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Professor Schmerler

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UNIT II – Mid-Semester—GENRE

Neptune

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SECTION 1: MY EXTENDED DIARY EXCERPT

March 24, 2020- Church avenue, Brooklyn,

New York

7:50 am

Dear Diary,

I just woke up and I feel eager today, because my friend invited me to play a pickup baseball game in Manhattan today with other ball players the night before. I know I shouldn’t be outside during these events with the virus but, I can’t turn down a baseball game. I just got done getting ready and I am about to head out.

9:05 am

I am on the B35 bus going to the F train to meet my friend at the McDonald avenue station. I didn’t see him on the train at first because the train was moving too fast, he told me in the middle. I am sitting on the cart toward the end and I will go to middle to see if I spot him, and I do end up seeing him, we are on our way to the field.

10:11 am

We are at the field now and it is very empty. There are no soccer players or little kids here (which is usually the case), there just a man with his rottweiler playing fetch. This virus has New York city appearing as a ghost town and it seems like total juxtaposition when those two words are regarding one another. I see only a few ball players here, but I know more will come soon.

3: 40 pm

I am leaving the park now with my friend, we all played two 9 inning games in the during of our stay. The weather got gradually warm since had arrived there and I am only wearing my compression. I am boarding now entering the train station and the train has arrived.

6:12 pm

I am now home after having taken a shower and put on clean clothes after coming out of my baseball attire, I will have to wash these clothes very soon before it gives my other dirty clothes a bad odor. I was decent in both games I played today, the first game they made me play second base and bat eight in the order. On defense I had 2 put outs and almost turned a double play but made a wild throw to first and for offense I went 1-3 with an infield single. For the second game I played in Left field and batted ninth in the order this time. For defense I had 3 put outs and got a runner trying to dig for a double and for offense I went 0-3 with 1 flyout, a strikeout, a groundout.

11:44 pm

I just woke up from my nap, thirsty, and I am about to watch some Law and Order SVU on Hulu. The episode was about a Billionare who was responsible for killing a teenager but couldn’t be held accountable. I then watch subway fights on Youtube until I had to go and sleep.

March 25, 2020

9:40 am I just woke up from my sleep and I see I have a missed call from my sister, I call her back and she tells me that she is bringing the dog over to the house (since our dog died 2 weeks ago, she brings her grandbaby over to visit me). I go shower and brush my teeth and get ready for my U.S history class online, it isn’t really a class it is just a forum to post your opinion on topics discussed in class.

11:30 am

I am now starting my Spanish course, it is fairly easy with only a few tests and some worksheets, It isn’t a live video chat course. Currently we are learning about family members and ser and estar.

12:50 pm

I am finished with my Spanish class and I get a call from my sister that she is downstairs with the dog, he is a Pitbull that is over two feet tall and 87 pounds, however he is very whiny and always needs attention from humans. When I bring him upstairs into the room the cat scratches him and make him crash into the wall., he doesn’t want to go near the cat after the previous incident.

3:45 pm

I am preparing to go to the park now with him after letting him sleep for some time since he arrived, he is excited and jumps around.

4:35 pm

We are now heading home from the park and he is tired, all we did was play fetch and tug of war with the rope.

6:50 pm

I am now playing modern warfare on the Xbox one, it is a really addicting yet challenging game. It has kept me up for hours.

11:30 pm

I am done playing my Xbox now, I am going to bed now

March 26

12:34 pm

I just woke up from a long sleep, I have to say, it feels good to be able to wake up and not worry about scrambling to get to class.

2:42pm I am now doing a Biology test on blackboard, it is really challenging but I know the material and I feel I can pass. I have another test right after this one.

6:00 pm

I am now finished with my tests, it took a while because some of the material is very challenging and require going back in your notes for reference. The first test I earned an 88, and for the second I received a 96. I am proud to say that because I know it counts toward my final grade.

6:15 pm

I am about to get started on my Spanish class activities on connect, these usually require a few hours of dedication every day.

9:15 pm

I finished all my Spanish activities for the day and I am going to watch Desperate housewives on Hulu.

4:31 am (it is part of March 26 since I didn’t sleep)

I am up to season 2 episode 15, I binged watched a lot of episodes, since my last entry. It is very late or early(depends on how you look at it), I am going to prepare for bed now.

March 27

3:00 pm

I just woke up from sleeping and feel very refreshed, I appreciate the fact that I can sleep late with no consequences. I find it ironic that I say this on a Friday since I usually have classes at 11:30 to 2:00, but classes were cancelled for today.

4:00 pm

I am very hungry and I am about to go to the Food Universe supermarket by my house to get some food so I can eat. I just bought some ground beef and mixed vegetables so I can make spaghetti and meat sauce.

