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Memory

Experiences can be memorable enough to keep them running through our minds. It could be good or bad and big or small, but no matter the situation we always want to reflect on that moment. This is how we learn from our mistakes and make sure to improve on them to make sure it doesn't happen again, almost to say that we learn from it. In fact, I have reflected on some of my thoughts asking myself the same questions, "what could I have done better or what I could have done to do better in that particular situation." One key point here is that we all have memories that come to make us remember and feel a certain way, even if it is a good thought it always makes us want to improve and go back. Speech in a way is like a memory for me full of information meant to stick with me wherever I go, making me want to reflect on my English writing and speaking skills in order to be understood. Always making me answer the same questions above with the thought of "Will they understand me"? or "Am I really different from the rest?" or "Why am I like this?"

Speech has a way of influencing our capacity to learn and think, making us focus on improving our disorder more than learning to live and improve based on the actions and experiences we meet along with our life. I was in Elementary School so when taking speech class I had to take it during normal class time. Speech is a class of just you and a teacher where you learn to become a better English learner. So, every day for 2 classes, for an hour they would pull me out to come with them. This would mean that I would fall behind when it comes to learning in those 2 classes. This made me feel different and uncomfortable, it made me think that I needed help and that the way I was learning was not at the same pace as other students. I would follow them to a classroom where they would teach me the vowels and teach me to write, read, and speak English at a much lower level than the other kids. They were like my doctor and I was their patient that needed a cure and to me, it felt like I was being treated for problems that needed to be fixed and that it was making it difficult for me to comprehend. I remember challenging my speech teacher to give me harder books to read out loud or copy from, but she never did, saying that I needed to be really fluent with the material already given to me, always finding little errors to make me practice more. I always thought I was doing well but they would find ways to improve saying that I need to make some sounds deeper and let my tongue flow. These little remarks might have made me better understand English but it stopped me from expanding my knowledge with the millions of books that could have helped me get a sense of the world with a much wider perspective.

Anyone can learn no matter their disability or disorder it is just based on effort and dedication they want to put in the matter. But in reality, we all learn at a different pace, we need time to realize that the world out there is big, full of knowledge ready to be explored. The only thing we have to do is open that path and take the opportunity as something of great value because knowledge is key. Speech however felt like it limited what I could do and it felt like I was in a box, I was only meant to leave it when I was to outgrow it.

Artist's statement

Speech has been a big moment in my life, it was where all of my memories began. It was the start of a new experience that has brought me valuable moments and has brought changes to the way I learn and see things as I constantly see the world around me in a bigger picture. The experience of speech class for me was like an exchange. It reminded me that you must exchange something to get what you want. This might not always be what you asked for but decisions must be made in order to learn from them. Life is all about choices, choices that matter to your wellbeing and future. These memories serve a purpose and that is to learn from them and reflect so you can teach others to be one step ahead in having a stronger and healthier mind to make the right decisions for their future because like they say you are what you want to be. Limits can only go so far before they start becoming a problem both mentally and physically. The students and the teenagers should learn to realize that they can make their own decisions as they grow up and at best have their parents there to support them. Every year goes by quickly in the short time we live, so we must make the most of it.

This writing might not have turned out as I wanted it to be, but my experiences can be of help for teenagers who just hit a roadblock and don't know what to do. Just remember that there is no right choice or answer in life, but every action can cost you something. This writing piece helped me reflect, after all this is a personal experience. After all of this, I do not hate the teachers of speech class, I just wish they were much more thoughtful of their decisions of how to teach me, I was still learning and that I need real-life experience, not a locked one made out of a curriculum made to enclose you further deep.