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Mr. Zak

Humanities

2/8/24

College Essay

My mom would say I've had many accomplishments, like learning to walk, tie my shoes, or ride a bike. While my mom would say all of these accomplishments are important, it wasn't until sophomore year that I felt growth and improvement. When I was in second grade I was diagnosed with ADHD, which made sense as I had problems focusing. The doctor put me on medication, but it didn't help me learn, and made me nauseous. Growing up with ADHD, many of my teachers were unable to spend extra time teaching me, due to understaffing, and I would often move on in the lesson without understanding.

Throughout elementary school I missed many crucial things required for the next grade. I didn't learn my multiplications, or how to do division. This made me dislike learning, and school. After graduating elementary school I went to middle school lacking the knowledge that I needed, which ended up making me think I was genuinely stupid. Covid hit when I was in sixth grade, and distance learning was the new school. It didn't take much work, and I didn't retain much knowledge. I left middle school with Cs, and a negative mindset towards learning. Growing up in the high tech system they would always mention having an "open mind" however I have heard this so many times I'm convinced it taught me the opposite. This led me to believe I wasn't smart, and I never could be. Freshman year I wasn't the best student, and wouldn't do my work to the best of my ability.

I was still holding onto this negative mindset, until I decided to sign up for a psychology class. I started the class a couple weeks behind, so I had to do three weeks of work instead of one. Instead of quitting, I did seven hours of college work in one night. Taking this class led me

to a better understanding of not only myself, but other people as well. I now have straight As and hope to keep it this way, because I want to go to a good college.

College Essay Rubric 2023-2024

Student Evaluation	Criteria <i>AE= Approaching Expectations ME= Meets Expectations</i> <i>EE= Exceeds Expectations</i>	Teacher Evaluation
	Quality: • Audience Voice ○ Does it sound professional? ○ Does it sound like you? • Prompt ○ Does it answer the prompt? • Grammar ○ Were general suggested grammar and spelling mistakes corrected? ○ Little to no spelling/grammar mistakes. • Polish ○ Does it look and feel finished and in MLA format?	
	Quantity: • Word Count ○ Does the essay get as close to 350 words as possible without going over?	
	Skill: • Sentence Combining ○ Does the essay use complex sentences to say more with less words?	
	Student Writing Goal: <i>Narrative and logical flow.</i>	
	OVERALL EVALUATION	

