

Instructor-Guided Reflective Essay

SmarterMeasure is a diagnostic assessment that quantifies a learner's readiness to learn based on non-cognitive success indicators. Educational institutions often embed this assessment as an 'Assignment' or 'Module' in the beginning of an orientation or student success course. Upon completion, students receive a score report with an interpretation guide.

To encourage students to read their score reports and reflect on their readiness, instructors often assign a reflective essay. This essay prompts students to examine their scores and identify steps to foster academic success. Submitting these essays to the LMS demonstrates their ability to locate and turn in files. Some institutions also use these essays as early writing samples.

Instructions:

- 1. Introduction:** Start by introducing yourself and the purpose of the essay. Explain why self-reflection is essential for academic success.
- 2. Personal Strengths:** Identify and discuss your strengths as a student, referencing your SmarterMeasure score report. Highlight specific areas where you scored well, such as time management, specific skills, and personal qualities that help you succeed.
- 3. Areas for Improvement:** Reflect on the areas where you feel you need to improve to be a more successful student, using insights from your SmarterMeasure score report. Address challenges related to time management, financial constraints, skills, and abilities.
- 4. Challenges to Academic Success:** Examine the specific challenges you face in achieving academic success. Discuss how factors like time, money, skills, and personal abilities impact your academic journey, incorporating details from your SmarterMeasure score report.
- 5. Mindset and Overcoming Challenges:** Explore how your mindset influences your ability to overcome challenges. Reflect on the steps you will take to address your weaknesses and enhance your strengths, guided by the insights from your SmarterMeasure score report.
- 6. Conclusion:** Summarize your key points and reflect on how this self-assessment, along with your SmarterMeasure score report, will guide your future actions to achieve academic success.

Submission Requirements: Save your essay as a Word document. Submit both your SmarterMeasure score report and the essay to complete this assignment.

Formatting: Use a standard font, such as Times New Roman, size 12. Double-space your essay. Include a title page with your name, course, and date.

Length: Aim for 750 – 1000 words.