Student Perception of Multi-Media Professional Identity Formation Reflection Assignment, A (Self) Reflection Exercise

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INTRODUCTION

- Although reflection is seen as a necessity, written responses have been the primary format for student-led reflection
- Outside of the template of reflection, technological advancements have vastly altered the landscape of learning
- Incorporating some of these new technologies will be critical in the future of education and reflection formats that include technologies that students use will be critical
- Reflection has some difficulty with quantification for most students
- The main goal with incorporating various media formats would be an attempt to resonate more with younger students who have been exposed to these media formats in day-to-day life
- The purpose of this research project is to incorporate new mediums
- Involvement with more familiar mediums will allow for students to reflect on their daily lives as well as their professional lives

METHODS

- The assignment was given to the third-year pharmacy students at the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy in the Personal and Professional Development course.
- The primary outcome of this project is to determine media preferences within the student demographic at SIUE
- The secondary outcomes will involve analyzing the types of responses within the assignment to identify patterns of use
- Additionally, quantifying these different mediums and understanding the overall feeling towards these mediums will be critical as well
- Focus was placed on students expressing their personal narrative in the manner which they thought fit best
- The assignment was also designed to promote discussion about how they see themselves in a timeline format
- The assignment was followed by a survey gauging their reactions

ASSIGNMENT

Prompts:

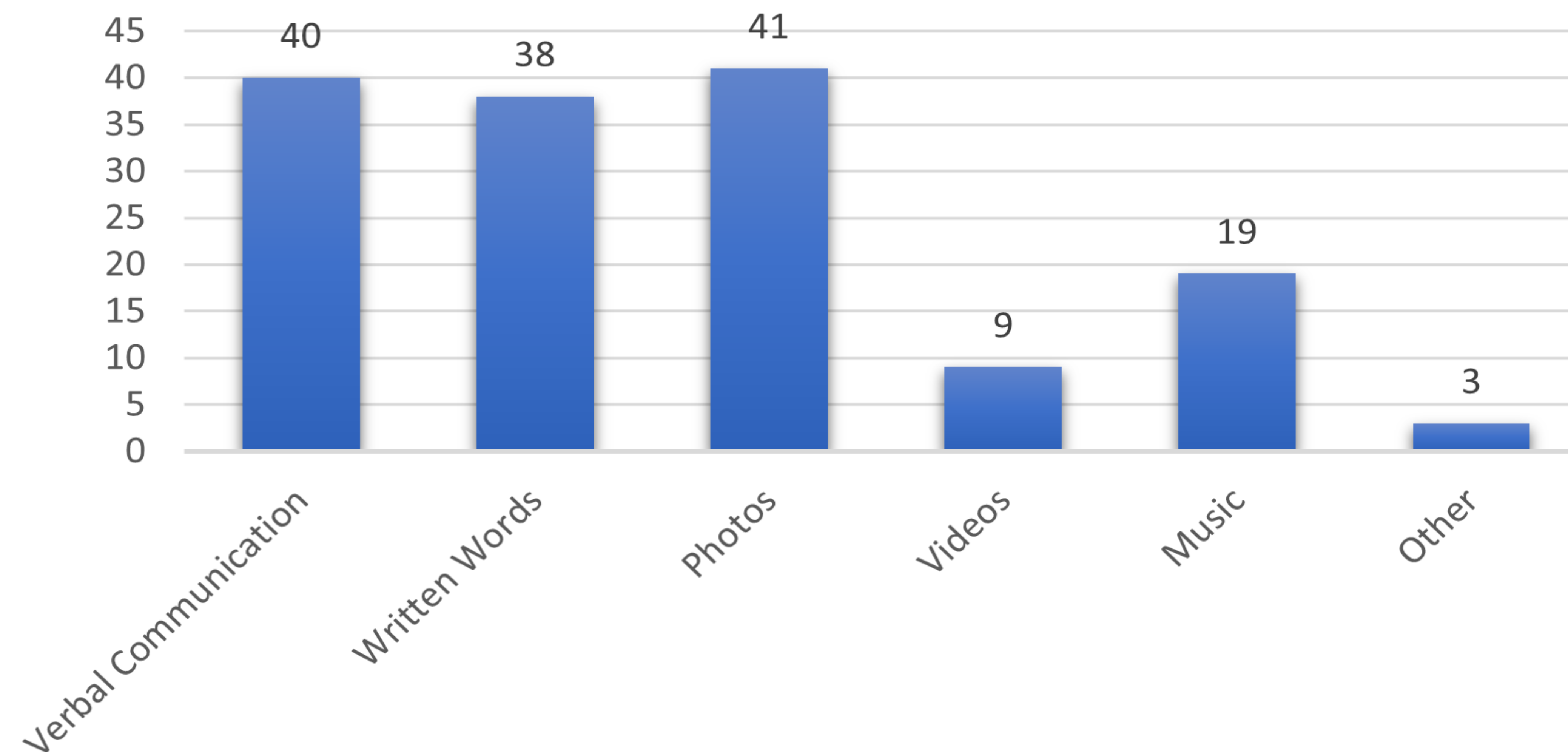### Why are we doing this?

