

Michael G. Moran Awards for 2012-2013

Beginning in 2007, the First-year Composition Program began recognizing the excellent work being done in electronic portfolios for English 1101, 1102, and 1102M by presenting three portfolio awards. Named in honor of Michael G. Moran, a former director of FYC who did much to shape and improve the program, the awards consist of cash prizes and publication in the *First-year Composition Guide* required of all students registered in our courses and on the FYC site at: <http://www.english.uga.edu/newsite/fyc/moran.html>.

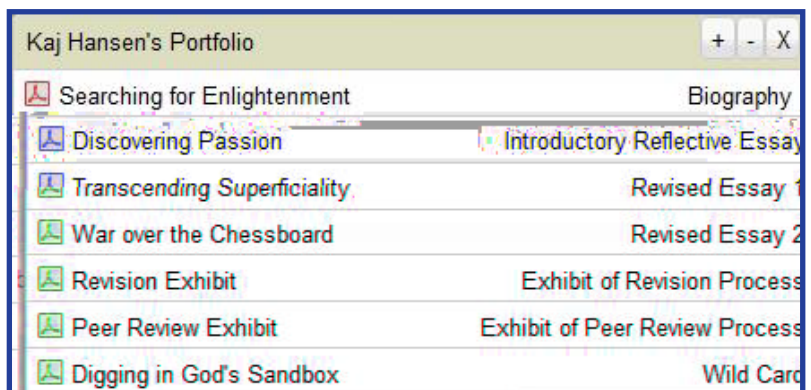
English 1101

Student: Kaj Hansen

Teacher: Mami Ludwig

A First-year Composition portfolio at the University of Georgia is more than an attractive folder for the two polished essays that were produced during the semester. Our ePortfolios not only showcase a student's best formal essays, but also his or her writing process. The other pieces of the portfolio—the Introductory Reflective Essay, Peer Review Exhibit, Revision Exhibit, and Wild Card—are designed to encourage reflection about the writing process and about writing's relationship to other aspects of the portfolio

author's life. Kaj's ePortfolio is notable for its articulate description of the author's writing practices and their relationship to his general intellectual approach to life and schooling.





I find it silly that we pigeonhole ourselves into various groups, oftentimes just to “fit in”

.....
..... Catholics, “left brained” and “right brained ” and countless
..... *mean*
..... *who we are*

I am neither particularly religious, nor am I atheist in the traditional sense. To me,
“God”

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From an early age, I’ve been fascinated with science. Coupled with my somewhat

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Professor Ludwig’s class were far more unfettered than I had anticipated, and I very much enjoyed

’ example

Superficiality,” n “Transcending

Though my final draft of “Transcending Superficiality” scored well, I took the

that “... e meter, syntax, and diction.” In

Ludwig's feedback and my subsequent revisions have drastically improved my writing.

,

“ ”

“provided a fiercely competitive alternative to nucle
both superpowers could vent nationalistic anxiety and come to respect each other's physical and
intellectual merits.”

Writing “War over the Chessboard” certainly gave me a new-found respect for the

Before English 1101, “research” simply

“

finish by acting.”

*The bird that plucked the Olive Leaf
has been circling like a record around the spindle of my mind
where the needle's worn the grooves too deep,
and scratched the wax that's blistered from the heat besides
so from any movement in the room—
if my cat walked by the arm skipped!
but to my surprise, my interrupting cat improved
a sound already so severely compromised.*

, as

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for me

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BustedHalo.com

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Ramayana

or his wife's

Arthashastra

third c

known to the Indians as "chaturanga," roughly translating into "having four limbs."

"four limbs" of Indian armies –

sixth

fifteenth

q

combining “chess” with “combinatorics” or “computer science” yields graduate mathematical papers with such titles as “The Computational Challenge of Enumerating High Dimensional Rook Walks” and “

the world’s strongest players,

that “f
riority over the decadent West.” The Kremlin

fourteen

fifteen

twenty-nine

“ ”

match, sometimes referred to as the “Match of the Century,” Fischer beat

, d would

, which was

Bobby Fischer’s widely

azier’s

call to go lest he jeopardize America's image on the global stage. Even after arriving, Fischer

twenty-four

first

for

forty-one

e twenty-first

it

, Fischer's victory helped bring about a greater degree of mutual respect

thing

and come to respect each other's physical and intellectual merits

ople. To the ancient Indians millennia ago, "chatrang" was but a past

twenty-first

could've guessed even a century ago that a mere board game would play such a pivotal role
in

Im. IT ñ ae n er mtio t

L. of G. chrHic e E i hern Qg io tu

Bobby Fischer Against the World

" t o t "

w N Ye or Tie k s m.

