

Title

Hook
Thesis
Body paragraphs (1-3)
Conclusions

Final Portfolio: Introductory Reflective Essay (IRE)

Student Planning Outline

Before You Write

☐ Choose **ONE** prompt:

- ☐ Option A: Growth as a Reader, Writer, and Learner
- ☒ Option B: Happiness, Choice, and Agency

☐ Review your portfolio and course readings

☐ Select **3 main insights** you want to focus on → happiness, choices & The Other Wes Moore

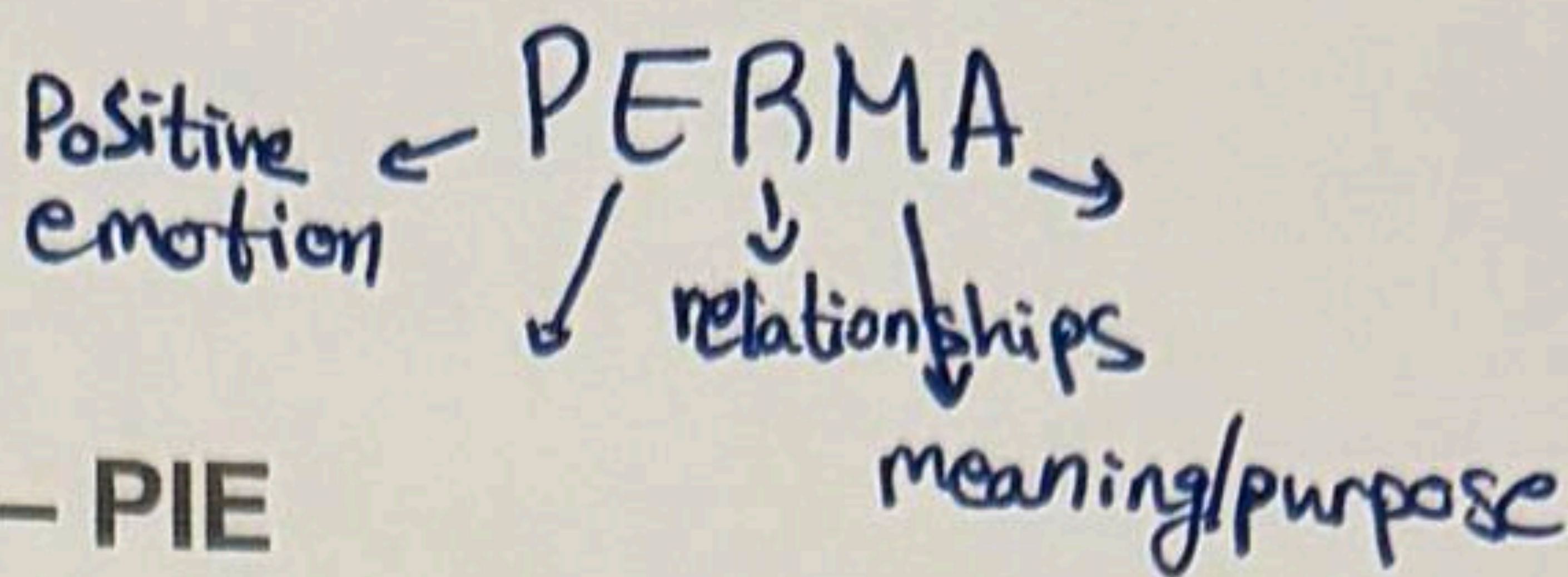
Introduction Paragraph

Goal: Introduce your learning journey and clearly state your main insight(s).

- Opening sentence(s):
What is this essay about? What changed for you this semester?
- Context:
Briefly mention the course theme (reading & writing growth *and/or* happiness, mindset, choice).
- Thesis / Central Insight:**
In one clear sentence, explain what you have learned overall and why it matters.

How to be happier when making choices

Draft Space:



Body Paragraph 1 – PIE

P – Point: What is one important insight you developed?

What is ONE thing you learned that changed how you think about:

- Reading or writing OR
- Happiness, mindset, and choice?

mindset - Carol Dweck (2) ✓
happiness - purpose / meaningful (1) ✓

I – Information: How did you develop this insight?

What specific experiences helped you learn this?

(Examples: readings, class discussions, writing assignments, *The Other Wes Moore*, Seligman, Schwartz, Lyubomirsky, Dweck)

revision + reading ✓

Draft Space:

Point - While our circumstances....

Evidence - Seligman's

Explanation -

E – Explanation: Why is this insight important?

Why does this learning matter?

How has it affected:

- Your thinking?
- Your writing?

Lawyer ✓
Critical thinking ✓
knowing how to present something

- Your approach to challenges or choices?

open minded - Came to learn and grow. ✓

Body Paragraph 2 – PIE

P – Point

What is a **different** important insight you developed?