



## DIVERSITY

Hudson County Community College

Spring 2018



We want to thank all our wonderful writing instructors and those who support our publication by submitting their students' essays.

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## Do You Like Winter?

### The Weather

**Fatma Awad, L0**

December is my favorite month of the winter season. The weather is snowy and rainy in December. It usually snows, and it sometimes rains. It is usually cloudy, cold, and windy. In this month people wear heavy clothes like jackets, warm coats, gloves, and hats. I dislike the winter season only for one reason, and this reason is my children because they get sick, and the snow makes it difficult to drive to places.

December has a lot of activities



for families to do. Mothers usually make hot chocolate and soup to warm up their families. Children like to play with the snow. They enjoy making snowballs and a snowman. On the weekend, families go sledding and ice skating together. In addition, mothers make popcorn at home and watch holiday



movies with their families. On a snow day, schools are normally closed, and children stay home. Fathers shovel up the driveways to make it easier for cars to park.

We like the winter season because during this season, we celebrate our holiday. Families get together to celebrate Christmas. Children receive presents, and they are filled with happiness. I also enjoy this season because my children have a week off from school, and we can spend time together.

## Where I Live

### My Bedroom

**Yamina Hadjiat, L0**

My bedroom is very simple, but it is comfortable and beautiful. It is large and bright.

Upon entering my bedroom, you will find a large bookcase on the left. It is full of books. On the top of the bookcase there is a radio. Next to the bookcase, there is a

desk. In front of the desk, there is a chair. There is a computer on the desk. In the corner of the room, near the desk, there is a tall lamp. On the left side of room, there is a twin bed. Above the bed there is a large picture. Next to the bed there is a long dresser. On the dresser,

**Prof. I. DelRosso**

there are small pictures and a clock. Above the dresser, there is a large mirror. In the center of the room there is a small round carpet on the floor.

My bedroom is my favorite room in the house. I like it because I can stay there and enjoy the afternoons by myself.



## My House

Olivia Ky Karell, L0

My name is Olivia, and I live at 879 Claremont Avenue, Jersey City in New Jersey. I have a big family, so we live in a house. My house is very nice; it has three bedrooms, one living room, a kitchen, and two bathrooms. I will describe the living room and the kitchen.

In my house I mostly like the living room. It is small and very cozy. In the living room, there is a big TV, two sofas, a small table and a nice carpet on the floor. The walls are painted white and red. There is a large door that opens to the balcony. There is a big clock and a lamp

in the corner. There are pictures on the walls and green plans on the windows. Our living room is very clean, and it is always aerated. When my friends come to visit me, they are very happy because the living room is elegant and comfortable.

I also like our kitchen. It is clean and very big. In the kitchen, there is a refrigerator, a microwave, a gas stove, a dishwasher, and a counter. On the walls, there are three cupboards. I like to cook using the blender and the food processor. There are two cutting boards on the

Prof. I. Zhylina

counter. The red cutting board is to cut meat, and the green board is to cut vegetables and fruit. I am very organized and clean the kitchen every day. The kitchen walls are painted white and green. Every day I am happy to cook delicious meals for my family in this kitchen.

When I come home after school or after work, I stay in my comfortable house. It is my favorite place, and I like it very much.



Drawing by Karla Rodriguez





# My Schedule in the United States

## My Sunday

Jose Gonzalez, L0

My name is Jose Gonzalez. I am 22 years old. I study at Hudson County Community College. Yesterday was my day off, so I went to my friend's house.

It was Sunday, so I didn't have to get up early. I stayed in bed until seven o'clock, and then I got out of my bed to go to the yard to do some exercises for twenty minutes. I came back to my house and went to the bathroom. I

brushed my teeth and took a shower. After that, I got dressed and went to my friend's house to ask her out to walk in the park. Obviously, my friend and I like to walk in the park in winter. At eleven o'clock, we came back home.

I had lunch at twelve o'clock. After lunch, I had a rest for fifteen minutes. At two o'clock, I started watching TV. There were a lot of good programs on

Prof. I. Zhylina

every channel. I liked the sport games of soccer and then listened to the sport news. At five o'clock, I started doing my homework for my Monday class at college. I went to bed at midnight.

My weekend was relaxing because it was my day off, and I enjoyed every single minute of it.

Rommely Barzola L0

My favorite activities are to visit new places, sing, and go to the cinema. Sometimes I go with my mother, boyfriend, or friends.

When I go to visit new places, I like to go with my boyfriend and my best friend. I don't go with my parents because they don't have time. We go to Manhattan, New York. We always like to go to Central Park and walk around there. We like to buy some unusual things, for example, key rings and books. Also, we like to make videos of the place to share with our friends. We only go one time a month or when we have money. We like to do it because it's a way to know new places in this country, and it is good for our health because we walk and never take a bus or train, except when we return to New Jersey.

## My Favorite Activities

Another activity is singing. That activity I started to like when I was 11 years old. When I was a student in high school, I joined a singers club and singers class. In that class, I met my best friend. She likes to sing, too. Also, she makes a new video clip every few weeks. We like to do this activity together every time. This is what we have in common. We like to sing because it is a way to destress and forget the life's problems for a moment.



Prof. L. Drew



Finally, I love to go to the cinema with my family because it is the perfect moment to destress from our daily routine. We like to see horror, comedy, and action films. Before we go to the film room, we buy popcorn, hotdogs, and iced tea. My mother doesn't like horror films, so she goes around the mall to see the stores. We always like to see 3D films. It's more wonderful and fun.

All in all, I like my life. I like to share the same things and activities with the people I love.



## My Family

### Mann Patel, LO

In 2013, I married a girl in India. Now she lives in America. After two years of my marriage to her, I moved to America and started to live with her in a small apartment in Jersey City. Her name is Anokhi. In English "Anokhi" means "unique". She is a working woman and a creative person. Her personality and expressions make her unique. She is very trendy and loves shopping.

She works in a Chickpea restaurant in Journal Square as a manager. She works full-time, and sometimes she works more than 40 hours a week. She

### My Life Partner

takes care of the house too. Her hard-working personality and good customer service got her promoted to this position.

She is very cute. She has a baby face. She has long hair and black eyes. She is short. She is an energetic person and always proactive. She keeps smiling all the time, no matter what situations she goes through. She also supports me in every way of my life. I can say that she is a gift from God to me. She is a perfect soul mate.

She is very interested in works of art, and she always finds time to do the

### Prof. A. Addy

things she loves. She is good at drawing. In her spare time, she does Henna Art. Henna is a traditional Indian art where you make designs of creative flowers and leaves on the hands and legs. Now she is learning Nail Art and she is doing well in that as well. On weekends, she always goes shopping. One of her favorite stores is Macy's at the Newport Mall. She is brand conscious too.

She loves me a lot. Her lifestyle keeps raising our relationship to higher heights. And I love her too.

### Widad Blali, LO

My husband is Khalil, and he is 34 years old. He works during the week, and likes to go to gym, and spend time with me.

He works very hard. Every morning, he wakes up at 5:30 a.m., and eats his breakfast at 5:45 a.m. He starts working at 6 a.m. and comes back home at 6 p.m. After work, he goes to gym twice a week. He likes to spend his time in the gym every day, but he doesn't have so much time. That's why he only goes there just twice a week. After that, he spends most of his free time with me to help me with my lessons for my classes

### My Husband's Routine

and explain the English grammar to me. Also, he likes to cook, so he always helps me to cook dinner. After dinner, sometimes we watch some movies together, or he reads books, and I watch TV. My husband likes to read a lot, so we have many books and stories at home.

Every Sunday, he wakes up late because he doesn't work on Sunday. We eat breakfast together and talk about our routines. Then, he calls his family and his friends to know their news. We often eat lunch at home or sometimes in the restaurant. After lunch, we go outside to shop or visit

### Prof. B. Wang

new places. He tries to show me these places. Sometimes he goes to visit his friends.

I like his routine, and I am happy with our life in this way.

**"There is only one happiness in this life, to love and be loved."**

**George Sand**



## My Lovely Niece

Gricelda Melgar, L0

Prof. L. Drew

My lovely niece's name is Yendry. She's eighteen years old. She was born in El Salvador, but now she lives in Union City, NJ. She traveled from El Salvador to the United States when she was five years old. She's single. She's a student, and she has a little sister.

Yendry is a beautiful person. She's short and thin. She has brown eyes. She has blonde and long hair. She has a beautiful smile. She usually wears a T-shirt, tight jeans, and boots. She always wears a fancy dress and high heels on the weekend. She loves to wear jewelry. She's elegant, and she's so pretty.

Yendry is an excellent student. She always wins high honors at school. Now she is studying at NYIT. She wants to be an engineer. She studies very hard. She studies from Monday to

Friday in the morning. In the afternoon, she has a part-time job at the library in Union City. She's a busy teen. On the weekend, she spends time with her friends and family, too.

Her hobbies are photography, and she loves to read. She loves to take pictures in different places. She likes to take pictures of her sister. She sometimes goes to the beach to take pictures of the sunset. She also likes to collect beautiful post cards. She usually reads books like history books, funny books, and the Bible. She is a Catholic person. She's a vegetarian person, too. She likes to eat vegetables, fruit, and grains. She drinks green juice.

She is friendly, but she doesn't talk to people she doesn't know. She's funny. She makes me laugh when she tells

me jokes. I love to spend time with my beautiful niece. We sometimes go to a fancy restaurant in New York City. On vacation we go to the beach and the Delaware River, too. We enjoy spending time together.

