

A reflective **essay** is a piece of writing that basically involves your views and feelings about a particular subject. The goal of a reflective **essay** is to not only discuss what you learned, but to convey the personal experiences and findings that resulted.

Example:

EDF1302 Assessment 2: Observation and analysis

While on fieldwork, I observed a number of learning situations and while doing this I took notes on the presence of pedagogical dimensions. For this piece I will be exploring the dimensions of *Intellectual Quality* and *Supportive Classroom Environment* respectively. I will begin with the description of the learning situation and then explore how the particular dimensions are evident within them. I will identify the particular elements of these dimensions, I felt existed, and also make reference to those, which appeared absent in the learning situation. I will finish by reflecting on the importance of this assignment and the implications for teaching in general.

The children were asked to close their eyes and 'think carefully' about their favourite characters and what they knew about them. The children all did this and it was obvious by the expressions on their faces that they were concentrating and thinking really hard. This to me indicated that they were involving themselves in a form of higher order thinking. Their finished diary entries also were evidence of this, they produced extremely interesting and clever work, which showed a great deal of thought on the student's part.

Both 'deep understanding' and 'deep knowledge' were present in this lesson. The children demonstrated a deep understanding of the underlying concepts of the task; they were able to use their knowledge to solve the problem and were able to establish the relationship of there being more than one correct answer.

—David

<http://www.monash.edu.au/lls/llonline/writing/education/reflective-writing/4.xml>