



# Reflecting writing guide

Libyan International Medical University
Faculty of pharmacy
PharmD Program
2020-2021

### Reflection

Reflection is a critical thinking about learning. It is about your input, view and personal reaction to the material. you should connect learning to prior learning, self, or real world.

## Reflective writing is:

- your response to experiences, opinions, events or new information
- your response to thoughts and feelings
- a way of thinking to explore your learning
- an opportunity to gain self-knowledge
- a way to achieve clarity and better understanding of what you are learning
- a chance to develop and reinforce writing skills
- a way of making meaning out of what you study

# **Reflective writing is not:**

- just conveying information, instruction or argument
- pure description, though there may be descriptive elements
- straightforward decision or judgement (e.g. about whether something is right or wrong, good or bad)
- simple problem-solving
- a summary of course notes
- a standard university essay

Questions that student should answered by reflective writing?

- 1. What did I learn from it?
- 2. What did I do well?
- 3. Why did I choose this item?
- 4. What do I want to improve in this item?

- 5. How do I feel about my performance?
- 6. What were the problems areas?

## **Writing Style**

Because it concerns your thoughts, reflective writing is mostly **subjective**. Therefore, in addition to being **reflective** and **logical**, you can be **personal**, **hypothetical**, **critical** and **creative**. You can comment about your experiences, rather than solely drawing on academic evidence.

Reflective writing is an activity that includes **description** (what, when, who) and **analysis** (how, why, what if). It is an explorative tool often resulting in more questions than answers.

#### What can I discuss?

- Your **perceptions** of the course and the content.
- Any **questions** you have.
- Experiences, ideas and observations you have had, and how they relate to the course or topic.
- What you found confusing, inspiring, difficult, interesting and why.
- Possibilities, speculations, hypotheses or solutions.
- **Alternative interpretations** or different perspectives on what you have read or done in your course.
- How new ideas **challenge** what you already know.
- What you need to explore next in terms of thoughts and actions.

You can also discuss **how** you:

- Solved a **problem**;
- reached a **conclusion**;
- found an answer;
- reached a point of **understanding**.

It's also helpful to make **comparisons** and **connections** between what your are learning and your prior knowledge and experience and your prior assumptions.