She is very busy. She always needs my help. I am glad to help her do the laundry and clean her room, too. I sometimes cook pupusas for her. She likes pupusas with cheese, beans, squash, and loroco. She eats pupusas with salad, too. She enjoys my food. When she needs some money, I give it to her. I love my pretty niece.

All in all, she's everything for me. I love her, and she loves me. She is an adorable person. God bless my niece!

## My Day

Fady Mence, L0

Prof. I. DelRosso

A normal day in my life usually starts at 11am. I seriously love to stay up late and to get up late. I work three days, and I go to college for three days a week.

I usually start work at 4 o'clock pm. I get home around 3am. When I get home, the first thing that I do is take a shower, and then I eat some food. I go to sleep at 5am. That's my schedule the days that I work.

For the days I go to college, my classes usually start at 12:30 pm. I just have one class that starts at 9am. My classes usually finish around 3 pm. When I get home, I eat and do homework. After I finish my homework, I go to bed.

I feel tired during the week because I finish work late, and I have to wake up early to go to college. I don't get sleep enough

the days I work. My favorite day is Friday, because that's my day off from work and school.





# I Miss My Country

## My Childhood

**Elgazzar Abdelwahed, L0**

My name is Abdelwahed. I lived in Egypt when I was a child. I lived there most of my life. I enjoyed my life in Egypt. I lived in Elmansora. Elmansora is a big city in Egypt.

When I was 10 years old, I went to Cairo with my father. Cairo is the capital of Egypt. We went to see the pyra-

mids. The weather was hot. I was amazed by the size of the pyramids. We went into a pyramid, and I was afraid because it was dark. Then my dad and I climbed up the pyramid a little. We took some pictures. I enjoyed this trip.

**Prof. I. DelRosso**

**“If you carry your childhood with you, you never become older.”**

**Tom Stoppard**

**Rania Attia, L0**



My favorite city is Alexandria. It is located in Egypt. Alexandria is an important city in Egypt. I can go there by airplane.

Alexandria is a beautiful city. It is famous for a lot of things, such as the White Sea, churches, mosques, and Alexandria library. There are a lot of places for recreation. It has different people. They are Muslim and Christian people. It is a big city. The population of my city is about 8 million people.

I like to go to Alexandria. I enjoy visiting it for a lot of reasons. First, I lived there for 22 years, and my family lives there. Second, Alexandria is a

## My Favorite City

touristic city. All tourists visit it in the summer. They go to the library, and they take a lot of pictures for memory. They go to the sea. They visit churches. One of the most famous churches is St. Mark cathedral. One of the most famous mosques is Leader of Ibrahim mosque. The tourists eat in restaurants and do shopping. They buy a lot of products. They spend a lot of money, so tourism is a source of national income in Egypt. Third, people in Alexandria are friendly, kind, patient, honest, and generous. They love each other. They borrow things from each other and usually talk to each other. In addition, they shop together and live together in the community. The local people usually eat at home, and they do shopping every day. When they go on vacation, they sometimes visit monasteries together. Fourth, Alexandria has a nice

**Prof. J. Karnicka**

weather all the year. In the summer, it is sunny all the season. In the winter, it is warm. It sometimes rains, but it never snows in the spring.

I love my city because it is a different city. I am interested in visiting monasteries. My favorite monastery is St. Mina monastery. The famous food in Alexandria is grilled fish, beans, falafel, and onions. It has delicious ice cream shops. I prefer to buy a lot of clothes, so I spend a lot of money. There are amazing clothes, but they are expensive. I am also interested in spending time at the beach, but my husband likes to walk on the beach. My kids enjoy swimming in the sea. We often go to a library, and we can borrow a lot of interesting books.

Alexandria is a nice city, and I love to stay there. When I go there, I feel happy, relaxed, and good. I am so



## My Winter Break

### Gloria Bermeo, L1

In my winter break, I traveled to Ecuador, and I spent my time with my family and friends. I loved the winter break because I did many interesting things in my country.

When I went to Ecuador, I arrived to my city, and I visited my sister. We shared a typical food of my country. After that, I traveled to Guayaquil Ecuador to visit my grandmother. I spent many days with her, and visited many interesting places of Guayaquil city.

When I came to my Azogues city, I visited my childhood friends. We

went to eat a delicious ceviche in the mall. After that, we went to the park, and we played soccer remembering our old times. I had fun days with them.

Furthermore, I did more interesting things. I visited Loja City to and a church I knew called “El Cisne”. Also, I traveled to Ambato city, and I learned about that culture and their food. In addition, I bought gifts to my family.

In conclusion, in my winter break, I had much fun, and I did many interesting things like visiting my fami-

### Prof. S. Armanious

ly and friends. I also got to know other places of my country. The winter break was the best time for me during my visit to my precious country, Ecuador, and I enjoyed every moment of it.

#### Drawing by G. Bermeo, L 1



## Tropicana Restaurant

### Luis Ciriaco-Madera, L1

Tropicana Restaurant looks beautiful and comfortable. There are some reasons that I like this place, but I don't like the location of the restaurant.

The restaurant has four beautiful Dominican flags. There are beautiful tables and chairs with three distinct colors. Their colors are red, blue and white like the Dominican flag. When you are inside, the first thing that you are going to listen is Dominican music like salsa, bachata and merengue. There are five chefs and six waiters ready for your order and for making people feel happy.

I like this place because it is the

only restaurant in Jersey City where I feel as if I were in my country. There are people around you asking if you are ok or if you need anything else. I like all the food that they have on the menu. They have rice, beans, chicken and salad. The food that I like the most is called mangu. It has plantain, butter, salami, onion, eggs and cheese. They have the best mangu in Jersey City.

However, I don't like the location because it faces the street, and the cars are too noisy. It's located on Grand Street. There is a bus stop next to the restaurant. When the bus makes a stop, its breaks make a

### Prof. M. Schirta

screaching noise. There is also a hospital between the bus stop and the restaurant. They have about six ambulance that make a horrible sound that is too loud.

In conclusion, there are some reasons that I like this restaurant, and there are some reasons that I don't like this restaurant. However, I prefer to eat in Tropicana Restaurant because they cook food that always makes me feel as if I were in the Do-







## About Me

### Luna Mike, L1

Right now I am living with my dad in New Jersey. I live in a small apartment in West New York, NJ. Before that I was living in Staten Island, NY. The neighborhood was quiet, and it wasn't loud like here.

The apartment where I live has four rooms, and they all have big windows. That means lots of light in the apartment. All the rooms are clean and cozy, but my favorite rooms is the living room because I have a small table with all my paint tools on it. I also have note books, markers, watercolors, and everything to paint with. Painting is my

### The Place Where I Live

hobby, and it takes my mind off any stressful situations. Although the apartment is small, we tried to have it well organized, so as we can be comfortable.

In addition, my neighbors are nice people. Sometimes on the weekend they play loud music. However, they are friendly and nice. Also, the neighborhood is crowded because I live in a Latino neighborhood, and that is good because we share our culture and our language, and I am happy about that too. Moreover, the location is very convenient. There are many places like

### Prof. S. Armanious

restaurants, schools and stores, so I can find anything I want, I cannot complain because everything is near to the apartment.

I am happy in my apartment, and I think West New York, NY, is a nice area to live in. I definitely spend more



fun time here than in my old neighborhood.

**Drawing submitted by L. Mike**

### Prof. S. Armanious

### Brayan Santos, L1



In our world, we have a lot of colors to choose from, and everybody has his/her favorite color. My favorite color is blue. It is the color that identifies me. For example, when I searched in Google, they say that all the colors have their meaning, and blue is the color that describes me. Also, it is a beautiful and meaningful color. Blue symbolizes the blue sky over the blue ocean and that is so

## Colors

beautiful. This color is part of my characteristic in life. In addition, blue and white are base lovely colors that you can ever use in your daily routine.

People like to wear a lot of different clothes for different events, and, for different activities, but I think, I can only use blue all day, and that will not be a problem for me to use it frequently. Not only that, blue comes in shades like for example dark blue and light blue, and both tones are beautiful colors to have in your life. For instance, if God asked me, what color I wanted to create the way the earth looks, I probably would say blue.

Furthermore, this color is special for

me because in my uncle Henry's wedding I used the color blue as his best mentor decoration, and it was amazing. It was good day to remember for the rest of my life. Moreover, I can say that I looked handsome in the suit with a blue color like the sky. On another occasion, on my graduation from high school, it was our special day too, and I wore my favorite blue suit. Blue holds good memories for me.

Finally, blue symbolizes the big sky over the big ocean. Colors are beautiful for they reflect feelings especially blue.



## Learning about Codes

### Dalila Espinal, L1

I studied accounting for almost four years. At that time, I couldn't use the programs that I had to use, but I found some help with the accounting program department. For this department, everything had to be codified. You had to know all the codes perfectly. I spent the first year memorizing all these codes; every day I learned some new codes.

When I decided to study accounting, I was so happy, but in my second semester in the lab, I couldn't keep up with the program skills. They made me very stressed. My teacher was so good, but he couldn't spend his free time teaching me point by point, so he decided to

send me to the accounting tutoring center. It was helpful for me. Three months later, I could help my classmates and explained the sophisticated program.

I continued taking this class because it helped me how to learn the codes. I spent almost a year to understand the whole code book. The most difficult part in this book was the part of the expenses because I had to recognize them and classify them by departments. For example, paper could be an expense or an investment. It depends why you bought it. Was the paper necessary for the company, or did you need to buy it for copies on record? Now, if your company needs it for work, it

### Prof. B. Wang

is a utility, but if you bought it to file a record, it is an expense. Learning this kind of codes took me a lot of time, but I could complete and learn the whole program very well.

