Lyzette Castaneda

Dr. Carr

Period 5

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Personal Statements

Question #5

Ever since I was a little girl, my parents had complications; arguments. I was 5 years old when I started to recognize what was going on. The way my mother thought things through was so different than the way they were before. I started to see my mother very emotional. I still did clearly understand what the cause was. My father was hardly ever home; my mother told me he went on a long work trip. At that age, I believed it; he was working. As time went by, I saw my mother crying. One day, she dropped me off at school, and when I go back home, she seemed off. I did not understand why. Ever since that day, I would go to school upset. She did not tell us what was going on and ever since then, school was the last thing on my mind. As the years went by, my father would come around. I obviously was not the same with him. He had gone away for such a long time and never told us where he was at, then decided to come back. In my mind, I did not want to be like my mother. She was always upset and had so many things to do on her own. The fact that she did not finish high school made finding a job so much harder than it should have been. All of the issues that were going on at home followed me everywhere. My friends would always try to uplift my spirit, but my actions showed otherwise; I was not really there. I was always thinking, reimaging how my life would have been if I actually had a father figure to look up to. As of today, I made the decision to work hard on my education. I do not want to stay in this little town and relive the life my mother did. She is the figure I look at, and I do not want to be like that. I have been focusing my time on my education to forget all of the significant issues that I have been though. I am currently in the process of becoming a better me; for my sake, and for my mothers’ sake.

Question #6

Having a book in my hand helps me escape into a whole different world. From what it seems, I am very fond of English. I love to write. Every single day, I write what happens during the day. I cannot go on about by day without expressing how I feel into a piece of paper. For years now, I have been very proficient in how I write. My feelings have grown stronger, and I learned how to write certain types of genres. Reading books and different articles have enhanced the way I look at life. There are so many stories out there, and they all have a purpose. It night be a fictional story, but it always has a meaning to it. I love being able to dig my nose into a book because I visually picture myself in it. Due to English, I admire like a little bit more. It shows so much emotion that you cannot let it pass you by. Without English, there would not be anything in this world; music, billboards, books, anything!

Question #3

Over time, some of the skills I have improved on are baking/cooking and reading fluency. I started to bake when I was in middle school. I obviously was always burning everything I made, but it was the way I learned. I started to watch YouTube videos on how to bake and I also began to watch the Food Network. After a while, I started to learn how to incorporate ingredients without needing the measuring utensils. I am also very productive in cooking now. I am able to make almost everything! I was then able to prove to myself that I could be independent and learn something on my own. Another skill I have advanced on over the years is reading. I was very poor at reading when I was in elementary school, but now, I am able to understand mostly every single term. Not only that, but my speed in reading and the way I interpret what I read has advanced as well. In between these two skills, I believe that cooking and baking is my most valuable one. Due to the fact that I will soon be living on my own, I needed to learn how to cook the basics. My cooking passion came naturally, but I drove myself to the extent to become better at it. Still, to this day, I am always finding a way to improve my strategies. As it seems, I will someday be able to open my own little catering business; only if my plan A goes south.

Question #1

During 6th grade, a small group of students were elected to be members of the leadership club. I was one of the lucky people. In the group we would go to field trips with the lower class students. We had gone up to the Sierra Mountain for the day; all of the students were excited. At the time, we had few chaperones, so I was given the responsibility to take charge of a group of 6 students. In that very moment, I was nervous because I never had change in a group of people, let alone students! I was not alone; there was a ranger with us, taking us around the main areas of the forest. I had the job to make sure the students were in line and that they were given the proper instructions. After a while, it was time for lunch, so as the leader of the group I had to go back to the bus and provide each student with their lunch bag. As much of a hassle as it was, I was happy that the students were enjoying themselves. After the day was over, all of the leaders sat with one another and talked about what we learned. It was my turn to share; I was so proud to say that I did not lose any child in the forest. The principle gave me a badge and certificate for taking action as a Lincoln Elementary Leader and helping the students who did not have a chaperone. Ever since then, I have become independent, and very good with children. They are very fun and interesting to work with.