TRAIL Final Research Reflection

Be sure that your answers are thoughtful and complete.

Note: [Red represents the types of content we might be expecting in an answer. A rubric is available for scoring each of the six prompts.]

Think about the research you’ve done this semester in Writing 10 and answer each of the following questions:

1) How has your process for doing academic research changed since the beginning of the semester? Be specific. Give examples.
   a. Using library resources
   b. Using google more effectively
   c. Evaluating information for credibility, relevance, etc.
   d. Background reading/key words
   e. Spending more time
   f. Employing search strategies

2) Describe your process for evaluating and selecting sources for your research assignments in Writing 10. How did you decide which sources to use and which not to use? Did you add or change sources for your final assignment after turning in your annotated bibliography? If so, please explain why.
   a. Relevance
   b. Currency
   c. Scholarly/Popular
   d. Authorship
   e. Multiple viewpoints
   f. Evidence
   g. Number of sources
   h. Source formats (blogs, videos, interviews, images, etc.)

3) What challenges did you encounter when doing research for your assignments in this class? What strategies did you use to overcome them? Be specific. Give examples.
   a. Too much information
   b. Evaluating relevance
   c. Crafting a research question, problem, etc. (topic-related)
   d. Finding key words
   e. Synthesizing multiple articles
   f. Finding evidence (including multiple viewpoints)
4) Have your attitudes and perceptions (confidence level) about doing research changed over the course of the semester? Be specific. Give examples.
   a. Affect/engagement
   b. Frustration level
   c. Growth
   d. Motivation
   e. Persistence
   f. Grades/Success

5) Did learning more about the research process in this class help you in other classes this semester? Do you think it will help you in future classes? Be specific. Give examples.
   a. Growth
   b. Transferability of knowledge/skills
   c. Generalizability of skills
   d. Applicable to personal research (could be mentioned)

6) Think about the research you’ve done this semester, and describe what you think it means to “Think Like a Researcher?”
   a. Avoiding research bias
   b. Asking questions
   c. Curiosity
   d. Open-mindedness
   e. Multiple viewpoints
   f. Opinions/decisions based on evidence
   g. Identifying problems/solutions
   h. Identifying an information need
   i. Research is a process/iterative