Raymond Su

ENG 1121

2/20/19

Literacy Narrative Final Draft

In modern day and age, traditional reading and writing tactics are not used as much as texting but it still has a major effect on me learning literacy. In my opinion, reading and writing is the core of literacy. It may not seem like it, but these experiences cultivated me as a creative writer, the kind of writer I was today.

One of my first experiences with this kind of feeling was during high school, where I participated in a spelling bee. We learned about our punctuation and grammar mistakes and corrected those problems. So at first I was really nervous but then I started gaining confidence in my English literacy. As time went on, I started reading many books. During middle school I read Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and other trilogies. These novels helped me read longer books, because at first I thought longer books were boring to read. I began grasping the concept of a well-written memoir. Even then I was still shy in presenting to an audience so my literacy skills were of little use during high school. During my shy days, I was bullied for my misinterpretation of English. I would still struggle to read paragraphs and confuse English words with more than 10 letters. It would be distracting and disheartening for me. The reason why English was so tough for me was that my parents didn’t teach me anything about English. I came to school with a raw mind. During my free time I would make up poems in my mind. One of my favorite kind of poems were haikus. Haikus were a fun way of showcasing someone’s creativity. The first Haiku I created was about Nature and Animals, and humanity’s effect on them.

I also created a short story about my older sibling’s unfair treatment of me. Living with semi-immigrant parents as a child was a major hardship I had to overcome. They didn’t have much time to spend with me, so I was all independent from elementary all the way through senior year of high school. Even though my sibling was a role model, that person physically abused me when I would make minor mistakes. In my opinion this was uncalled for as I support non-violence and “just talking it out, man.” This affected me mentally in my studies and how I write my poems. Luckily for now, my sibling moved on and so did I. As a result, I would use these haikus to visualize the hardships of childhood and teenage life.

Furthermore, this would evolve myself as a person writing essays. I will remember alliteration, rhymes, and other intermediate-advanced techniques throughout my writing. I had to keep everything somewhat interesting in order for the reader to be engaged. This is the primary focus of literacy mastery. One of my favorite pieces to read during high school were the Twilight series and the Vampire Diaries. I can sort of grasp the concept of romance during that age. Eventually as I studied global history and broadened my literacy into other countries like Japan, I started reading manga’s. Manga’s were interesting as it was extremely popular at the time. I had a deep connection with manga’s. The fact that you had to read from right to left was psychologically distorting, but it was genius and resonated with me. I got used to the format and the colorful artwork rather quickly. In general, manga’s made me realize the American version of literature wasn’t the only enjoyable format to read.

My high school librarian was a major benefactor throughout my literacy life. She would search up my favorite books; romance, historical, entertaining, or fictional. All I had to do was ask for the book’s name. I was very grateful for this service, as the atmosphere for reading was amazing. I would endlessly practice reading and learning new literary techniques until I went home. Interestingly enough, during my time in the library I found a book about two boys venturing into the woods until they got attacked by a large bear. I was absorbed into the horror and the rising action of the story. The climax still gives me chills to this day. The text was so good it almost made it seem like a movie with the sound description and the looks on the boys’ faces. This is what makes a story a blast to read!

During sophomore year I read “A Youth’s Romantic Comedy” which taught me how complicated relationships can be. Girls can be hard to understand as a man, and Boys can be hard to understand as a woman. As humans, we may not always agree with each other. There might be arguments. There could be fights. It’s complicated for people to understand one another’s reasoning. This story helped me figure out the winks and corks of society as a whole. One thing that kept me so hooked – you never know what’s going to happen next. The whole book is an enigma. The boyfriend might cheat on her. The classmates’ mother and father might divorce. A relative could be dead from a spontaneous disease (common occurrence since this story was set in the 1970s). The randomness from the story interested me and kept me on edge. At the end of the story, the kissing and hugging kept my heart in the right direction. It seemed rewarding to read.

The pinnacle of literacy is based on what you read. These books are completely different in their own way; it was the authors’ own interpretation of their lives. Someone could write about camping in the woods, others could write about a relationship experience not too long ago. There even might be someone who likes manga, who knows? The stories are widespread and applicable. The possibilities of literacy transformed me as a person at school and out of school. I finally realized how important literacy was for me and my family. The evolution from traditional literary styles to modern styles should be studied upon more. For traditional reading and writing styles; even though technology has changed how to write, it will never change what we write.