After two years, when I knew everything, the Accounting Department made a new edition of this big book. It was frustrating to me because I had to learn the whole book again. However, not all the codes were changed, and some codes continued without changes. To memorize the new codes was quicker this time than my first time because I could understand the program better.

**“Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty, and persistence.”**

**Colin Powell**



# Meaningful People in Our Lives

## Sun Yan, L1

I want to introduce my friend. His name is Ming, and he was my boyfriend before I came to the United States. He is a very nice person. He never complains about his friends even when they are not good. He usually takes care of his friends. He loves his mother, but his mother is not healthy. She needs to see the doctor four times a week, so Ming works very hard because he needs money to pay the bills.

Ming lives in a small and warm apartment with his parents in Shanghai, China. Our apartments were very close. They also have a big apartment, but it is far away from downtown.

## My Friend, Ming

When I was living in China, he walked to my home with his big dog. Then we went to the park to relax almost every day. Three adults and a big dog living in a small apartment are very crowded, but it is still a lovely home.

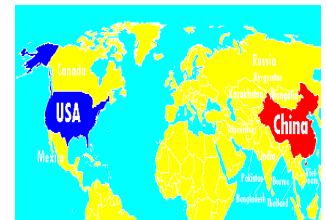
Ming is an interior designer. His job is to help people design their homes. I really like his job. Sometimes we went to IKEA or Home Depot. He usually took photos he needed of some ideas for his work, but his boss sometimes didn't like his idea. I didn't like this man.

Ming didn't want to come to the United States. I tried, but I was not

## Prof. R. Sezer

successful. I think this was a reason we broke up because he needs to take care of his mother, and his parents are old. He said he couldn't leave his parents alone. They don't have another sister or brother in Shanghai, but if they need help they can find people to help them.

I really miss him. We don't keep in touch anymore. I don't know why. I was trying to text to him on the We Chat, but he never answers me. This is so sad.



## Amir Khalil, L1

We meet many people every day. Some of them we cannot forget. George Kales is one of them. He was the first person who helped me when I arrived here in the United States. For this, I will always remember him.

When I came to America, I did not have any job. After some time, I felt that I made a big mistake leaving Egypt for this country. At that time, I met George. He was a friend of my wife's family. He understood my problem. He told me that he would help me find a job. George and I went to many places asking about a

## My New Brother

job until we found one. From that moment, George became my brother.

**"A sympathetic friend can be as dear as your brother."**

**Homer**

There were many pleasant memories. We visited each other every week. George taught me many things about language, way of living, and law in America. He spent extra time with me. Really, he drew my first knowledge

## Prof. N. Atienza

about United States. However, I moved to another place. That separated us. I have not seen him for a long time. I wrote to him many times. I want to see him and spend time with him as we used to do. I wish it would be soon.

When I came here, a different country from mine, I thought I would be alone. But, when I met George, I felt that I found a brother. With him, I got help, support and unforgettable experiences. Up to now, I still consider him as my new brother because I always think of how he made me independent. How about you, have you found one?



## My Kind of Friend

Everyone has an unforgettable person in his or her life. This person always stands beside you during good or bad times. Loren was that kind of friend, always helpful and generous. I met her during the time I was struggling with my speaking problem here in the United States.

Loren is from the Dominican Republic. She was, then, living on the first floor, when my husband and I were living in the basement of the same house. I never talked with her before, but she always smiled at me every time we saw each other. After my husband left for work, I was afraid to go out because I could not speak English.

One day, I got bored staying home, so I went to a nearby park for a walk. After a long walk, I became hungry

and decided to go to a coffee shop. But, I did not know how to speak well, so I could not give my order clearly. The cashier did not understand me. She started becoming nasty, embarrassing me in front of other customers. I was about to cry. I felt like a clown. However, like an angel, my neighbor Loren came out from the line and saved me. She confronted the cashier. After that incident, she began helping me to speak basic English sentences. Because of her, I was no longer afraid of going anywhere, and I started to have conversation with other people. Later on, Loren even helped me to find my first job. In addition, she also taught me to cook American and Spanish food.

We became best of friends. Unfortunately, she had to move to the Domini-

can Republic due to her parents' failing health. Since then, I have never seen her again. But, because of Facebook social network, I was able to find her. I started to have video chats with her. I told her that I really wanted to see her again. "I'll visit you next summer in the Dominican Republic," I said to her.

Really, I could not forget Loren. I will always keep her close to my heart. She will always remain in my heart as a wonderful person and best friend

**"A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out."  
Walter Winchell**

## Ebram Ebid, L1

I have a lot of friends in my native country. All of them are very nice, but they are different from one another. Everyone has a different character, and my best friends, Bassem and Mina, are also different. Let me tell you about them.

First, Bassem has a lot of talents. He is a poet. He wrote a lot of poems about many different things, like politics, romance, religion and other things. Mina is a very different person. He likes fun. Everything is easy for him. In addition, he has one thing special. He likes photography, and the best

thing is he works as a photographer now.

Second, Bassem is a very quiet person, and he likes to listen to others. Mina also has many interesting things. He likes to organize parties. How to start the party? What is the second thing to do and the third? He also likes to fix any cameras and any phones. Really, he's a very good person. I like both of them.

Third, Mina doesn't like studying. He doesn't like to go to college. He is usually absent from his class. Well, last year he didn't pass all the exams.

## My Friends

## Prof. R. Sezer

He missed one year because he didn't want to study. My other friend, Bassem, likes to study. He always studies every day. He passed his exams, and he is studying engineering right now. This is her last year in college. He is going to earn his degree.

I like all my friends. I like Mina and I like Bassem. I know everyone has different activities to do and different things they like. I hope Mina has a good life, and I hope Bassem gets his degree this year. I care about my friends, and I wish them both to have a good life.





## My Best Friends

**Abir Yeddon, L1**

Everyone meets many people in this life and makes friendships with some of them because it is very important to have somebody who supports and helps you. I have two friends who have completely different characters, religions and habits, maybe because they are from different countries, but they both are good friends. So who are my best friends? How are they different?

My friends are from different countries. Wafaa is from Algeria, and she is Muslim. On the other hand, Nihad is from Egypt, and she is Christian. Their life style and cultures are not similar. In addition, they have a different tradition especially when they celebrate

their holidays. Wafaa likes traditional clothes, and Nihad likes traditional food, but when we are together, we make a really good combination between three cultures. It is wonderful!

**“Friends can have different dreams and do different things.”**

**Sabrina Bryan**

Wafaa and Nihad have a pleasant personality, but Wafaa is a little bit shy and quiet. She is more sensitive than Nihad, and because she lives alone in this country, she feels lonely. In con-

**Prof. R. Sezer**

trast, Nihad is married and has three children. She is stressed and busy like a bee. She always says, “I am busy. I am busy.” It is very hard to take care of a big family. In addition, they are both good listeners, but Nihad is more serious when she advises me. Perhaps she is older than Wafaa, and she has more experience.

My friends and I look like triplets. We spend most of the time together and have fun. Really we are different, but this difference makes amazing friendships forever.

**Estefania Grullon, L1**

Jose is my husband. He is 28 years old. He is from the Dominican Republic, but he came to this country when he was a baby. His first language is English, and he also speaks Spanish. He works in a school in Jersey City. Before he was a teacher, but now he works in an office.

He gets up at 5:00 A.M. He goes to the gym. After that, he takes a shower, and he leaves to his job. He comes back at 5:00 P.M. He walks the dog. He eats dinner at 6:00 P.M. We have a daughter. Her name is Maria, so when she goes to sleep my husband does too.

## My Husband’s Routine

**Prof. D. Ramirez**

He is family man. His friends are his cousins. He does not like to go out. He likes to watch sports news, and he wants to stay home with his dog and his daughter. Sometimes he likes to play football. On the weekend, he likes to go to the park. We go to his father’s house, and our daughter plays with my husband’s brother.

His day is very busy because he works all day, and in the evening he takes care of the baby. I have classes, so he is alone with her. He is a great husband and father. He loves his daughter. He helps me to be a better person.



**“ To a father growing old nothing is dearer than a daughter.”**

**Euripides**



## My Husband's Daily Routine

Xiomara Pinett-Hernandez, L1

My husband is an excellent worker. He works every single day. He gets up early each morning to go to work. He is a responsible person. He likes what he does. He loves his job.

Mario Gomez is my husband. He is from Honduras. He is thirty-six years old. We got married ten years ago. We have two sons. We have lived in Bayonne, NJ since October 2010. We are happy to live here in the USA. We have a beautiful family.

Mario is the only person who works in our family. He is a truck driver. He works Monday through Friday. He works twelve hours every day. He starts doing his job at 6:00 A.M. every

morning. He works for a supply company, Staples, in New York City. He drives during the day from home to his job and then from New York City home. He really loves to drive his truck.

His daily routine is to drive the truck and make deliveries to particular places like offices, schools, and hospitals. All deliveries are about office supplies. Sometimes he makes water and toilet paper deliveries to a home for older people, too. One day a week, he picks up all the supplies that some people do not want. Mario does the same thing during the day until he finishes. It is a little tiring, but he loves what he

Prof. D. Ramirez

does. He loves to drive a truck, and next year he wants to buy a new truck to work on his own time and space.

Mario finishes his job late every evening, but he is the happiest man in the whole world because he puts the best of him in what he does. This makes him feel so proud. Mario is the best truck driver that I know.



## My Cousin's Routine

Mariam Ali Abakar Adj, L1

Said is my cousin. He lives in an apartment on the second floor. He is married, and his wife is a beautiful woman. They have four children. They have three girls and one boy.

Said works in transportation. He is a truck driver. The company is far from us. It is in North Bergen. Said works hard for his family. He works six days per week.

