[120-day assignment] – COM 701-4. A CCCR-2: Study/Review Questions (Expanded answers)

Review your 30-day CCCR responses. Expanded responses with additional learning from your developmental reading and contextualization in your profession, life goals, and service. Include proper APA documentation of sources used in addition to the course material.

Question 1: Expanded answer

Thesis or purpose statement reflects the foundational idea. It is your argument or viewpoint defined into a concise statement or two that provides the reader with the writer’s main point or idea of the work.

A thesis statement requires meticulous organisation, satisfactory research, scholarly expression and a through grasp or understanding of the subject.

Meticulous Organisation: Organisation helps you to take a careful look into your work and helps you to decide what to look for and the reason for requiring it. It also helps you to chart the course of your work with a basic frame work. Early organisation helps to determine the success of a research paper in which a problem or issue is identified; a review on the information on the topic is undertaken, your thesis or hypothesis is clearly enunciated; issues are carefully analysed, evidence clearly presented and findings clearly interpreted, discussed and evaluated.

Satisfactory research: Research adds intellectual vigour to your work and broadens the context of the work. It allows for the opportunity to think more deeply and broadly to develop and acquire new knowledge and to achieve adequacy and focus in your presentation. It also helps working professionals to enhance their academic profile.

Research is synonymous with inquiry. It means literally “seeking and searching again.” Diligence of inquiry leads to discovery which reveals a temporal relationship forming an association between the present and the past. Over time several types of research have emerged as varied use of scholars became curious with different aspects facets of human enquiry.

Research teaches:

* Methods of discovery: An active process that encourages learners to build on prior knowledge of the subject and add new information to deepen their knowledge of the subject.
* Investigative skills: Academic writing demands that the learner examines the subject, gain knowledge of the fundamentals, and disclose discoveries.
* Inquiry-based techniques: Centred on raising relevant questions to increase the learner’s knowledge base thereby creating additional material for ensuing research by others.
* Critical thinking: Involves making the distinction between advantageous and unproductive information.
* Logic: The learner must make insightful, intelligent and measured judgements on issues about the research topic.
* Basic ingredients of arguments: A research paper requires the learner to make a claim and support the claim with reasons and evidence.

Scholarly expression is also referred to as Academic writing is linear, that is to say it has one central point or theme with every part contributing to the main line of argument. Its objective is to inform rather than entertain.

Thorough grasp or understanding of the subject: Understanding of the research assignment by careful evaluation, accurate and relevant interpretation, and definition that gives clarity to technical and scientific terminology. Understanding the subject prevents plagiarism whether intentional or unintentional.

The significance of a research assignment must be put into context for a proper understanding of its emergence. And a clearer picture of the assignment can be strengthened by in depth and careful research. (Deppe, 2011)

Research involves interpreting an author’s work as a Pastor and counsellor, I must seek for objectivity in what is written and objectivity in the interpretation of what is written. An objective approach to interpreting what is written will cause me to adopt a methodical approach to gain the writer's true information and provide an avenue for gaining the full and true meaning underlying the writer's intent. An objective approach helps to eliminate any bias.

The more one is familiar with the biography of the author of a text the easier it is to understand what is written. "Knowing the orientation of the author and the background, philosophy, and purpose of the composition increases the understanding of the written document." (Green, 2008)

This is also true with narrative of scripture; there is no substitute for understanding Biblical context as it:

1. Facilitate the prevention of misinterpretation and misinformation of Scripture, faulty theology and confusion. Understanding biblical context demands careful, analytical study of biblical passages undertaken in order to produce advantageous instructions and or information.
2. Bring the teacher of the word into the full meaning of a passage thus getting more out of a Bible Study enabling you to communicate to the leaners confidently, clearly and effectively.

Question 2: Expanded answer

As was stated in question 2 in the 30-day assignment, TPO sequence, stands for 'Think, Plan, and Organize', is an essential tool for effective writing that can significantly impact the reader and the hearers. When employed, it helps to improve the author's aim and purpose, enhance the depth and quality of the text, and ensure that the overall tone is clear and unambiguous.

By taking the time to think through the ideas and message that is to be conveyed, authors can ensure that their writing is coherent and logical, with a clear and concise structure that guides the reader through the text. Planning helps to identify the key points and arguments that will support the author's purpose, while organizing the content effectively ensures that the text flows smoothly and is easy to follow.

Employing the TPO sequence can also help to elevate the quality of the writing, by allowing the author to consider the tone, style, and language choices that will be most effective in engaging and persuading the reader. This, in turn, helps to avoid ambiguity and misinterpretation, ensuring that the intended message is communicated clearly and effectively.

The importance of planning in preaching can be viewed through the lens of the TPO sequence. “Planning the structure of your essay before you choose supporting evidence helps you conduct more effective and targeted research.” (Kepka, 2018)” By thinking, planning, and organizing our sermons, we can enhance our aim and purpose in preaching. This intentional approach to preaching helps us to create deeper and more impactful messages that resonate with our audience. By taking the time to carefully plan and organize our sermons, we can also avoid ambiguity and ensure that our messages are effectively communicated to our congregation.