... are worse, and I'll probably spend ... writer's block; rather,

..., or even a decent writer by any means. I simply do a great deal of "micro drafting" in my own head

English 1101's revision process has brought my attention to these essay, "War over the Chessboard."

"Transcending Superficiality."

Example 1:

mewithoutYou's greatest attributes as a Christian rock band.

rock for the same reason that we hate Jehovah's Witnesses showing up at our

ideas without coming across as "preachy"; Aaron Weiss himself insists that they aren't

music and leaving it up to their listeners to interpret it however they'd

The sentence introducing this paragraph was intended to be a powerful statement, but its point was muddled by awkward structure and superfluous wording. The same can be said for the last sentence of the paragraph. The highlighted hanging preposition further adds to the paragraph's overall clumsiness. These three problems combine to greatly diminish the power of my assertions and interfere with the paragraph's overall cohesion.

mewithoutYou's greatest attributes as a Christian rock band.

hate Jehovah's Witnesses showing up at our

ideas without coming across as "preachy"; Aaron Weiss himself insists that they aren't

interpret it however they'd like.

Simple revisions greatly increased the clarity of the paragraph.

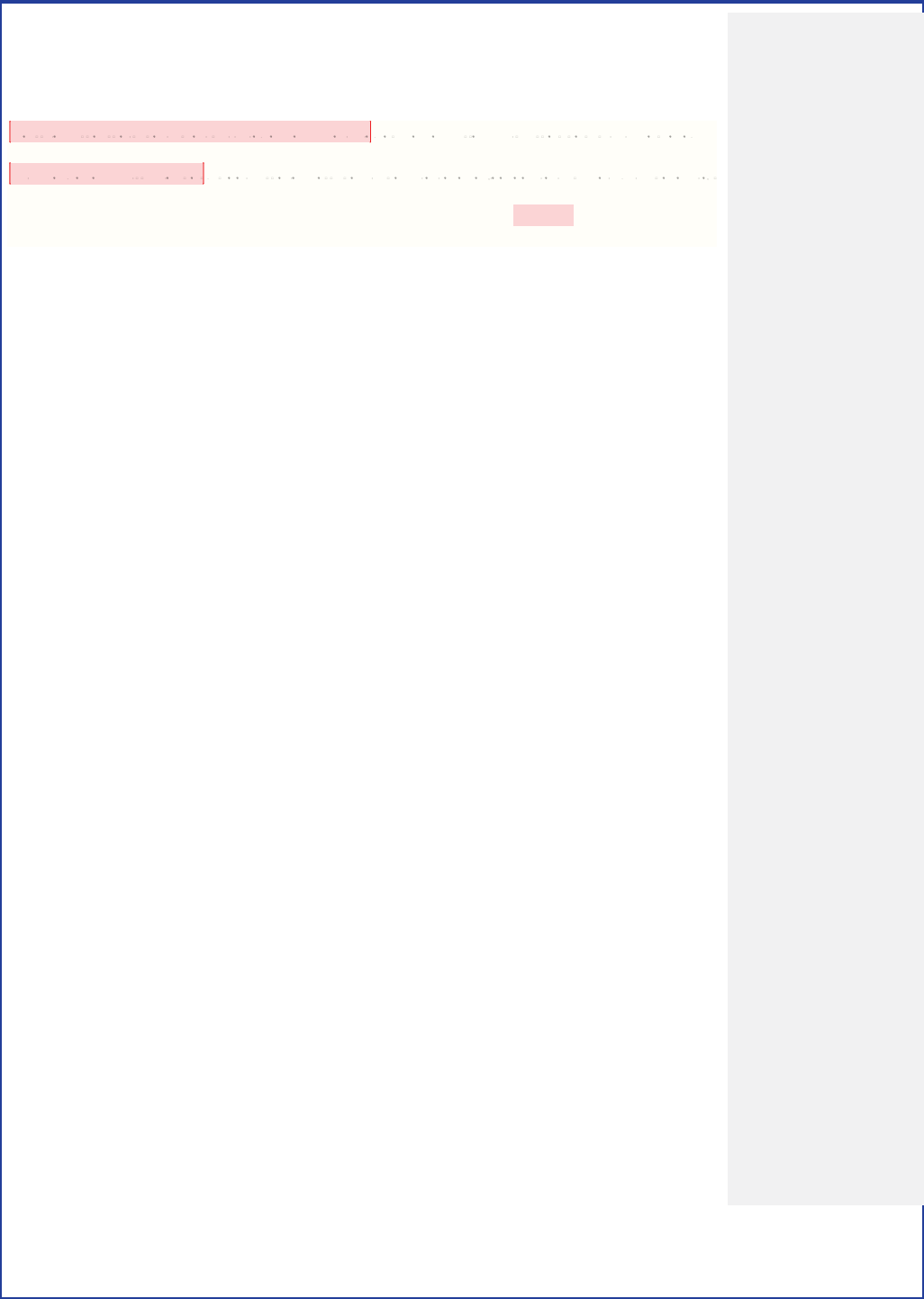
Example 4:

