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EE/RPPF

For use from May/November 2018

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Candidate personal code: _____

Extended essay - Reflections on planning and progress form

Candidate: This form is to be completed by the candidate during the course and completion of their EE. This document records reflections on your planning and progress, and the nature of your discussions with your supervisor. You must undertake three formal reflection sessions with your supervisor: The first formal reflection session should focus on your initial ideas and how you plan to undertake your research; the interim reflection session is once a significant amount of your research has been completed, and the final session will be in the form of a viva voce once you have completed and handed in your EE. This document acts as a record in supporting the authenticity of your work. The three reflections combined must amount to no more than 500 words.

The completion of this form is a mandatory requirement of the EE for first assessment May 2018. It must be submitted together with the completed EE for assessment under Criterion E.

Supervisor: You must have three reflection sessions with each candidate, one early on in the process, an interim meeting and then the final viva voce. Other check-in sessions are permitted but do not need to be recorded on this sheet. After each reflection session candidates must record their reflections and as the supervisor you must sign and date this form.

First reflection session

Candidate comments:

During my first reflection session I changed from looking at mainly novels such as *Lost in Translation*, *Infidel* and *What Language Do I Dream In*, to deciding on focusing on four poems: *I am Joaquín* by Rodolfo Gonzales, *Home* by Warsan Shire, *What They Took With Them* by Jenifer Toksvig, and *My Grandmother Washes Her Feet in the Sink of the Bathroom at Sears* by Mohja Kahf. I made this choice because the poems have very strong imagery and focus primarily on dealing with identity throughout the immigration experience from four different points of view from diverse cultures.

We also discussed my initial EE question which was too broad, therefore I changed it to a more narrow question which focuses on the immigration experience described in these four poems and how it has shaped the author's identity. My essay, we decided, will be a Category 1 Extended Essay. I chose to focus on the immigration experience in these poems and how it shapes identity because it is a topic that has become very controversial and that many people are facing today, but the immigrants actually going through the experience rarely get to voice and express their own experiences. I chose the topic because I think that immigration has a huge impact on identity, whether someone is looking for asylum or not, and this is often tied to language as well as culture. These topics are ones that I am fascinated by, especially how they are interconnected which is why I chose to explore them more thoroughly in my extended essay.

Date:

Supervisor initials:



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**Interim reflection**

Candidate comments:

During my second reflection we discussed the potential change of my research question. Most likely the question will change from it's original: How effectively in their work do contemporary poets from different cultures convey the adjustment of personal identity caused by the experience of migration? to How do contemporary poets, Rodolfo Gonzales, Warsan Shire and Jennifer Toksvig depict the personal struggle for survival of migrants and refugees? as this question seems to better fit all three poems as well as the topics I have discussed in my Extended Essay draft. We also discussed the need for a change in structure of the essay. Instead of discussing each poem individually and analyzing each on it's own, we agreed that the essay would be more interesting and appealing if it focused on specific stylistic devices such as voice, choice of narrator, and repetition that the author chose and how these compare.

We also discussed the potential significance of the name Joaquin in Rodolfo Gonzalez's poem "I am Joaquin" and we came to the conclusion that most likely he chose it because of it's common appearance in Latin America and his attempt at trying to make his poem and his message relatable. Lastly the need for further analysis of specifically Warshire's and Toksvig's poem is necessary in order to not be too descriptive and more analytical. Toksvig's poem in fact was written with different voices/people in mind, something I didn't realize which I will now change and analyze at depth.

Date:

Supervisor initials:

Final reflection - Viva voce

Candidate comments:

Over the course of writing my EE I feel that my idea of how to structure an essay, especially one on various works, has changed drastically for the better. Instead of analyzing each point from each separate poem I learned to find a common aspect that the poems shared and in that way analyze the same aspect in all of my three poems. In that way the essay was more coherent and interesting. I also discussed with my supervisor the fact that all three of the poems that I chose are not very well known, in fact one isn't even officially published, and as a result at times it was hard to get a clear view of the message the poets were trying to get across, and analysis was often done to some extent in the dark. I think I put very much my own perspective on the poems and my personalized analysis, also because although I did a fair amount of research it was very rare to find much information on any of the works. This was a struggle, but also what made the work even more interesting, precisely because there wasn't much said yet.

Date:

Supervisor initials:



Supervisor comments:

Supervisor: By submitting this candidate work for assessment, you are taking responsibility for its authenticity. No piece of candidate work should be uploaded/submitted to the e-Coursework system if its authenticity is in doubt or if contradictory comments are added to this form. If your text in the box below raises any doubt on the authenticity of the work, this component will not be assessed.

was interested and clear about her overall topic from the beginning of the process, but had a harder time choosing the suitable texts and in developing the research question. She had a strong connection to one text in particular, and the other two that she finally decided to write on she became more engaged with as time went on. Coming up with a coherent question was challenging. Perhaps the most challenging aspect of the process was structuring the essay and arguing coherent points, making smaller conclusions and then delving more deeply into the portrayals in these poems to develop a really meaningful conclusion. changed the structure between drafts and found it hard to find a good overall structure, and to develop an independent and deeply engaged response to all the poems in relation to the question. She shows a good ability with specific literary analysis of techniques and devices, but did have some problems in finding secondary sources, so barely all the ideas that she developed were her own responses to these poems.

