Essay #2 (Narration): The Story of Your Academic Journey (Due in Stages)

Value: 125 points

Length: 500 words, minimum & 5 paragraphs

Format: The essay should be typed and follow MLA formatting guidelines.

Topic: The story of your academic journey from elementary school to college.

STAGE 1:

Paragraph #2 Due: Tuesday 2/15, 100 words minimum, typed, double-spaced, MLA formatted

Paragraph #3 Due: Wednesday 2/16, 100 words minimum, typed, double-spaced, MLA formatted

Paragraph #4 Due: Thursday 2/17, 100 words minimum, typed, double-spaced, MLA formatted

Paragraph #1 Due: Tuesday, 2/22, for in-class group review

STAGE 2:

Draft of Essay #2 Due: Wednesday, 2/23, 5 paragraphs, typed, double-spaced for in-class Peer Review

STAGE 3:

Writing Center: Don’t forget about taking your essay to the Writing Center for help on grammar, etc. Bring this handout and your class notes with you if you want help on the assignment itself.

STAGE 4:

Final Draft Due: Thursday, 3/3 (5 paragraphs, 500 words minimum, typed, MLA formatted). Include the previous drafts, including the paragraphs I graded, the peer review draft & comment sheet, and the copy the Writing Ctr. saw. A separate typed copy of the final draft only for Ms. Sanchez is also due Thursday, 3/3. Note: Ms. Sanchez does not accept late papers. So while you may use your late pass to turn in your essay late to me, it will not receive credit in Ms. Sanchez’s class unless it comes in on the due date by 5pm.
Break the essay up as follows:

**Paragraph 1: Introduction**

- Step 1 - Introduce the *topic*: your feelings about and experience with education.
- Step 2 - Describe a bit about your educational background (where you went to school, your family’s attitude toward education, etc.)
- Step 3 - End the paragraph with your *Thesis Statement*: What your educational journey was like, one overall description or characterization or your overall feeling about it.

**Paragraph 2: Body Paragraph, the Beginning of the Journey**

- Step 1 - Present a *Topic Sentence* about what elementary school was like.
- Step 2 – Give examples of your experiences in elementary school, including people who supported or hindered you, important events, challenges, achievements, or obstacles, and learning experiences, etc.
- Step 3 - End the paragraph with a *Concluding Sentence*.

**Paragraph 3: Body Paragraph, the Middle of the Journey**

- Step 1 – Present a *Topic Sentence* about what middle or junior high school was like.
- Step 2 – Give examples of your experiences in middle or junior high school, including people who supported or hindered you, important events, challenges, achievements, or obstacles, and learning experiences, etc.
- Step 3 – End the paragraph with a *Concluding Sentence*.

**Paragraph 4: Body Paragraph, the End of the Journey**

- Step 1 - Present a *Topic Sentence* about what high school was like.
- Step 2 – Give examples of your experiences in high school, including people who supported or hindered you, important events, challenges, achievements, or obstacles, and learning experiences, etc.
- Step 3 - End the paragraph with a *Concluding Sentence*.

**Paragraph 5: Conclusion**

- Step 1: Remind us of your Thesis Statement, what the journey was like.
- Step 2: Explain how you feel about your journey now.
- Step 3: Speculate about the future. What’s your next step? What are your educational goals? What have you learned from your past educational experiences? How have they prepared you for what you face now and what you will face in the future?