

### Reflective Essay Introduction Sample

As I sit down to reflect on my time in the English major at Berry, I'm roughly three months removed from my last English class. At the moment, I'm in the middle of a semesterlong student teaching experience at Armuchee High School, finishing out my Secondary Education minor and preparing for the "real world" of teaching that awaits me after May 10th . At this point, I've got some well-needed temporal, as well as practical, distance between myself and the English classes that were a staple of my time at Berry. Truth be told, I miss them. On a more relevant note, I'm thankful for them. In combination with my own extensive extracurricular studies of literature – e.g. my annual summer reading and research projects with books like *Ulysses*, *Gravity's Rainbow*, and *Infinite Jest* – my English studies at Berry have not only given me knowledge that I am using right now in the high school classroom but also made me an overall better, more critical reader and writer. The discussions I've had (or rather, given my introverted nature, mostly observed) in class have shown me how to engage with others in good intellectual discussion and how a single text can be approached and analyzed from a variety of angles. The connections I've made with professors, both in and out of the classroom, have shown me much the same while giving me intellectual and personal role models to look up to. In short, my experience as an English major at Berry has been an enriching one, one that has prepared me both professionally and personally for the years after graduation.