Every day in morning, Said wakes up early. He wakes up before everybody. He wakes up at 5:00 am. When he is awake, he checks his phone, and checks his accounts, such as Facebook, Twitter and others. After that, he gets

up from his bed at 5:10 am. He goes to the bathroom to take a shower. He brushes his teeth. He puts on his clothes. At 5:30 am, he eats his breakfast. For breakfast, he has coffee, milk, honey, and eggs. At 5:45 am, he puts on his shoes, and combs his hair. He kisses his wife to say bye. He gets out at 5:50 am. He has a car, so he drives his own car to work. The way is too long. He arrives at 6:50 am. He starts work at 7:00 am. He is done by 3:00 pm, and he comes back at 4:00 pm.

In the afternoon, he stays with the family. The family takes his lunch at 5:00 pm. Said watches TV and talks

with us. He helps his children to do homework.

At 8:00 pm, they have dinner. After that, everybody goes to the room. Said goes to his bed at 9:00 pm. He plays games. He sleeps at 10:00 pm.

*Family*  
is not an  
IMPORTANT  
thing, it is  
*Everything*



## My High School Teachers

Norma Gonzalez, LI

Prof. B. Wang

When I studied in Luigi Galvani High School, I used to have two good teachers, a teacher named Byron Reinoso that taught chemistry and the other teacher named Oscar Pinango that taught biology. They were very different.

Mr. Reinoso and Mr. Pinango looked different. Mr. Reinoso was tall, thin, and not young but Mr. Pinango was short, heavy, and young. Mr. Reinoso had brown hair and brown eyes, and Mr. Pinango had black hair and green eyes. Also, Mr. Reinoso used

to wear black pants, a white shirt, and black shoes while Mr. Pinango used to wear jeans, T-shirts, and sport shoes.

They were different when they taught in class. Mr. Reinoso was a little serious, but his class was very fun because he liked to joke with students. He always gave us a lot of homework. Unlike Mr. Reinoso, Mr. Pinango was always happy, and he liked to do different activities, such as games and dictation. He used to do these activities to make the class more fun. He was very responsible and liked to give us some

homework.

I liked both classes because the two teachers made us learn very well. Mr. Reinoso used to do colorful signs and wrote on the board with markers in different colors to explain his class. However, Mr. Pinango used to make copies for the class and wrote examples on the board to explain his class.

I felt very happy when I had classes with them because they were not only excellent teachers but also good like our friends.

**“Science is beautiful when it makes simple explanations of phenomena or connections between different observations.”**

**Stephen Hawking**

## Two Opposite Managers

Kendra Gomez, LI

Prof. B. Wang

In my work, we are working with many people, and that’s why we have two managers and both are men. They work with two schedules, one in the morning from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the other in the afternoon from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. Julio works in the morning, and Raul works in the afternoon. They are so opposite in their appearance and their personalities.

Julio is a tall and thin man, who has curly bond hair. He has some freckles and beard, and his eyes and nose are small. He always has glasses and wears shirts. Raul, on the other hand, is totally different. He is overweight, and he is not tall. He never

has a beard, but he has a big receding on his head. His nose is a little big for his face, but his eyes and chin are good. Raul always wears T-shirts and more casual clothes at work.

Both are good bosses, but one has a more amazing personality than the other. Julio is younger than Raul, but Raul looks as young as a teenager. Julio is always laughing at anything, and he often makes the customers laugh. He always talks loudly and makes a lot of noises wherever he is. He is friendly with us, but doesn’t work much. He is also stubborn and crazy sometimes. Overall, he is a nice person. Similarly,

Julio is also a nice person but more serious. He doesn’t speak much and when he does, he speaks loudly. His attitude is correct at work because he is a hardworking man. He is so kind and helpful, so he always helps us when we need him. We feel they are a good team because they work well with each other.

I like to work with both, and I am comfortable with them. Both make me feel good when I am at work. They trust me and trust what I do for my duties, and I trust them, too. I think they make an excellent team to work with all of us.



## Special Places

### UNIVERSITY OF AL QUARAUIYIN

Jihane Boustyal, L2

Prof. S. Caruana

Fes is one of the oldest cities in the world. It is known for its richness of historical monuments, culture diversity, and the mixture of architecture. Jmiaat al Quaraouiyn is the biggest reference in the city and the first university in the world.

Jamiaat al Quaraouiyn was built in 859 in Fes Morocco, by Fatima El Fehri. The university was considered by the Guinness World Records as well as UNESCO as the oldest continuously operating, degree granting university in the world.

People dream to visit this charming and magical place to get the chance to see Andalus, Arabic and European architecture all in one building. In the 800's, Jamiaat al Quaraouiyn was the destination of scientists and students of all kinds of specialties.

I remember the first time I went to visit this wonderful place with my sisters. We were surprised by the beauty of the place, the mosaics were colorful and magically placed. The fountain was in the center of the hall. The ceiling was decorated with wood and there was a nice big chandelier in the middle.

The library has a collection of more than 3,500 rare books and ancient Arabic manuscripts.

I left this place and felt very proud of what Fatima el Fihri did. She was a woman and she succeeded to build such a great university.



### PARIS "La Belle"

Verleine Lindsay Mouckaga Mouckaga, L2

Prof. S. Caruana

Paris is the capitol of love, and also the capitol of France. It is one of best places in this world. I lived in Paris for two years, and Paris had been a welcome place for me. The smell and joy that it procured to its people had been contagious during those two years. It attracts a lot of people every year with

its hospitality. From my experience, Paris has always been for people from my country. It is one of the best places to study, has good insurance compared to my country, Gabon, and it is full of lovely people.

First of all, Paris is one of the best places to study. It has some of the best schools in the world like Rochelle and





Sorbonne University.

It also has good teachers. It attracts people because of the diversity of schools, and also, the price of the tuition. It is easier for someone to study there because of the programs. For example, when I moved from my country to go there and study, it was not difficult for me to adapt. I did like I used to do when I was in my country. In fact, Paris

has always been recognized because of its education.

Additionally, Paris has a good advantage about its insurance compared to my country. There the insurance is very reliable. That's why most people from my country always decide to go and give birth there. There are a lot of advantages. For example, when the mother gives birth, the government takes

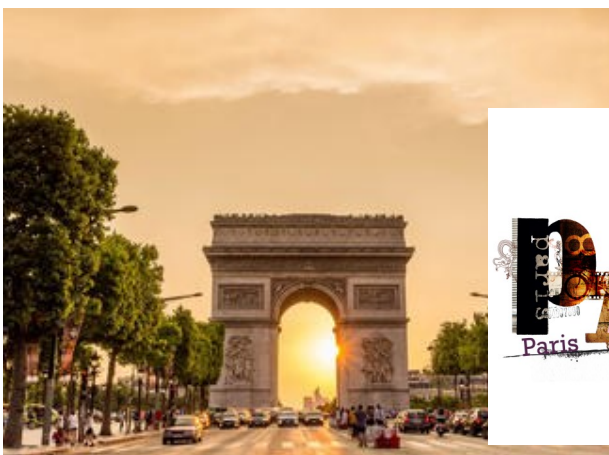
care of the mother and the baby for at least one year. I did not need anything because everything was covered for me: hospital, books, and school.

Lastly, Paris is described as the capitol of love because of its charming people. They are kind and educated. I did not feel foreign because it was like I always used to live there. That made my life in Paris more beautiful

again. The fact that when you go out everybody is saying "Hi" to you like you have always known them was amazing, and also, waking up in the morning, smelling coffee by your window, and seeing people walking in the street were some things that I rarely saw in my country. Paris really made me feel like I was from there.

All in all, my experience in Paris was fantastic. I was there for two years and I felt like them. For me, the name, Paris, "La Belle", really is true because of the many opportunities that you have.

**I lived in Paris for two years, and Paris had been a welcome place for me.**





# Events That Scare Us



## Ronald Castro , L2

## A Frightening Experience

## Prof. N. Kutubuddin

Usually many people have frightening experiences in their lives. It can be real or a product of imagination. People take this experience as a lesson, so they won't be scared again.

It was in February 2016. I just had been in the United States for

**It was in winter, and we were really cold. My feet, my head, my hands hurt.**

about forty five minutes in the bus, and we arrived at the bus terminal. We began to walk and we were trying to find the building, but we couldn't find it. We were walking around for thirty minutes, but we never could get the employment building that my aunt told us. It was in winter, and we were really cold. My feet, my head, my hands hurt.

We started to feel afraid because we didn't have cellular data

three months , and I didn't know very well about addresses, transportation, or buses. My dad had a bad day. He lost his job, and his boss told him that he had to get a document to receive his last monthly payment. After that day, my dad told to my aunt and me what hap-

pened and, my aunt had a good idea for this situation. She told me that I had to go to get information from employment services building in Jersey City. She gave me the address and told me which bus I had to take to go and come back. I trusted her and I went with my little sister because I didn't speak English, but she knew a little bit. We took

on our phones, and no one of our family got their phones because they were working. My sister started to cry. It was turning dark and we didn't remember very well where the bus terminal was. I was so nervous that I didn't know what I could do. There were weird people, and we thought that something bad could happen to us. I was trying to make my sister relax. Finally, she wasn't crying anymore. It was 8:30

PM, and one person looked at us and he asked if we needed help. We answered yes, and we told him what was happening. He was so amiable with us. He told us where was the bus terminal, the bus schedule, and the correct number of the bus that we had to take.

Finally, we reached our home. I'll never forget that day, and this experience helped me to be cautious when I wanted to go to a new place alone or with someone.



