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ENG 1101

Unit 1: Education Narrative Essay

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A long rough highschool to college transition

I had just graduated High School, I felt like everyone was having fun or getting a job. I was doing neither. Honestly, since quarantine, I had distanced myself from my school friends because we would only really talk during school. So during that summer, I had no plans and no friends. I was desperately trying to find a job to entertain myself and had an excuse to go out instead of being bored at home. Plus the money right? But I had no luck everywhere I applied. I had given up for a while. It wasn't until August that I decided to try again... I got an interview, and I went and got hired a week after.

On my first day of work, I had no idea I was going to work. The supervisor called me that morning and told me to enter at noon. I was so nervous and excited because it was something new. I remember stressing because I couldn't find black dress pants since that is the required uniform. This day was hot and sunny like most Summer days. I took a Redbull with me to "energize" myself, but really Redbull does nothing to me. To get to my job I can take a bus or train, on the train, it's just two stops. But since I was early and I was drinking my Red Bull I took

the bus to be able to finish it. When I got to McDonald's it was busy, I asked for the supervisor then he gave me the shirt and I went downstairs to change. He showed me the break room and told me to go upstairs when I was ready. There I stayed working from 12-7. I remember thinking of when I was going home, it felt like forever mostly because I did the same thing the whole day. I worked five days that week and my feet were tired!

I was planning on quitting by the end of October. Let me talk about my job although I don't know if I'll include this part. I enjoyed working there because of my coworkers, it wasn't hard, and I liked that it was fast-paced. Also, it reminded me of when I would play those cooking/restaurant games but in real life. I already know our usual customers and their orders. I've made friendships with many customers because my manager usually asks me to do surveys for the restaurant. I've even vlogged at my job just for fun. As you can see I really do like working there, I feel like Spongebob working at the Krusty Krab.

I stayed working there throughout Halloween, Thanksgiving, national cookie day, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Throughout those months was when I was struggling to keep up with my class assignments. All my classes were online which I should've taken advantage of so that I didn't have to go far to take my classes. However, it was a disadvantage because I wasn't taking my classes seriously, especially those classes where we didn't even have zoom meetings. It did not feel like college at all, it still felt like high school to me. While having classes online meant that I can still go to work so I didn't ask for fewer hours. There I was trying to balance college and my job. When the semester came to an end I had no words. I didn't remember learning anything. I had no choice but to drop three out of my four classes because I knew there was no way I would pass them. I have never been that bad at school. I was discouraged and

thought my solution was to leave college to save up as much money and eventually go back to school to be completely focused.

Spring semester came, and I was so anxious but I told myself to be prepared for the new semester. My friend had stopped going to school to just work. I felt like I should've done that too. Until this day, I still think of what could've happened. Something different about that semester was that most of my classes were in-person and I had high expectations. One mistake I made was not organizing my schedule. It was my first year going in person so I didn't know that it would take me a whole hour and 10 minutes to get to school. When I made my class schedule I didn't expect it to take that long and I had enrolled in early classes. The work that was assigned from my classes had accumulated and towards the end was when I realized everything was in the syllabus. I was more focused on saving up because I had made this challenge for myself to save up ten thousand dollars which distracted me from school. By the end of the Spring semester, I ended up dropping three out of the four classes again. I was so unmotivated and considering just taking a break from college because I didn't see the point of going if I was going to keep failing my classes. I thought maybe school was not for me.

During the Summer break, I was still working at McDonald's where I would talk to many customers because as I mentioned my manager would make me do surveys and customers would lecture me. That's funny, I remember an old lady complaining that one of my coworkers didn't give her enough mayonnaise and that she loves mayonnaise so she was really bothered by it. I asked if she wanted to do the survey so she could complain about that because I also agreed with her. She said she didn't know much about technology but her daughter that was there offered to do the survey. The old lady and her daughter started talking to me, a conversation that lasted about 10 minutes. One main thing that stuck to me was when she said "You're young, save up

your money because you have a whole life ahead. You wouldn't like to work here forever right? Go to school and study something that would give you a good job. Do it for your family." When she said that, I immediately thought of my family because all I want is for them to live in a nice house and not worry about working anymore. Those same words were what my older coworkers would tell me. Once during break, my coworker, Berdandita, asked if I was going to school. I told her that I was but I wasn't doing well and I felt like taking a break for a while. She said "whatever you do, work hard. But you need to see which one would benefit you more. Going to school and getting a high-pay job or working a minimum wage job." The rest of my break I was just thinking of how boring it is to come to work and do the same thing everyday for only fifteen dollars an hour. Then I realized that this is what my mother had warned me about my whole life. I honestly did get pretty bored of working there, motivating me to not settle for a minimum-wage job forever.

Regardless of having an unsuccessful school year, I decided to continue going to school and try my best. I asked for fewer days at my job, I got myself a calendar and a small book to write down reminders and to-do lists. Something I did differently this year was to read the syllabus because it has many useful things and it keeps you prepared for what comes in the future. I also picked my classes in the afternoon instead of the morning because last semester I would have to wake up so early, not only that but I would be sleepy the next day during classes. I learned from my past mistakes to take advantage of the resources like the syllabus and tutoring. It's hard maintaining your focus on something when you have other things going on. I knew what I wanted in the future was to have my own business and working at my job has helped me keep me focused in a way because I see where I don't want to end up doing forever. Also coworkers my age who are going to college encourage each other to do good in school. We're always

talking about our upcoming exams or our time consuming assignments. I don't regret coming back to college for now, I hope this time I will be able to pass.