7:23 pm

I am done making my food and it tastes delicious. I am trying to cook my own food more often because I don’t want to eat outside food and fall ill due to the COVID-19. I find it safer to simply know what is going into the food you are consuming.

March 28

12:38 pm

I am in my buildings lobby waiting for my dad to pick me up so he can drop me off at the baseball field to practice. My friend and his father are there right now taking cuts.

1:25 pm

I now arrived at the ballfields and I am going to prepare to practice

7:45 pm

I am done practicing now and got a ride home from my friend with his dad. For practice, we hit fly balls to each other and taking ground balls in the infield. My friend has a lot of power, so he kept hitting a lot of the balls over the fence. I was mostly hitting line drives in the gap and to center field but never over the gate.

March 29

12:12 pm

I just woke up and now I am about to get ready for the day, I think I may have come down with a sickness, a cold I think, and I want to get rid of it soon.

12:53 pm

I am done showering and brushing my teeth. I am now going to eat breakfast, which will be fruity pebbles. I have never understood why fruity pebbles get so soggy after a while, it tastes like your eating sugar paper. To be fair, I do microwave my cereal so that could attribute to why it always comes out soggy.

1:30

As always, I find myself with nothing to do during this quarantine. I am going to binge watch desperate housewives to take away from my boredom (Its very funny because I have watched this series 5 times over and still forget certain events that happen throughout the show. In essence, I am basically watching a new series every time I watch it).

7:00 PM

I must stop watching desperate housewives so I can start on my Spanish work. I feel as if my Spanish is getting better, I have been studying Spanish since 11th grade so I think I wont struggle anytime soon. The only time I struggle with Spanish is when someone speaks to me fast and when I have to respond to it. In my opinion I would rather learn Dutch than Spanish.

SECTION 2: REFLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF DIARY READING

Diary of a wimpy kid is a legendary book that is now entrenched in the minds of all young kids and adults who have read it when it was first incepted. The book follows a boy named Greg Heffley, who usually finds himself trying to overcome a predicament. Whether it is him facing growing up, trying not to go to military academy or trying to prevent a secret from getting out. The fashion in which the book is written is with simple and casual language, so that the reader can feel the comedic effect more. The book’s font style appears to be that of a young school kid, which I believe makes the reader more comfortable when reading and not tense as if it were a novel. The signature piece of the Diary of a wimpy kid series is the illustrations that is featured. The illustrations gives the reader something to laugh about when they are following along in the story, such as a character slipping, using the toilet or peeking out the shower, it makes this book one of a kind to read.

I first started reading this book in 2009, back when I was in the fourth grade. My friend brought the book to class and I noticed it was an interesting deep purple color. I asked him what book that was, and he told me “Diary of a wimpy kid”, I then asked if I could borrow it from him and he told me sure. I took it home and started to read it and was very pleased by what I was witnessing, this book was nothing like I have ever read before, it was comedic, depictive and juvenile, this was any child’s dream book. After I finished the book I noticed it wasn’t the first one because I saw the other books in the series somewhere in the back of the book, the book I read was The ugly truth version. I have not read Diary of a wimpy kid since 2011, however, if I had to write a children’s book, I would model it after this one.

SECTION III: REFLECTION ON UNIT II AND GRADE

For unit II I did struggle for the latter half, the reason for this was mainly the distance learning. The reason the distance learning was a struggle for me was due to me being unmotivated to complete the work, I really did not want to do the work. When I have to wake up and physically be present in class, it makes me motivated because I have a teacher and other students to interact with just in case I fall to a misunderstanding, it also helps that we would have paper assignments and physically journal entries to do. I also miss the writing entries where we had to describe what we would see in transit. I don’t like the journal entries that we have to upload to Openlab because I like experiencing my day and not have to stop and record all my actions, however, I do think it is good that the journal entries are mandatory because now I can look back and see all the things I have done on a specific date, especially during a unique time like this. I did find some motivation from professor Schmerler because she would always do the work with us and explain it as clearly as possible. She also completed the assignments in such a way that would be relatable to us students, that is to say, professors are usually seen as scary authoritarian figures that want to make students lives harder, but she makes us become better writers and communicators.

The grade that I think I deserve for this class is a B or B+. The reasoning for this is that I always do my assignments when I need to and how I need to, I do them a little above expected but not in any spectacular fashion. I did hand in two assignments late on Openlab but that is because of this drastic change of how schooling is conducted, however there was in class work before the distance learning, and I always participated and did my work in the journal. One thing I will admit is that I had a problem with grammar in my writing. The problem is that I usually would write an assignment as I was doing it, meaning, I wouldn’t write a first draft and revise it, I would just hand in the raw product of my work. I never had a problem with the content of my work but I just need to proof read and point out errors before handing it in as my final product.