

Write a Reflection Paper

Critically reflect on your experience of the play. For this paper you will use the DEAL method of critical reflection:

DEAL: Describe
Examine
Articulate Learning

Step 1

Write an Introduction

Start with an introduction and develop a point of view to write your paper from. What was the play about? More specifically, what was the play about for you? What about the play did you find most challenging? What about the play do you want to want to explore more deeply?

Step 2

Cite 3 Excerpts

Cite and describe a minimum of three excerpts from the play that you found exciting, evocative, challenging, or striking that explore, support, and develop your thoughts in your introduction.

Be specific: Quote lines and/or describe the key visual or physical elements of each segment you are examining, i.e.: 'in the scene "From Colored to Black" character x says/does "xyz". Describe the key theatrical devices at play in the segment; i.e.: How did the theatricality enhance the segment or your experience of the information shared in the segment?

Step 3

Describe Your Reaction

Describe your reaction to each example you cite i.e.: “I found this line/sequence to be evocative because.... “How did the segment affect you? What did the segment stir in you? Feel free to articulate a range of reactions.

Step 4

Examine the Segment

Examine the segment more closely. Separate yourself from your reaction to the segment and approach it intellectually/critically. What do you think the artist was trying to achieve in the segment? What problem or issue was being addressed by the segment? Elaborate on the issue -why is it relevant/significant? Utilize outside sources to support your work and discussion.

If you reacted negatively or were made uncomfortable by a segment, why do you think that is? What assumptions or beliefs do you think the artist was challenged by, including the segment in the play? What theatrical devices were at work in the segment? How and/or why were the artists using these devices to achieve a specific response?

Step 5

Articulate Your Learning

Examine each segment and explain what you learned. Stretch your thinking to deepen your understanding. Apply distance between your reaction to the segment, thoughts about what the artists were trying to achieve, and the supplemental literature you incorporated into your thought process. What do you see differently? How did examining the segment increase your understanding and response? How might the segment you examined have been even more effective, i.e., what might the artists have done differently to achieve a different effect?

Step 6

Write a Conclusion

In your conclusions, please address a minimum of 5 of the 8 the following questions:

1. How well did the play address and connect you to issues of systemic racism and health?
2. How did the play deal with intersectional identity (cite specific examples)?
3. How did the play illustrate how geography (where you live) affects identity?
4. How did the play shift your understanding of Black Identity?
5. How does your identity and positionality fit within the framework of the play? i.e.: Where do you intersect with the play?
6. How did the structure and theatricality of the play enhance your learning experience?
7. How did (or did it?) the play shift you, (the audience), between 'feeling' states and 'thinking' states? Was it successful in doing this? Why or why not?
8. What are your 3 main takeaways from the play and from your reflective process?