**Examples of Student Reflective writing**

**A**

The presentation that I gave as a result of our group task had some aspects which could have gone better. This report describes our experience.

Firstly, our group dynamics were problematic, there were two people who just didn’t participate at all and no-one wanted to lead the group. One person started to lead the group then he got ill so it didn’t really work.

Secondly none of us really did as much reading and preparation as we should have. This was obvious in the lack of content in the final presentation. I actually did do some reading but we didn’t get together to talk about how it should fit together.

Finally, we didn’t rehearse the presentation so it was stilted, people didn’t know what they were supposed to say, we ran out of time at the end and it didn’t seem very professional. Our slides were okay but we only used about 60% of them.

B

I did a presentation the other day which I thought went okay but I only got 55 for it which I don’t know why because I thought my presentation was better than what other people did and I put more work into the preparation. We had four meetings; there were only two of us out of a group of six that turned up to all the meetings. Also although I didn’t do loads of reading I did enough for my part of the presentation so I thought that was okay. The actual presentation itself was a bit of a mess because we hadn’t sorted out our order I started off and gave a bit of background. I thought the information that I had found on the history of manufacturing was okay but I forgot the order of what I wanted to say. The room was really hot so I started sweating and I don’t think that looked very good. The we were interrupted by some other students coming in late which was distracting for the presenter. Then we asked the audience for questions which was okay but there was only one question which we didn’t really know the answer to anyway and we ran out of time at the end but it was our first try.

**C**

The presentation that I gave as a result of our group task had some aspects which could have gone better. This report will briefly describe the presentation, identifying some of the problems our group faced. The purpose of this is to learn from our experience so that future presentations will be better.

The presentation was not very good, firstly our group dynamics were problematic, there were two people who just didn’t participate at all and no-one wanted to lead the group. I am disappointed about this because I have been in groups before where a similar thing has happened so we could have predicted this. Thinking about this again has made me realise that the other members of the group were probably expecting me to lead it. I probably should have taken more responsibility for the leadership. Also I have since read Cottrell’s chapter on group roles which was really useful and it has made me realise the next group I am in I will discuss group roles from the start.

Secondly none of us really did as much reading and preparation as we should have. This was evident in the lack of content in the final presentation. We had been told in the seminar that we would be given most of the credit for the content but we didn’t focus on that so much as arguing about who would do what which meant we didn’t have enough time for proper preparation. I now realise that there is also detailed information on assessment in Moodle. We should have had a copy of that at our first meeting too so that we could target our energies in the most effective way.

Finally, we didn’t rehearse the presentation so it was stilted, people didn’t know what they were supposed to say, we ran out of time at the end and it didn’t seem very professional. This is also disappointing because one person in the group suggested a rehearsal but we didn’t allow time for it. The tutor did not seem very impressed with our presentation it was probably obvious that we hadn’t rehearsed. There is also a very useful video on how to give a good presentation on the University’s central software that would have helped us remember the importance of eye-contact and timing

From this experience there are a number of things that I would do differently next time. I would use the first group meeting to get to know the others in the group and to identify our strengths and therefore our responsibilities. I would also make a plan for reading and preparation which involved all of us having responsibility for reading separate things which we report back. Also I would ensure that there was time before the presentation to practice and get the timing right.

**D**

The presentation that I gave as a result of our group task had some aspects which could have gone better. This report looks at the reasons why the presentation was weak.

Firstly, our group dynamics were problematic, there were two people who just didn’t participate at all and no-one wanted to lead the group. I am disappointed about this because I have been in groups before where a similar thing has happened so we could have predicted this.

Secondly none of us really did as much reading and preparation as we should have. This was evident in the lack of content in the final presentation. We had been told in the seminar that we would be given most of the credit for the content but we didn’t focus on that so much as arguing about who would do what which meant we didn’t have enough time for proper preparation.

Finally, we didn’t rehearse the presentation so it was stilted, people didn’t know what they were supposed to say, we ran out of time at the end and it didn’t seem very professional. This is also disappointing because one person in the group suggested a rehearsal but we didn’t allow time for it. If we do another presentation I will definitely rehearse.