..... is

As I discussed in the introduction to this revision exhibit, I have a tendency to express my opinions about a topic as universal fact. Who am I to know that everyone who listens to the track walks away awestruck? I only have my own empirical evidence and a couple of anecdotes, not some large-scale scientific study. Further, the sentence isn't as clear as it should be due to my poor choice of a preposition, highlighted in blue.

..... is

..... 've



I also focused quite a bit on the conclusion of her paper. In the final two paragraphs below, Angelina tied her writing together and spoke directly to her thesis stated earlier in the paper. Given their importance, I tried to help her strengthen them as much as possible.

.....

Comment [k21]: Deep down, I know that I need to put on my big girl panties and walk away.

.....

Comment [k22]: You can get away with deleting this sentence because you're repeating the same point in the next.

.....

.....

Comment [k23]: Do, for it diminishes my pride and self-respect.

.....

Is it ok to be the shark if I am trying to survive? I don't want to be a seal.

Comment [k24]: Is it morally acceptable to be a shark...? "Survive" isn't the best word.

.....

..... es have turned me into a shark, I don't want to harm people. It was a way of

... I don't want to be the shark anymore, and I don't want to be the victim either. Who am I

Comment [k25]: Although our experiences may turn us into sharks, deep down we don't want to harm others. Aggression is simply a way of coping.

At this point, you'll want to broaden your essay and relate your experiences to humanity as a whole. Surely, we all feel as you do in some form or another. Transition into first-person plural and ponder the moral implications and relate them to your thesis. Don't be timid; you know how your experience relates to humanity better than anyone else. For inspiration, see the 3rd paragraph from the end in "Explicit Violence" or the last paragraph in "How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others." In these last paragraphs, I'd advise dropping the "shark" metaphor in favor of more concrete language. The metaphor was excellent as a hook to capture the reader's attention in the beginning; however, I think it weakens your conclusion.

Overall, focus first on coherence and the role each paragraph plays in the whole essay. Your work is anecdote-heavy, which isn't bad, but it's easy to get sidetracked. Also, focus on your transitions from one part of the essay to the next. At times, it is confusing for the reader because the parts are rather disjoint. I wish you Godspeed!

God's Sandbox

Mortal as I am, I know that I am born for a day. But when I follow at my pleasure the serried multitude of the stars in their circular course, my feet no longer touch the earth.

~Ptolemy

Though I didn't know it at the time, s of



lapse of Io, Jupiter's 3

to approximate Io's orbital period around Jupiter, but unfortunately, I

ng. Because Mars' rotation is out of sync with Earth's by a mere 43 minutes, only a small sliver of new surface is

Final Thoughts

n. An appreciative eye sees beauty not only in Beethoven's symphonies and Shakespeare's sonnets but also