## My Worst Night

Belma Paredes, L2

Prof. N. Kutubuddin

I used to live with my grandmother, my dad, my two cousins and their children in my country, Honduras. My grandmother always was the last one to go to sleep. She used to sit in a comfortable chair in the yard. Most of the time, she was praying. Our pet was every time next to her. Its name is Rayo.

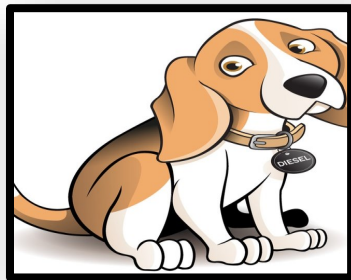
On March, 23th 2,015, my family was joined eating the dinner that my grandmother had cooked for all of us. It was a normal day. After that, my dad and my cousins went to sleep. I was the last one who talked to my grandmother that night. It was 11:30pm; everyone was sleeping. When I heard a weird sound, I felt very scared because I thought that it could be bad people in the house. I woke my dad up and I told him that I heard something outside. He just told me to go to sleep. Maybe Rayo was playing with the containers outside, but I was feeling something in my interior. It was telling me that something wrong was happening in the yard. So, I opened the door, and I saw Rayo around the pila, a hole, in the ground to save water. Soon, I heard one of my little cousins crying and looking for my grandmother. He used to sleep with her. I asked him, "Where is my grandmother? She was supposed to be with you". I was extremely worried and nervous. I started to look for her, bedroom by bedroom. She wasn't anywhere. Suddenly, I heard a water sound, and I went to the hole where we save water and she was in there. She was knocked out and she had blood on her face and all over her body.

**We never let our grandmother alone in the yard again.**

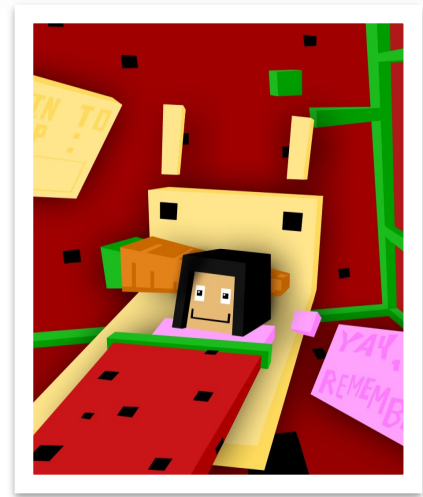
After that, I yelled "Dad, help my grandmother. She fell down and she looks dead". I was crying a lot. My dad and my cousins were also crying. We called the ambulance and they took my grandmother to the hospital. It was me and my little cousin in the house because all of my family was in the hospital. I was feeling very bad and thinking what happened or who did this to my grandmother. I was afraid if it was a robber and he could come again. It had been the longest and worst night for me.

Finally, my grandmother was in the hospital for two months. During this time, she couldn't talk or eat either. When she got better, my aunts asked her about how she fell down or who did this? She said, "I don't remember anything!" We still have the doubt how this occurred.

The lesson for all of us was to close the hole because it wasn't covered before. We never let our grandmother alone in the yard again.







## A Frightening Experience in My Life

Adriana Gonzalez, L2

Prof. A. Addy

A frightening event in my life was when I began high school in the United States. I left Cuba to come to live with my father and I was hoping to have more opportunities in the United States. First, I spent a good week with my family, becoming familiar with my new country. I tried new types of food and went to beautiful places. For

In the morning, the alarm on my phone started ringing. As soon as I opened my eyes, I closed them again because I did not want to go to school. However, I opened them again and I told myself that it was my decision to go to school in the United States. I woke up and put on my uniform. Next, I went to the kitchen to eat my breakfast. My father was there. He gave me a kiss

the first time, I also watched snow falling from the sky. It was a new experience in my life.

I began school after that first week. The night before I started school, I could not sleep. I felt very sad. I was imagining a lot of things: the new school, the students, the teachers. I asked myself if the students were friendly and the

and left for work. After eating some cereal, I left for school. That was the first time I had gone out in this city without my father. I was scared because I could not find my way to the school. I saw some young girls and thought they may be students. I asked them to help me with the directions to the school because I needed to go the

teachers were good. Then my father came to my room to say goodnight to me. He noticed that I looked scared. He asked me: "Why are you worried?" I told him that I felt sad because I did not know anything about the schools in this country. He hugged me and told me to relax and not to worry. Later, I was able to sleep.

office. When I realized they were helpful, I asked them if they spoke Spanish. When they said yes, I felt a little bit relieved. They walked with me to the school, and directed me to the office. When I saw the school, I took a deep breath to relax for a second.

In the office, I was given an adviser. She told me all I needed to





know about the school. Later, she gave me my schedule and told me the number of the classroom. The school was big and I did not know where my classes were. I started to feel depressed again. My only option was to keep on walking until I found the room. When I went inside and realized my teacher could not speak Spanish, so did not know how to communicate with me in Spanish, I felt sad. He was very nice because he asked the other students to help me learn the English language. After this, I became more comfortable in my new school.

**That frightening experience demonstrated to me that I needed to learn a lot of things about every new place I go to.**

In the afternoon, during lunch time, I was supposed to be relaxed, but I was by myself. Nobody sat to talk to me. There were many students in the cafeteria and everyone was with their friends. I wanted to cry while I looked at the people next to me. I did not know who they were. I sat down alone and started to eat. When I finished eating, I began to listen music on my phone until the lunch period was over. I went to my other classes after

that. Finally, my first school day was coming to an end. My horrible day was almost over. When the class was over I went home.

That frightening experience demonstrated to me that I needed to learn a lot of things about every new place I go to. Also, that experience helped me to realize that in this country we need to learn English. Furthermore, that experience helped me to understand that we need to sacrifice to make other people happy. Sometimes, we have terrible days.

## A Frightening Experience in My Life

Rosmery Polo, L2

Prof. A. Addy

This happened ten years ago when I was in Colombia. It was on Saturday in the Bank of Colombia and the time was about 12 o'clock in the morning. I was in the line waiting for my turn. I needed to deposit a check. It was very quiet and all the people were waiting very patiently. Then, a man wearing a red sweatshirt, white Nike shoes and a red cap walked into the bank, carrying a black briefcase. I admired him because of the flamboyant chain he was wearing. He went to stand in the first position in the line, right in front of one of the cashiers, regardless of the fact that there were people waiting in line. The people in the front immediately began to complain. Next, he took out a gun and said, "Hands up everybody. This

is a holdup!" We were all terrified. We looked on as the frightened cashier put all the money into his bag. The robber walked slowly toward the door of the bank.

While he walked away, the cashier pressed the alarm and it began to ring. The robber shot into the air and we all fell on the floor. He ran out of the bank and then we heard a motorcycle start up. After that, we heard a loud crash. We ran out and saw the robber lying on the floor. A car had crashed his motorcycle. He was not injured, and he was arrested for robbing the bank. I felt frightened and nervous about what had happened.

I learned a lesson from what had happened: I cannot rely on first impressions. I also learned that appearances are deceiving. This experience changed my life because when I walk into a bank, I start analyzing everyone around.





**Florely Romero, L2**

Everybody has meaningful events in their lives that are unforgettable. These events can bring about changes in their lives and personality. The event could be an experience that leaves the person with a lesson to remember forever. Two years ago, in September, something frightening happened to me when I was coming back from my job. I

of taking my cell phone out of my hand bag.

When I got to the corner of the block, I saw two people walking, holding hands. I started to call out to them: "Hello, hello. Wait for me please" I started running towards them. Immediately, I noticed the man who was following me went back. The two people waited for me. I told them that a man was following me. They walked with me to



### **Meaningful Events**

learnt a lot from this.

It was at about 11:40 pm and I was walking alone from work. I noticed that a man was following me. At first I thought that it was somebody going in the same direction, so I crossed to the other side of the street. I looked back, and the man was also crossing the street. Later, I realized that he was fol-

the building where I live. I was lucky that I got home safe.

After that experience, I learned that it is dangerous to walk alone late at night. It is always good to walk with somebody. I also changed my job schedule, so I end my shift at 9:00 pm. Now I am more cautious and prepared for any frightening experience that can happen to me at any time.



**Prof. A. Addy**

lowing me. I was frightened so I started walking faster, almost running. While I was walking, I said to myself "It is just four more blocks", but I started imagining getting to the building and not being able to open the door fast. In that case, he can assault me. I also thought of calling the police. I continued walking really fast while I was thinking

**I learned that it is dangerous to walk alone late at night.**



## A Frightening Experience

Juan De La Cruz, L2

Prof. A. Addy

The most frightening experience I have had in my life was the day I almost drowned in a lake. I was 13 years old, and it was my birthday. I remember that day perfectly. It was unforgettable. For a moment, I thought I was going to die.

My whole family woke up very early in the morning because we were going to the lake in Acapulco to celebrate my 13th birthday. I had invited all my friends. I was excited because I knew I was going to have fun. We were all going to have a phenomenal time; at least I thought so. The day before leaving the house, my dad had warned me about the lake. He had said that the lake had many dangerous places and some of these locations were too deep to swim in. However, I didn't pay attention to what he told me. I was just thinking about having fun with my friends. After having that conversation with my father, I walked calmly to my room to pack my stuff that I was bringing to the lake. We left very early and arrived at about 11 a.m. When we got there, all my friends were waiting for us.

My friends were having fun: some were playing soccer. I played my guitar and later prepared by my mother. Everything

**He dived into the water to rescue me!**

were playing volleyball, and others were play-swam across the lake. We ate exquisite meals seemed fine at the moment. The

problem began when my friends decided to play a huge joke on me because it was my birthday. Four of them grabbed me by force to throw me in the lake. They had forgotten that I did not know how to swim. They carried me to a high area by the lake and then dropped me into the water. To them, it was only a joke. Unfortunately, when I fell in the water my head hit a rock and my shorts got stuck to something in the water.

