
Writer's Statement about "Canines and Their Companions: Unleashing the Chains of Sponsorship"

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My goal in writing this article was to provide my peers, teachers and family members with a unique account of literacy and sponsorship. I wanted to write an article that would be both interesting to read, and informative of the education I acquired throughout ENC 1102.

Choosing a topic wasn't as easy of a task as it may seem. My professor stressed the importance of picking a topic that was actually interesting to each his students. I am very glad that he stressed this, as I jumped around from a few literacies before discovering the literacy of dog parks and dog ownership. The finding was unexpected as the idea came to me during a weekend of dog-sitting for my boyfriend's sister. Regardless, the topic was one that sparked my interest and made me excited to conduct research and write an article.

In writing this article, I came across many obstacles. An immediate struggle that I had was making the correct decisions. I had so many ideas for conducting research—the two main issues were deciding between the different people I could interview and the kinds of questions I should ask. These were obstacles in my eyes because I knew that the people I would interview and the types of questions I would ask would ultimately shape the direction of my project. I chose to interview two dog owners and found that, in interviewing them, questions can't be planned out—they are simply generated from each of the interviewee's answers. Realizing this made my research seem much more achievable.

Additionally, after the research was conducted, I struggled to organize my thoughts and piece together all of the information at hand. I had an abundance of secondary data from past scholars in front of me, as well as the data that I collected through my own research. Through the assignments that my professor laid out for his students, I was able to correlate the two data and begin piecing together an article. It was an ongoing process, but I am glad for the assignments that ultimately became my article.

My hope for this article is that it educates future students learning about literacy and sponsorship in their ENC classes. From past experiences, I know that reading the works of great scholars is sometimes daunting. I hope this article makes their ideas easier to understand while also creating new ideas and contributions to the literacy field.