** are explained clearly, accurately, thoroughly, and logically - using data, examples.  **Most information required is present.** | **Some concepts** are explained clearly, accurately, thoroughly, and logically - using data, examples.  **Some information required is present.** | **Few or no concepts** are explained clearly, accurately, thoroughly, and logically - using data, examples.  **Few information required is present.** |
| **Organization and Structure** | Paper is well-organized, with a **beginning**, **middle** (development of ideas via use of examples/details), and an **end** (summary of main ideas presented in the paper**).**  **Ideas have a nice flow throughout the paper** | Paper is organized, with a **beginning**, **middle** (development of ideas via use of examples/details), and an **end** (summary of main ideas presented in the paper).  **Ideas have a nice flow throughout the paper** | Paper is somewhat organized, with a **beginning**, **middle** (development of ideas via use of examples/details), and an **end** (summary of main ideas presented in the paper**). Some parts may be confusing** | Paper is not organized.  **Most parts are confusing or don’t make sense.** |
| **Reflection on Information** | Reflection/critical thinking/analysis evident at an **experienced level** to prove **genuine understanding** of the information. | Reflection/critical thinking/analysis evident at **an adequate level** to prove a **good understanding** of the information | Reflection/critical thinking/analysis **somewhat evident at an adequate level** to prove understanding of the information. May be confusing. | **Little to no** reflection/critical thinking/analysis. |
| **Writing Mechanics and Style** | Language is clear and powerful, **no significant errors** in spelling, grammar, or usage. The essay shows a distinctive and elegant writing style. | The essay contains only **occasional errors** of spelling, grammar, and usage. The language is clear, but the writing may not be especially powerful or elegant. | The essay **suffers from errors** of spelling, grammar, and/or usage. The language is occasionally unclear. | The essay **suffers from significant errors** of spelling, grammar, and usage. The language is unclear, and poor writing makes it difficult to ascertain the author’s meaning. |