I never figured out what it was because everything seemed dark. I was terrified and desperate. I didn't know what to do; I thought I was going to die that same day. I was inside the water for about two and a half minutes. Luckily for me, one of my friends, named David, got worried because I had been under the water for too long. He dived into the water to rescue me. I will never forget that day because for a moment I thought I was going to die: drowned in the lake. Just thinking about it now terrifies me.

In conclusion, it was the most frightening experience I had in my life. It was terrible. I will never forget this incident. I learned never to fool around water or terrible things might occur. Also, I learnt to listen to the advice my father gives me. Thanks to God and my friend David, I didn't drown and now I can live life to the fullest.





## A Frightening Day

Maydelin Perez, L2

Prof. A. Addy

Every day in life, we have to face obstacles and eventually overcome them. For instance, I had an unforgettable experience and at the same time it was frightening. The most frightening day for me was the day I left Cuba. That was a very

**I was so nervous and tears kept running down my face.**

scary day for me and it left me with great pain in my heart and my eyes filled with tears. It was the first time I was traveling alone and I was filled with uncertainty of my future. Traveling alone for me was a great challenge. I had to act in maturity and do

things on my own without depending on my parents.

May 11, 2014 was the day that my life changed completely. That was the day I was coming to the United States. In the morning, my parents, sister, nephew and I took a bus heading to the airport in Havana. As we were getting closer to the airport, my family en-

couraged me and tried to give me “positive energy” even though we all knew how frightening it would be for an indefinite period.

At last, we arrived at the airport. First, I went to the window to verify my flight. Second, I sat down to fill out an immigration form. Then once I had everything in order to travel, I had to wait for the terrifying moment when I

had to leave my family behind and start a new life. I still had another hour to be with my family before I boarded the plane, so I decided to go outside where my family was. Soon it was time to leave! I said goodbye to everyone with tears in my eyes, but I was hoping to see them again as soon as possible.

The flight was at 3pm. I was so

nervous and tears kept running down my face. Everything that happened was totally new and different for me, but I knew that eventually my nerves would calm down. It was 6 o’clock in the evening when we arrived at the airport in Newark, New Jersey, and I had passed through immigration with no issues. It was a great relief!

Finally, I had arrived in the





United States. Outside, my husband was waiting for me with balloons and flowers. When I saw him smiling, I felt more relaxed, but of course, I still felt frightened. I had been on the plane for hours without speaking a word.

Everything that happens leaves us with a lesson. With this frightening journey, I learned that there are difficult, but not impossible things. I learned that if we have confidence we can achieve our goals and our dreams. Also, the most important thing that I learned is that the family needs to be able to tell one another, day by day, how important they are to be happy.

**Everything that happens leaves us with a lesson.**

## Locked In

Ghada Kamel, L2

Prof. L. Miller

One week ago, while my two-year old son and I were at home alone, my husband was working. We were very hungry, so I was cooking in the kitchen, and my son was playing in his room. His room is in front of the kitchen, so I was watching him all the time.

Suddenly, my son closed his room's door. At the beginning, I didn't know that he also locked the door from inside. I thought it was just closed, so I didn't pay attention for a while. I just made sure that he was fine and playing with his toys. After I finished preparing food, I wanted to feed him, so I tried to open the door, but it didn't open. I realized that my young son was stuck in his room alone. I became so worried because his room has a big window, and it was open. When my son felt that he was alone, he started to cry and scream. He asked me, "mommy out, mommy out." I was running around

the house like crazy. I didn't know what I should do, or who I could call, the police or my husband. I called my husband, but he told me he was very far from home. I tried to explain to my son how to open the lock, but he didn't understand me because he is too young. After that, I tried to collect my thoughts to help him. First, I tried to keep him calm. I gave him a cellphone under the door with a cartoon which he likes, so he started to be quiet. Then I took all the tools that we have and tried to choose which one I should use. Finally, I found the right one, and I opened the door to find my son so happy with the cartoon. He was in a different world with mickey mouse. I hugged him for ten minutes.

Then, I started to cry, and I stayed on the floor because I couldn't move my feet for a

while. I just was thanking God for helping me and keeping my son safe.

From this experience, I realized how much I adore my beautiful son, how small and weak he is, and how much he needs me all the time to watch him to keep him safe. This is my first and lovely job. I also learned that if something bad happens, I must stay calm to find the suitable solution quickly.





## My Terrible Travel Experience

Sameerah Razooqi, L2

Prof. L. Miller

In 2012, my son was going to have heart surgery at the American University hospital in Lebanon. At that time, I was living in the United States. I wanted to be with my son when he had the surgery, so I needed to have a travel document because I did not have a passport. I applied to the Immigration Office, and my lawyer helped me to get a travel document.

My daughter and I made flight reservations. On the day we traveled, we got up early, and we took a taxi to the airport in New York. The flight had to stop in Frankfurt. We stayed in Frankfurt for two hours until another plane arrived. We boarded the new plane, and after five minutes, they asked us to leave. Finally, we took another plane and reached Lebanon Airport at night.

and begged them to let us see my son who was waiting outside. They were so cruel and refused to let us in. They returned our baggage into the same airplane, and we were obliged to leave Lebanon and fly back to New York. We were very disappointed and tired. I did not see my son. He had open heart surgery, and I wasn't with him. Fortunately, the surgery was successful, and he recovered well.

As soon as we entered the airport, they told us to go to the Immigration Office. When we got to the Immigration Office, the staff member told us to go back to the airplane and return to the United States because our travel documents were not passports. We were very exhausted. We cried a lot

All in all, I learned a lesson. I should be sure to get a passport when I travel to another country. People need to know the immigration policies of the country where they would like to go. Sometimes we learn lessons the hard way.

**The only person you are destined to become is.... the person you decide to be.**

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



## A Few of My Favorite Activities

### My Favorite Hobbies

Mariam Nasralla, L2

Prof. S. Bakula

My favorite hobbies are cooking, knitting, woodworking, and listening to music. Each hobby has many benefits to me in different ways.

Firstly, I like to cook Egyptian food. My mother taught me how to cook delicious food. I am cooking many different delicious dishes, such as roasted duck, grilled chicken, vegetable soup, meat balls with red sauce, and grilled salmon with shrimp. I get several benefits from cooking. For example, I get satisfaction from my family and my friends because all of them like to eat my delicious food, and this makes me happy. Moreover, I am earning a lot of money from cooking because I sell many different dishes to my friends who do not have time to cook.

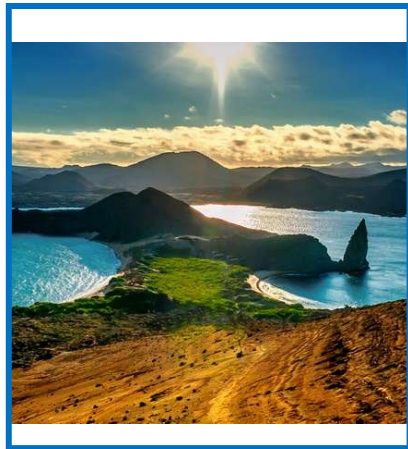
In addition, I like to knit. My mother taught me knitting. I love to knit in my free time and I can make gloves, scarves, hats, and sweaters with nice different colors. It is a great feeling to wear something made by your own hands. Knitting is very beneficial to me because it teaches me to be patient and focus.

Another interesting hobby is woodworking. It is hard to work in wood, but my brother taught me how to use the tools and how to choose the wood materials. I can make a small jewelry box, a wood cross, and a picture frame. However, here in the U.S I am not practicing this hobby because I do not know any places for wood working and tools. I used to sell my work products to my friends or relatives who prefer hand made products. Also, wood working is very important and useful to my body because it improves the muscles and the small fine motor skills in the hands.

Finally, I love to listen to Arabic music. Om Kalthom is my favorite singer. She is a famous Egyptian singer. I love to listen to music with my husband or alone when I am cooking. I love music very much because it makes me relax and happy.

In conclusion, hobbies are very beneficial to me because they help me to be relaxed and happy. Also, they help me to make a lot of money.





## Galapagos Islands

Gabriela Banda, L2

Prof. S. Caruana

Would you like to visit the smallest islands of Ecuador? Galapagos Islands are one of the most beautiful and incredible places around the world. Most of the people from different countries would like to go there. These islands in Ecuador, are a tourist place, and I can say how impressive they are.

The Galapagos Islands are located in Ecuador. Ecuador has four regions and three of these are joined, but Galapagos is on the right side of them. The Islands were created from a big explosion of volcanic material. It occurred many thousands of years ago, and after a long time this material became a strong and awesome piece of the earth to live in. That is why Galapagos is above sea level. The population of Galapagos is a region of Ecuador with less people living there.

Galapagos is the smallest region of Ecuador, but at the same time the biggest. "ONU" named Galapagos as an ecological place, and now it is a tourist place, too. There we can find a lot of native species of animals and plants such as birds, penguins, peacocks, and all kinds of birds that we can imagine. Also, there are many native plants that make this place really impressive because people can see the different types of trees, many kinds of flowers and their colors. The Lonely George was another important event that happened there. George was a very famous turtle because he was an endangered species. He was very old, and he didn't have babies. He died approximately in 2006. The Ecuadorians were very sad about that news.

