

My name is Eric Ponvelle, and I am a 2009 graduate of Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana with a concentration in Technical Writing. With my education in English, I have developed skills that allow me to read analytically, edit accurately, and create interestingly.

In lieu of professional writing experience, I honed my academic experiences into a concrete skill set. I began as a Music major before switching to Computer Science and finally English. Music has always been an art form I can enjoy and practice, but at Nicholls, my instrument program was discontinued, so I changed majors before starting school. I taught myself a great deal of musical theory, which required plenty of study and dedication, so when I transitioned to Computer Science, a hobby from my childhood, I was able to reuse my study skills and motivation techniques. After taking my first college computer class, I realized that while I enjoyed and understood computers, I would not enjoy a computer career. After winning a poetry contest my sophomore year, I decided to take more English classes, and the following semester I became an English major. Through my pursuit of an English degree, I took classes where I created poems, short stories, a novel, websites, newsletters, memos, and many other projects. With this experience, I have developed the confidence I need for a new career. I completed my B.A. degree in English with a concentration in Technical Writing in August 2009.

In addition to my academic background, my work experience also makes me a well-rounded writer. When I was 16 years old, I started a job at Rouse's Supermarket, a grocery store. While working there only a few months due to high school commitments, I learned to take pride in my work and strive for perfection. After graduating from Edward Douglas White High School, I began work at Hofman's Music in Thibodaux, a music store. Working at this store for over a year taught me how to cater to the demands of individual customers. Instead of going by textbook methods of sales, I spoke to the customers, learned what they needed, then recommended accordingly. I also worked closely with the owner and developed a deeper appreciation for hard work and discipline. In July 2006, I took a position as a Lab Assistant at Nicholls State University where I utilized my self-taught knowledge of computers as well as my experiences catering to customers from Hofman's. I solved computer issues on the fly and explained them to customers in simple terms, which drew heavily from my Technical Writing classes and allowed me to see my craft in practical application. In this position, I received pay raises by passing certification tests for Microsoft Office 2007. The job ended in August 2009 when I graduated. I started work with Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government in February 2010 as a Laborer, which required me to perform manual labor and assist the parish Land Surveyor. Working with him, I learned how to perform land and drainage surveys. For my three month evaluation, I was offered the position of Engineering Analyst, which required me to learn programming, engineering design, testing, debugging, documenting, and how to maintain pump station systems. In this position, I have taught myself C++. By learning this Objective Oriented Language, I have trained myself in the mindset needed to acquire new languages. I have also taught myself Microsoft Visio to create and edit design blueprints. While I am currently working with TPCG, I want to start a job in Technical Writing because it is my passion. I find that deriving enjoyment from my work is the true mark of a happy life.

My academic knowledge and real world experience has created the perfect tapestry for a company in need of a Technical Writer. My greatest talent is my ability to learn any skill on my own with minimal instructions, and given the opportunity, I can exceed all expectations.