One the first day of class this year, we went outside and looked at the sidewalk, each mark on the sidewalk was an event in our life that got us to this class. Now throughout 12 week I have added a whole lot of marks to my story.

Myself as a writer has improved a tremendous amount. I was always considered myself good at writing papers before but know it makes so much more sense. I can now paint a picture with my words easier, hit the nail on the head when writing about a topic, use more literary devices, and so much more. I personally saw this improve right away through all writings.The blogs were resourceful but I think what helped me the most was the poems of the week. When I used to write, I was very good at describing events. However, I struggled when trying to communicate what they author was doing in their writing and how it made the piece effective. Through just 3 weeks, my style went from kinda explaining it, to using the correct language and actually making it clear what I was trying to say. This made me so much more confident. An example to show how much I improved was my essay score when I retook the SAT. Those scores went from to 4s and 3s to 6s and 5s.

 I am no longer scared to mess up when I write, because I know, I am slowing getting more and more tools. My creative writing is much improved as well. I am now writing about harder topics, ones with more emotion and that are harder to write about. My reflective learning blog have more depth now. I feel like I am thinking in more ways than just two dimensional. The risk in this have been very small, I like writing about what I know and not anything else. I am struggling to find ways to take risk but I know I keep writing they will come. I one part of writing that I found myself struggling with was the FREs. I need to focus more on the question at hand and answering it directly. I need to not summarize the whole story before I answer it. I am working on this but I do not think i have the best handle on it yet.

In this class, I have been constantly been pushing myself out of my comfort zone. For example working in groups. I personally really enjoy working in groups because I feel like your get more opinions than just your own. How one person can have such a large on a group. However, I am naturally a shy person so working with people I don’t know makes me a bit uncomfortable. I worked in two groups this year so far, and both each time I pushed myself farther out of that zone, by working with people I know less each time. Another thing I did was, read out loud in class. I do not particularly enjoy reading outloud, I have no problem presenting but reading is a challenge for me. My goal is read a larger and larger role each time now.

I do find that I have taken risk in reading. I have chosen books that I would not normally consider. I am not looking at the size of the book either, so whether it is long or short it does not really matter. So far I have picked to very different books and that is my goal for the rest of year.

Reading is something I actually consider a struggle. I really like reading when I get to chose the book, and yes we get to do that, but I enjoy commercial fiction much more. I have read both of the books for my FREs but I waited until the last weekend. I read 3/4s of my book this weekend, which was a struggle. I was horrible at time management and really need to focus more on reading outside of class throughout the whole six weeks instead of the weekend before. The part of reading that I saw increase was the analyzation portion of it. Again the poem of week helped with this, rereading the story multiple times really aided in this.Getting to the heart of the story got easier and easier each week. This could relate to writing to as well, but I feel like it's reading more because I need to understand the story first.

My overall assessment of my work and actions over the past 12 weeks has been very good. I have taken risk when choosing a book, but my effort and efficiently finishing that book in a timely manner has been very poor. I have taken few risk when writing but feel that I have had the most growth in this area and feel more confident than ever. I am very excited to see how much more I grow throughout this year and I hope to make my strengths,stronger and weaknesses my strengths.