Visiting the Galapagos was one of the best places that I have visited. I went when I was 12 years old, and I went with my school friends because it was a final trip of primary school. I travelled on an airplane, and I was there six days. During those days, I visited five nice beaches. Also, I went to "San Cristobal" Island where I saw some dolphins, and it was the best part of the trip for me because I really love those animals. Finally, the last night my friends and I went to buy several gifts for our families, and we spent quality time together.

As a result, I am proud to be an Ecuadorian woman. I think that the Galapagos Islands are a very important phenomenon in my country because I have heard that a lot of people would like to visit those Islands. It means that Ecuador is a tourist country. I love my country and everything in it.





# Technological Advances

## The Invention of Electricity

Saavgel Victoria, L3

Prof. P. Soto

Many decades ago, the ways to do some things were very different in comparison with the present. The invention of electricity brought a lot of changes in the world. There are several key differences between the world before and after the invention of electricity, in terms of lighting systems, cars, and communication technology.

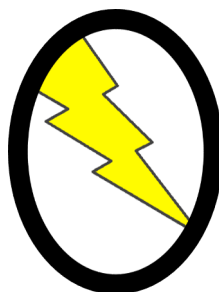
At the present, the lighting systems are totally different than in the past. Before electricity was invented, people used to illuminate their houses with candles and oil lamps. At night, they carried oil lamps to see while walking on the street. At that time, it was very common to make bonfires and campfires. Since the only source of light was fire, there weren't different colors of light, but orange. On the contrary, people nowadays use lightbulbs and electric lamps in their houses. At this time, there are lights of different colors that illuminate the street at night.

Some people use candles as a decoration. They do not carry oil lamps anymore because it is not usually needed. The reason why people prefer to use electric lamps nowadays is that it is less dangerous than using fire. Therefore, electricity has brought a whole new way to create light.

Also, the way that cars work now is nothing like they used to without electricity. Before the electricity, there were cars that worked with carbon and fire, carriages moved by houses, and some carts that worked as bicycles do. They were pulled manually by a person. Nowadays, there are some cars that work with gas and electricity. The new system of cars is a motor that is activated by an electric battery and also it needs gas. Those hybrid cars do not work without the battery, so if there is no electricity, the car doesn't move.

Furthermore, the invention of electricity opened the world of communication. Before the electricity was invented, people used to communicate by letters. The only way to send a message to another person far away was by mail. Also, some people used to send letters with birds. However, the invention of electricity brought several inventions, such as the corded telephone, the television, and the radio, which opened the new world of communication. After these inventions people have been able to communicate with others throughout the world. Other inventions that electricity brought are the computer and the internet, which have been the best way to communicate with the world. In conclusion, the invention of electricity has changed the world dramatically. Thanks to this invention, nowadays, we have better lighting systems, cars, and communication technology. It is obvious that the world is not the same as it was before electricity was invented.

**Electricity is just organized lightning.**  
*George Carlin*







## Life's Hardships



### THE HARD ROAD OF IMMIGRANTS

Damaris Baquerizo, L3

Prof. E. Kozlenko

I immigrated twice in my life, and the first experience was not good at all. When I arrived to Spain, I felt displaced in school because I did not understand Catalan (dialect spoken through Catalonia) and teachers separated me and children from other countries in a class where the professor pretended to teach us the basic concepts in that dialect. The problem came when I was capable of reading and writing correctly Catalan, but the teacher did not want to promote me to the advanced class. I struggled with the teacher because she thought that I needed more time to assimilate the information and why Catalan children are in another level because of their time in learning the dialect. It felt as if she did

**There should be no discrimination against languages people speak, skin color, or religion.**

*Malala Yousafzai*

not want us to join the class. I think she was racist because she looked at us (immigrants) with pejorative

sight; she tried to hide it, but she could not. I think that nowadays there is still a lot of prejudice. For example, I am a Latina and

people of other cultures might think that I am lazy and illiterate. For instance, my uncle is from Spain. He thought that South American people live in the jungle and shows contempt towards South American people, which is ironic because he is married to my aunt, and she is from Ecuador. I feel helpless about this situation because I know that Lati-

nos criticize themselves more than people of other countries. For example, if an Ecuadorian meets a Cuban, and this first person thinks that the Cuban is noisy, he cannot think that the other Cubans are the same as him. In my opinion, we have to stop putting everybody in the same sack, and show respect for each other. Only in this way, we can reach the objective to stop or diminish discrimination and prejudices and achieve that other communities respect us.

When my parents moved to Spain, it was very hard because they spent nearly all their money on the plane tickets, so they were almost penniless. They experienced a very rough time there. Sometimes, they did not have money for food. My parents had to work more than 12 hours per day and share a room with other people. Moreover, they



left me in Ecuador with my grandparents, and they needed to send money for me. On the other hand, they did the jobs that Spaniards did not want although those people discriminated against my parents because they believed that people like my parents stole their jobs, and Spaniards stood out over immigrants. Despite the disdain towards them, my parents wanted to make a living, and they fought for this dream.

Immigrants in the past were very harshly criticized and discriminated. In the case of my parents, they received very rude comments from Spaniards such as ‘You are worth nothing, back to your country, all immigrants are thieves, you are illiterate.’ and more. Spaniards dedicated themselves to insulting immigrants of all countries and treating them in a disrespectful way. They made fun of undocumented people, and in that time, there were regulations about illegal immigration, and people were scared. Additionally, immigrants did the heavy work for less than the minimum wage, and working for more than 12 hours. In other words, labor exploitation. Today, that strong discrimination has been reduced, and Spaniards and immigrants can live together as a united society. Of course there is discrimination from conservative people, but it is a minority. Immigrants now can afford better jobs with the minimum wage and 8 hours; their conditions have improved in the past years. Actually, all immigrants make their contributions in the country. That is because they share their culture and sometimes words of their native language, food and music. Moreover, they pay taxes too, and immigrants as professionals, teach children or create jobs with their businesses. For example, in the last years in Spain, there are more pubs or nightclubs one can here of Latin music such Salsa or Merengue. Another example is my mother’s friend’s husband who opened a grocery store last year, and he hired people to work there. There are many contributions from immigrants.

In conclusion, all the people have had prejudices or have been judged unfairly at least once in their lives. These thoughts cause a separation in our society and puts us against each other. Immigrants do not want to hurt anyone; they just want a better life for them and their children, and they try very hard to achieve it. In the past, there were a lot of discrimination towards people of different cultures and nowadays, the society tries to rectify its mistake through offering various types of opportunities. From my experience, I only been discriminated twice and both of them because of my background, I am a Latina, but this does not mean that I am lazy, illiterate or that I only can afford a factory job. I can learn fast if I set my goals, and I am capable of giving my best and improving myself every day. In brief, I think nobody can judge someone because nobody knows his/her story and background.

## Wishing for a Cafeteria

Sergio Garces, L3

Prof. L. Drew

Currently, the North Hudson Campus of HCCC has a student lounge, but it does not have a cafeteria. Many students would like to have a cafeteria, and HCCC should build one because of several positive effects it could have on students in terms of their time, budget, and comfort.

Firstly, building a cafeteria at HCCC will help students to manage their time well. Without a cafeteria, students have to go outside to purchase food, they often arrive late to their classes. They generally miss some important information from their teachers. However, if there is a cafeteria on campus, students will not need to leave the building to buy some food. As a result, they could avoid coming late to class after the break ends. If they have a place where they can get some food on campus, they will have enough time to return to their classes on time, and they will take better notes without missing any significant information that could help them on





their future tests.

Secondly, a cafeteria at HCCC will be financially beneficial for the institution and its students. Buying food at the HCCC cafeteria could be cheaper than other food stores outside the building, so students will be able to purchase some food by spending less money. Also, HCCC might collect the earned money to invest it in other activities that students are interested in, such as creating sports teams to make them explore their physical skills and to keep themselves healthy. Moreover, with a cafeteria, HCCC may give the students an opportunity to work part-

time and help them to make a little money for their expenses.

The last great effect of having a cafeteria on campus is that it will create a comfortable environment among its students. It might improve the relationship between them. Everyone can go there and they will meet new people, and they could become friends. Also, if the weather conditions are bad outside, they would not need to leave, and it will give them the chance to stay inside the building enjoying a delicious meal. As a result, students will

feel more comfortable at HCCC.

All in all, having a cafeteria at HCCC would be strongly beneficial for all of its students. If HCCC has a cafeteria, it may attract more students to attend this college, and it will help to increase its prestige.

**Whatever good things we build end up building us.**  
*Jim Rohn*





## It's Movie Time

Akshit Patel, L3

Prof. D. Phillips

Tired with daily life routine? Surrounded with stress? Today, these types of questions are very similar because people are very busy in their lifestyles and often looking for a break. In that case, watching a movie is a great option for stress relief. Some people like to watch a movie at home and some people prefer to go to the theater. Watching a movie at home and watching a movie in a movie theater are significantly different from each other in numerous aspects such as environment, cost and level of disturbance.

The most effective difference between watching a movie at home and watching a movie in a movie theater is the environment. The environment makes a movie so effective. In a movie theater, people get lots of services in order to enjoy a movie. In a movie theater, people watch a movie on a bigger screen with great sound effects in a bigger room. On the other hand, at home, people usually don't have big space, special arrangements and tone of lighting. In a movie theater, there are lots of people who are watching the same movie at the same time. It makes the environment friendlier. At home, people watch a movie with family members or several friends. As a result, a movie theater has a more entertaining environment than home in terms of watching a movie.

The other difference between watching a movie at home and watching a movie in a movie theater is their cost. At home, once people buy a movie CD or buy a movie online, they don't have to pay for it a second time if they want to watch it again. In a movie theater, costs are different. They charge people for the movie including taxes. The costs of beverages and food are extremely high. At home, people can make their own food and beverages which cost them a little less. In summary, watching a movie at a home is less expensive than watching a movie at a movie theater.

