#1

It’s amazing how much a community can mold you into the person you thought you would never become. This happens frequently to students who are transitioning from middle school to high school because high school is where you find out who you truly are. High school allows us all to grow as individuals, such as find out you’re good at volleyball or that you like to sing and dance. In Nelson George’s article “Fort Greene Dreams,” he speaks about adjusting to new surroundings and how much of an impact it has on an individual. He also mentions the people he made along his journey that shaped him to be the person he is today. Similarly, high school molds an individual into a better person and forces them to pick their friends because your friends are a reflection of who you become.

#1 The Fix

(Focus on pronouns: it, he, and you)

It’s amazing how much a community can mold us into people we never thought we would become. This happens frequently to students who are transitioning from middle school to high school because high school is where students/young people find out who they truly are. High school allows students to grow as individuals and find out what they are good at, such as volleyball or that they like to sing and dance. Similarly, in Nelson George’s article “Fort Greene Dreams,” he speaks about adjusting to new surroundings and how much of an impact a community has on an individual. Nelson George also mentions the people he met along his journey in Fort Greene that shaped George to be the person and writer he is today. Like George’s experience, high school molded me into a better person and forced me to pick my friends wisely because the friends I chose ultimately reflected who I became.

#2

May 13, 2007. I was ten years old getting on a plane for my first time. Colson Whitehead’s essay “The Colossus of New York” describes what he believes makes him a New Yorker. Whitehead describes his first city memory, which was on the 1 train. My first city memory was taking that yellow cab outside of the JFK airport to my aunt’s house in Jamaica, Queens. The moment I stepped foot off the plane, I knew I was becoming a “New Yorker.”

Whitehead states, “I started building my New York on the uptown No. 1 train. My first city memory is of looking out a subway window as the train erupted from the tunnel on the way to 125th Street.” My first city memory was looking out of the cab’s window and analyzing all of the lights, buildings, the way people dressed, and even what people were eating. It was amazing but shocking at the same time. I wasn’t “home” anymore. I still didn’t realize New York had become my home.

#2 The Fix

(Rearranging the text to integrate the source more evenly.)

May 13, 2007. I was ten years old getting on a plane for my first time. My first city memory was taking that yellow cab outside of the JFK airport to my aunt’s house in Jamaica, Queens. Colson Whitehead’s essay “The Colossus of New York” describes what he believes makes a person a New Yorker. Whitehead describes his first city memory, which was on the 1 train. After reading this essay and considering Whitehead’s suggestion of what makes someone a New Yorker, I realize I become a New Yorker that moment I stepped foot off the plane.

My first city memory was looking out of the cab’s window and analyzing all of the lights, buildings, the way people dressed, and even what people were eating. My first view of the city was amazing but shocking at the same time. I wasn’t “home” in \*\*\*\*\* anymore. I still didn’t realize New York had become my home. Public transportation also formed Whitehead’s first memory of the city. In the essay, Whitehead states, “I started building my New York on the uptown No. 1 train. My first city memory is of looking out a subway window as the train erupted from the tunnel on the way to 125th Street.” Public transportation in New York is a unique experience in itself and Whitehead and I both share this experience, which in some ways made us both New Yorkers.