Additionally, by using the TPO sequence, we can improve the quality of our sermons by brainstorming relevant and effective illustrations that support our points. We can also be more thoughtful in our approach, taking care to choose examples and current events that connect with the text and resonate with our audience. By using connectives and carefully crafting our outlines, we can ensure that our messages flow seamlessly and are easy for our congregation to follow.

In essence, planning in preaching is a necessary component of the call for excellence in ministry. By using the TPO sequence, we can approach our preaching with intentionality, thoughtfulness, and care, resulting in sermons that truly touch the needs of our congregation and honour Christ.

This can involve selecting relevant scripture passages or illustrations that will help to bring the message to life and make it more relatable to the congregation.

Organizing the message effectively is equally important in pastoral ministry, as it helps pastors to ensure that the message is clear, concise, and easy to follow. By structuring the message logically, pastors can guide their congregation through the message, ensuring that they stay engaged and understand the message's main points.

"Aim at nothing and you'll hit it every time." We may apply the same logic to planning: Plan for nothing and you are sure to accomplish it. Planning is an important aspect of how life works in this planet. God designed the universe in such a way that planning is not only inevitable but also possible. Of course, this entails planning for every aspect of your preaching. Here are some reasons why planning is essential in your preaching programme.

"The best sermons are simmered in a slow cooker, not microwaved." One of the finest ways to carve out time to contemplate and think about the best ways to drive a message home and into people's hearts is to plan your preaching.

If we are to honour Christ in our preaching, we must be deliberate about it. We never stumble or drift into God's will. We move into it on purpose because we intend to.

The time pressures of the pastorate and family require the pastor to plan preaching carefully.

The needs of the congregation call for careful planning. The pastor is not only a preacher. He is also counsellor, chaplain, friend, referee, administrator, and teacher. Whatever we do, however, our preaching and teaching will provide the overall conceptual framework for ministry. It is there we interpret the Christian life and the mission of the church. It is there we address the people at the point of their personal needs. Without careful planning this preaching ministry will not touch those needs.

The vocation to ministry excellence necessitates deliberate planning.

Thoughtfulness- relevant, effective, brainstorm illustration to support points- from life itself, news items, conversation chosen with care to prevent you from sharing information in confidence that can make connections between the text and current situations/life events/current events.

Every conscientious preacher takes much care in planning his sermon, whether it is in his mind or written down. However, unless the sermon is worked out into a written outline before it is delivered in the desk, there is a tendency for sloppy preparation, which quickly degenerates into wandering, pointless preaching. As a result, preachers who want to maintain a high standard of pulpit performance should pay close attention to their sermon outlines.

Above all, the Master must breathe the Holy Spirit into this body, the sermon, so that it might become a living, vibrant message that will turn souls from darkness to light, from the way of death to the pathway of life.

Question 3: Expanded answer

The classical order of writing, which consists of Invention, Disposition, and Elocution, is important because each step builds on the previous one. Neglecting or skipping any of these steps can result in a final product that is less effective and polished. Invention is essential for generating ideas and material to work with, Disposition is crucial for organizing and structuring these ideas into a cohesive whole, and Elocution is necessary for refining and polishing the language and style of the writing to make it effective and engaging for the reader. Therefore, by following these classical steps, writers can produce well-organized, compelling, and persuasive pieces of writing that captivate their readers.

By following the classical steps of writing in order, writers can ensure that they produce well-structured, engaging, and effective writing that effectively communicates their ideas and messages to their audience.

The classical steps of writing - invention, disposition, and elocution - were developed in the context of classical rhetoric and were intended to help speakers communicate effectively with their audiences. Although these steps were developed centuries ago, they are still relevant today for writers who aim to create engaging and effective content.

Today's writers:

Can use a variety of tools and techniques to generate ideas and gather information, such as brainstorming, mind-mapping, research,

Think carefully about the order in which they present their ideas and how to create a clear and logical flow in their writing. Outlining, storyboarding, and other planning techniques can be helpful in this regard.

Need to be able to communicate their ideas in a way that is clear, concise, and engaging. They may need to consider factors such as tone, voice, audience, and purpose when choosing words and phrases to convey their message.

Invention, Disposition, and Elocution have been applied to a variety of fields, including preaching.

How each of these steps might be significant for a preacher:

Invention refers to the process of coming up with ideas and arguments. For a preacher, this might involve reflecting on the biblical text and discerning the message that God wants to communicate to the congregation. Invention might also involve drawing on personal experiences or insights to connect with the congregation and make the message more relevant and engaging.

Disposition involves organizing and structuring ideas. For a preacher, this might involve outlining the main points of the sermon and determining the best way to present them to the congregation. Disposition might also involve considering the needs and concerns of the congregation and tailoring the message to meet those needs.

Elocution refers to the style and language of writing. For a preacher, this might involve choosing words and phrases that are clear, concise, and easy to understand. Elocution might also involve considering the tone and voice of the sermon and using examples and illustrations to help the congregation connect with the message.