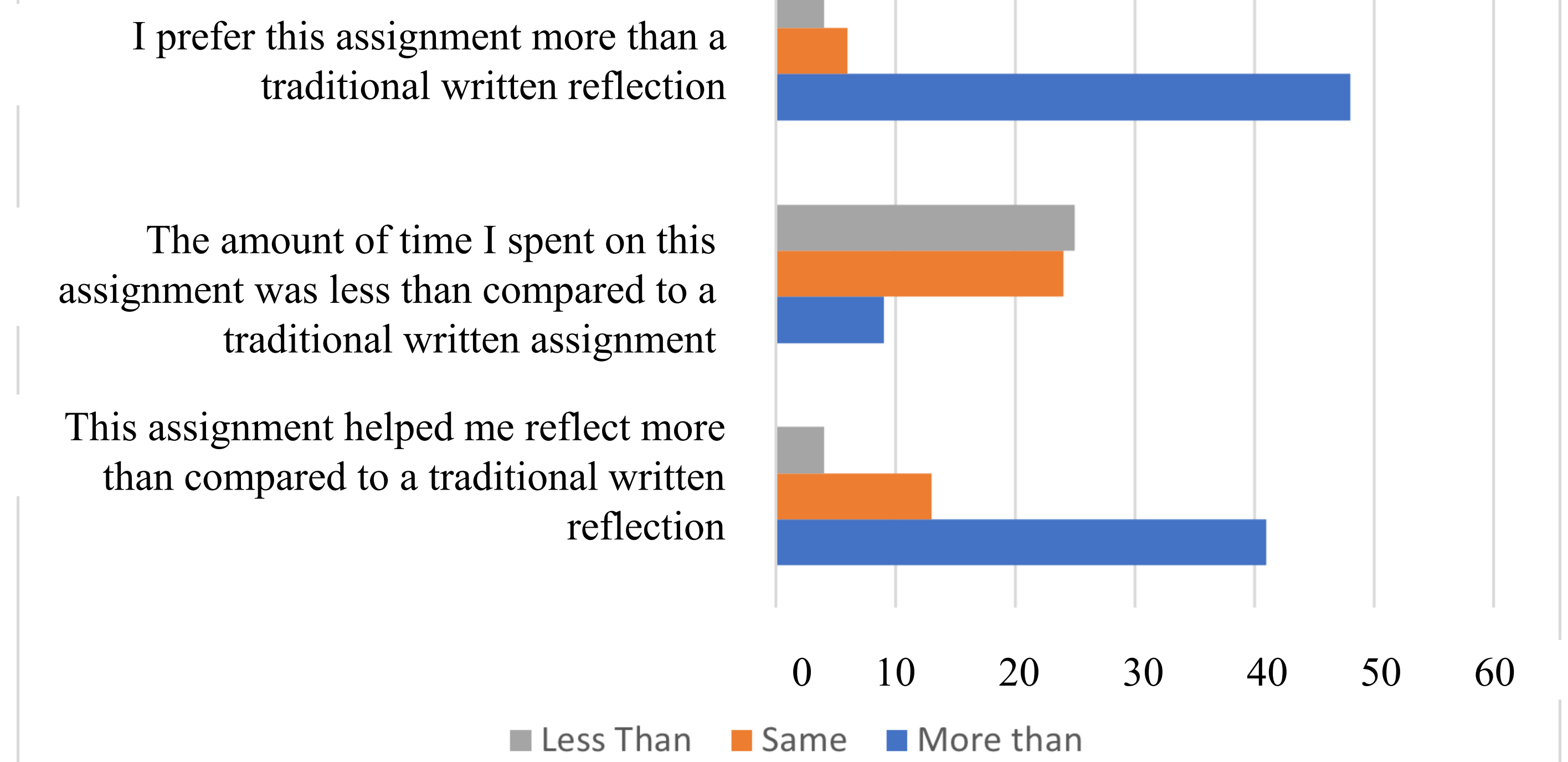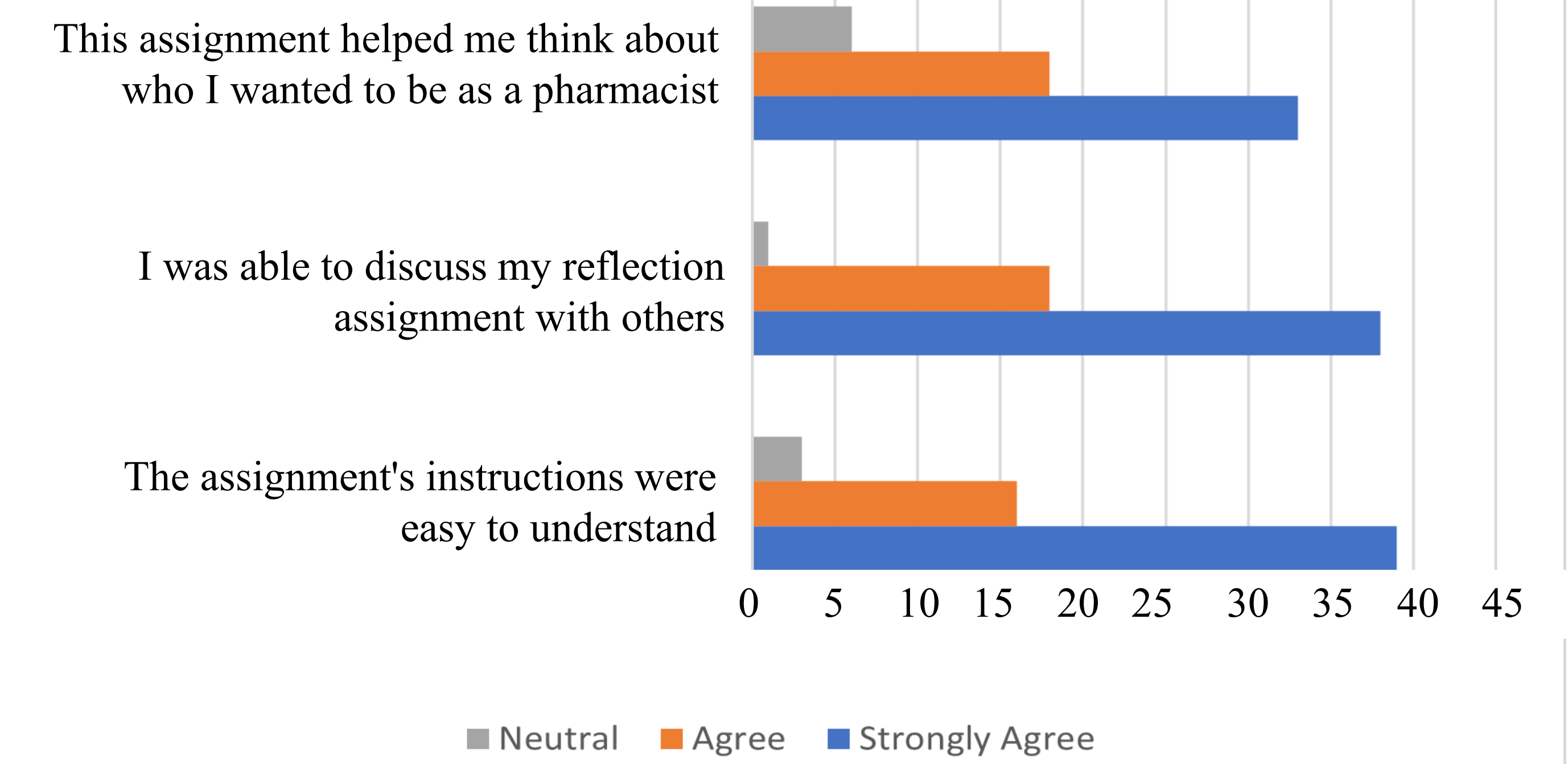### Think about – what, define, how, who

What do I have to do?

EXAMPLE

PRIMARY OUTCOME

Method(s) of Reflection

SECONDARY OUTCOMES

This assignment helped me think about who I wanted to be as a pharmacist

I was able to discuss my reflection assignment with others

The assignment's instructions were easy to understand

Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree

I prefer this assignment more than a traditional written reflection

The amount of time I spent on this assignment was less than compared to a traditional written assignment

This assignment helped me reflect more than compared to a traditional written reflection

Less Than | Same | More than

CONCLUSION

- Utilizing more than one media format allowed students to express personal reflections in a more concise manner
- While still maintaining an equivocal level of information in comparison to a traditional written assignment
- In comparison to a traditional written assignment, students seemed more engaged with each other about their timelines
- Students were able to utilize various media formats within the assignment instead of simply using written words
- Unique reflection experience was not studied, but the uniqueness of the assignment may have attributed to some of the responses
- To properly understand the importance of each various media format, future research must incorporate different combinations of media formats into assignments that deviate further from traditional written assignments than this study