Analyzing Your Writing

Before you begin:
Read “Student Relativism” and “Beyond Subjectivism” (both available on Springboard). The authors discuss these ways of thinking and writing:

- Student Relativism (SR)
- Philosophical Relativism
- Connected Knowing
- Separate Knowing

Consider which of these categories your own thinking and writing fit into—and it is possible that you fit into more than one category.

Your task:
- Write a short analysis of your own writing and thinking, using the terms provided by the authors of the two articles.
  - Specific material—examples from your own writing and quotations from the author(s) you are discussing—will help this essay a lot.

Why I assigned this essay:
A major emphasis of this course is generating academic content. Another major emphasis is analyzing writing to see how it actually works. Many of my students, however, arrive in 112 without having thought too carefully about the writing/thinking process and their place in it—when they read, they “just sort of let the words flow over them” and when they write they “just sort of write stuff down.” I want you to step beyond that unreflective way of thinking and to learn what you are doing and why you are doing it.

Mechanical requirements:
- The final product will be typed and double-spaced according to MLA format.
- The paper will be at least 3 pages long (That’s about 1000 words).

Due Date:
- Thursday, September 6: Final copy of essay #1 is DUE!

This essay is worth 75 points.