Overall, the classical steps of writing can be a helpful framework for preachers who want to create engaging and effective sermons. By focusing on Invention, Disposition, and Elocution, preachers can ensure that their messages are well-organized, clearly presented, and effectively communicated to their congregation. Additionally, by reflecting on the needs and concerns of the congregation and tailoring the message to meet those needs, preachers can create sermons that are relevant and impactful.

While the classical steps of writing may not be applicable to all types of writing or all writers, they can still provide a useful framework for those who want to create effective and engaging content. By focusing on invention, disposition, and elocution, writers can ensure that their ideas are well-organized, clearly presented, and effectively communicated to their audience.

Question 4: Expanded Answer

In the context of andragogical learning, which emphasizes self-directed learning and the integration of prior knowledge and experience, developmental reading is a critical component of higher education. The primary goal of developmental reading is to enhance students' reading comprehension and critical thinking skills, particularly in the context of content texts encountered in higher education settings, such as books, journals, and other resources.

Effective developmental reading involves a variety of strategies and techniques aimed at fostering successful reading habits, including active reading, note-taking, and summarizing. In addition, students may learn strategies for analyzing and interpreting complex texts, identifying key concepts and themes, and synthesizing information from multiple sources.

Developmental reading can have a significant impact on students' overall academic success, as it improves their ability to engage with course material, participate in class room discussions, and complete assignments effectively. Moreover, the skills and strategies developed through developmental reading can also benefit students beyond the classroom, helping them to become more successful and informed members of society.

In context of my profession Developmental reading can be of great significance for pastors and preachers who engage in theological and biblical studies as part of their ministry. Developmental reading can be a valuable tool for pastors, particularly in their sermon preparation and in their personal spiritual growth.

Through developmental reading, pastors can develop their reading comprehension and critical thinking skills, which can help them better understand complex biblical texts and theological concepts. This can enable pastors to more effectively communicate these ideas to their congregation and to apply them to their own lives.

In addition, developmental reading can help pastors stay up-to-date with current events, social issues, and trends that may be relevant to their ministry. This can help pastors better connect with their congregation and address their needs and concerns in a meaningful way.

Furthermore, developmental reading can provide pastors with a broader perspective on the world and on their faith. By reading a variety of texts and engaging with diverse perspectives, pastors can gain a deeper understanding of the complexity and richness of the human experience, as well as the depth and breadth of God's love and grace.

Overall, developmental reading can be a powerful tool for pastors seeking to deepen their understanding of the Bible and their faith, better connect with their congregation, and grow personally and spiritually.

Reading and interpreting complex texts is an essential part of theological education, and the ability to read and comprehend these texts is crucial for effective preaching and teaching.

Through developmental reading, pastors and preachers can develop the skills and strategies necessary for engaging with complex theological and biblical texts. They can learn how to identify key concepts and themes, synthesize information from multiple sources, and develop a deeper understanding of the context and historical background of these texts.

Moreover, developmental reading can help pastors and preachers to stay informed about current research and trends in theology and biblical studies. It can also provide them with the tools necessary for effective sermon preparation and delivery, helping them to communicate their ideas and messages clearly and effectively to their congregations.

Overall, developmental reading is a critical component of pastoral and preaching education, helping pastors and preachers to deepen their understanding of theological and biblical texts and improve their ability to communicate these ideas effectively to their congregations.

The search for true meaning of biblical text should be approached with objectivity and open-mindedness (Sprinkle,2017). While the interpreter must understand the language of the text, he must resort to the use of the dictionary or other literary aids which may not be available to him at the time and this can cause him to misinterpret the text (Schmidt, L. K.,2014)

**Question 5: Expanded Answer**

Additives and variants are synonymous with research and note taking. Research and note-taking are essential components of effective sermon preparation, as they allow the preacher to delve deeper into a particular topic and discover related information. In the context of sermon preparation, this process of inquiry can help the preacher connect with their audience, communicate their message clearly, and establish a relationship between the author's background and the time of their writing. By conducting research, the preacher can gain a deeper understanding of the historical, social, and cultural context in which the text was written, which can inform their interpretation and help them communicate their point of view effectively. In essence, research and note-taking are valuable tools for enhancing the quality and impact of a sermon.

Objectivity is a crucial aspect of both writing and interpretation. When writing, it is important to strive for objectivity by presenting information in a factual and unbiased manner, avoiding personal biases or opinions that may influence the reader's understanding of the material. Similarly, when interpreting written material, it is important to adopt an objective approach that focuses on gaining a clear understanding of the writer's intended message.

By approaching written material objectively, the interpreter can adopt a methodical approach to understanding the writer's true information and gain a deeper understanding of the underlying meaning behind the writer's intent. This approach helps to eliminate any bias that the interpreter may have and enables them to gain a more accurate understanding of the material.

As a mature student, it is important to approach writings and issues from a multidimensional perspective. Each author has their own personal perspective, and their writings are influenced by the time, circumstances, and challenges that existed at the time of writing. By considering these factors, the interpreter can gain a more complete understanding of the material and make connections between the writer's perspective and the context in which they were writing.

In spite of the diverse interpretation on an issue respect must be given and the reader must interpret the writer’s view point with objectivity and open mindedness. (Sprinkle, 2017).

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