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CIS 102T - Reflection paper

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When I registered for this class I thought I wasn’t going to enjoy it that much or that it was going to be boring. After all, it was going to be teaching older adults; I never really did any volunteer work with people older than me. I was always tutoring the children in my neighborhood and even back in high school when I was in the Key Club we were mostly selling cupcakes and other pastries in the cafeteria to raise money so I never had much contact with the elderly in terms of volunteer work. My mind changed when I actually started the class and the fact that I recently got a job at a pharmacy where most of the customers were old helped a lot too.

I didn’t know what to expect when my partner and I met our senior that we were to teach at Hallmark. I especially didn’t know what to expect when I heard she had a dog too. I was scared of dogs, but my partner James loves them so I decided to stay quiet about that. After awhile though I got over it and I’m happy to say that I was comfortable going to teach Sylvia every Monday. I was even comfortable with her pug around me. However, what I learned the most from teaching Sylvia was that older adults aren’t incapable of learning something new. After all, Sylvia was always optimistic and looked forward to learning something new every Monday.

James and I often got confused about what to teach her at first as she seemed to know a lot more than what we were expecting. She was able to learn everything quickly and it got easier for us to plan lessons for her. We were also able to teach her shortcuts like holding down ALT and then pressing F4 will close windows or holding down shift and then pressing the arrow keys or the home or end key will highlight. It was a delight teaching her. Since James and I won't be seeing her much after this we left our e-mail for her so if she ever needed help she could just e-mail one of us. I hope the notes I wrote down during the weeks we taught her will also help.

In the end, this class has been great and I was able to get something out of it. I always had a hard time explaining things with people and writing down notes for other people, but after this experience I feel like I can do those things properly now. I'm really thankful that I had Sylvia as my student for this class. It makes think maybe I should do this again if I was offered the chance.