At last, the third difference between watching a movie in a movie theater and watching a movie at home is disturbance. In a movie theater, people watch a movie with different groups of people. Some of them are very disrespectful and misbehave. They disturb people with their loud conversation and different noises. At home, people can watch a movie more comfortably and more peacefully without noise and with less disturbance. In a movie theater, the movie time is fixed. In emergencies, people have to leave the movie uncompleted. At home, people can pause the movie and after completing their extra work and handling the emergencies, they can continue the movie whenever they want.

Although watching a movie at home and watching a movie in a movie theater are different experiences, either is a good stress relief. There are many differences between them but both, watching a movie at home and watching a movie in a movie theater, give people a memorable and entertaining experience which helps them to survive in a modern robotic life. So, always take a break and watch a movie.

**Cinema is universal,  
beyond flags  
and borders and  
passports.**

**Alejandro Gonzalez  
Inarritu**







# Ways to Travel

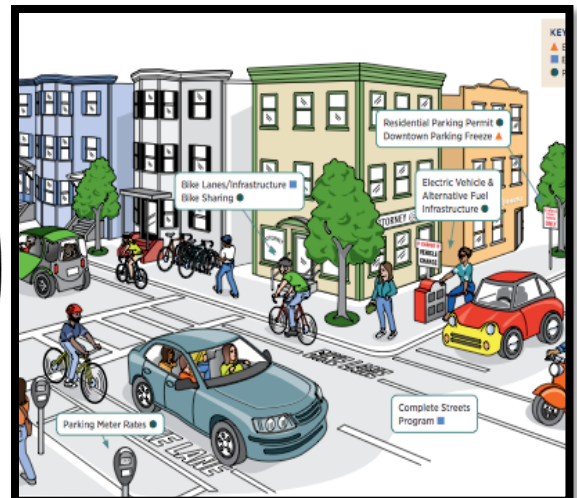
## Differences Between People's Transportation

Liliana Macavilca, L3

Prof. D. Phillips

Nowadays, most people follow the same routine on workdays like waking up early, having a fast breakfast, taking the bus to go to study or driving a car to go to work. The important role of transportation in people's lives is evident. Some own a car and others use public transportation, but these two ways are important for people's activities. Although owning a car and using public transportation are important for people, these ways of transportation are very different. There are three principal differences between them: the time people spend, the money they spend, and the social interaction they can experience.

First, the time people spend on the road when they own a car is not equal to the time people spend using public transportation. People who own a car are more likely to spend more time in traffic, especially in rush hour. On the other hand, people who use public transportation are more likely to avoid traffic. The difference is mainly because the buses follow a route that most of the time does not have busy streets, and the traffic is fluid. Trains, another form of public transportation, have their own alternative routes, while cars have to go through busy streets and avenues. On the other hand, people who own a car can go anywhere at any time they have to, while people who use public transportation cannot do that. Owning a car allows people to control their time for their activities. This is not the same for people who use public transportation because buses and trains have a fixed schedule every day. In this case, people who own a car have an advantage over people who use public transportation. In short, owning a car can save time in one way and using public transportation can help save time for people in another way.







A second difference between owning a car and using public transportation is the money that people spend. People who own a car have to pay for the car every month. It is not common that people pay for the car all at once. Most people pay for the car over two-to-five years, and there is a payment that people make each month, whereas using public transportation allows people to buy a pass each month, but the cost is not as expensive as the cost to buy a car. Moreover, people who own a car have to pay for additional services. The insurance and gasoline are some of the services that are required when people own a car. On the other hand, using public transportation does not require any additional service. In short, using public transportation is not as expensive as owning a car because there are not extra services to pay for.

The last difference between owning a car and using public transportation is the social interaction of people. People who own a car can have more privacy. Some people consider privacy as an elemental point in deciding to own a car because they can have their own space, and they can use all the space of the car. This allows people who drive to go out more than people who use public transportation. People who use public transportation cannot take more than one seat, and it is uncomfortable to bring big things or heavy things. In addition, people who own a car can go out with family or friends. The space of their own car allows people to share more moments with their family or friends, while people who use public transportation cannot have good moments with their company. Sometimes buses and trains are too busy and people have to sit so far from their family or friends. In summary, people who own use public transportation cannot feel as comfortable with their company as people who own a car.

In conclusion, owning a car is different from using public transportation. There are three different aspects: time, money, and social interaction. Some people cannot decide which of them is better. Both have advantages and disadvantages. It all depends on each person and their activities. Which do you prefer?

## Two Ways We Travel

### Mariam Mosaad, L3

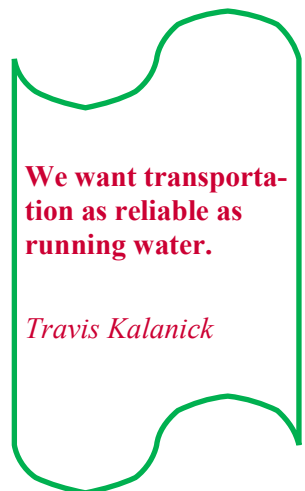
Transportation is very important to everyone to go to work, to school, or to go shopping. Some people prefer to own a car, but others prefer to use public transportation. There are three differences between owning a car and using public transportation.

Cost is one of the differences between owning a car and using public transportation. Driving a car isn't cheap because people have to pay a lot for maintenance, insurance and gas. On the other hand, people pay monthly to use public transportation, or they pay whenever they use it. One case when driving a car is

cheaper than taking public transportation is going on a vacation because people can drive to the destination such as Florida or Maryland. While it is expensive to take public transportation to travel, it is cheaper to use a car. If people travel using public transportation, they will have to use different forms of transportation, such as a bus and train.

Owning a car is a different situation. People will pay only for gas and tolls, which most of the time is cheaper than using public transportation, especially when more than two family members are travelling together.

### Prof. D. Phillips





Time is another difference between owning a car and using public transportation. People have to check the schedule of the bus they are going to use, for sometimes it changes due to circumstances like snowstorms or traffic. Most of the time, people must leave home very early like one hour before their arrival time at work or school in order to make sure they arrive on time. They will have to walk to the nearest bus stop then they will have to wait for the bus. All of that takes long time so that's why they have to leave home early. However, people who own cars can probably leave home 30 minutes before their arrival time. They just turn the car on, and go to their destination. Driving a car clearly saves more time than taking public transportation.

The final difference between owning a car and using public transportation is the convenience. Sometimes people receive an invitation to a very distant city. If they use public transportation to go this event, they will have to check which public transportation to use, the schedule, and maybe they will have to walk a little bit to arrive at this place. Owning a car makes going to this event very easy. All they have to do is to put the address into the GPS and drive to the distant location. More routinely, when people go shopping and want to buy a lot of home essentials like food, snacks, tissues or paper towels, owning a car is more convenient than taking public transportation. People who use public transportation cannot carry a lot of things that are big and heavy. It is more convenient for people to put whatever they buy in the trunk of the car.

In conclusion, time, cost and convenience are three main differences between owning a car and using public transportation. It is clear that owning a car is better than using public transportation. Not only do cars save money, but they also save time and provide more convenience than using public transportation.





# Free Speech

## Profanity: A Self-Expression

Genevieve Berinyuy, L4

Prof. C. Persaud

Everyone has the right to freedom of speech, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. When people are born, each person comes with his or her own differences. The fact that people have different characteristics, especially in language and manner of expressing their pain or joy is what makes the World an interesting place. People should not be penalized for using profane language in public because everyone has the right to exercise freedom of speech, experience the disparity between humans, and be exposed to new ideas.

One, of the major important reasons why people should not be punished for using profane language in public stems from freedom of speech. The right to free speech is guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. People should be given the opportunity to express their feelings and voice out their pains in any form, even in public. Many people have different ways of expressing their joys and pains. Some people prefer to cry their pains out in an isolated corner and this makes them feel alright. If other people decide to shout their problems out and it gives them comfort, there should be no reason for them to be punished. Other people might think that the habit of self-expression, serve as a distraction to the public. However, recreational areas such as parks are built with the primary of aim of giving each citizen the right to be able to do whatever they want. Hence, people should not be expected to pay fines or be punished for doing what they like in a free area. Also, with freedom of speech, the communities become more interesting as people would be allowed to bring out their ideas to the open without the fear of being arrested or having to pay money, which could serve other important purposes to them.

Another, important reason why people should not be penalized for swearing in public is due to the disparity that exists between humans. When people are born to the world, they are made to understand that it does not hurt to be different because those are some of the traits that make them unique. For instance, some people are known to be garrulous, as a result they can express themselves by voicing out whatever comes to their mind without reasoning. Such people cannot be condemned for their talkative nature because that is what makes them different. Also, there are some people born with communication disabilities such as autism. Such patients have difficulties in transmitting messages to normal people. This is because their brains do not permit them to process information well. To that effect, they speak at random regardless of the fact that it might hurt another person. Although, being in such a condition does not permit someone to use obscene languages on others, it is still important to give such people the opportunity to air-out their minds than punish them for their flaws.

Finally, people should not be penalized for using obscene languages because it exposes people to new ideas. Some people might say that people who make use of vulgar language are probably crazy. But, one thing they fail to understand is that everyone opens their mouth to voice out a word for a reason. Hence, some of the people who use of profane language speak with a purpose as well. Their aim might be to inform, educate, or probably send out a message. Some of them do this in order to gain people's attention maybe because they have no one express themselves to. Also, most people that use profane language might be uneducated. To that effect, they grow up having the impression that there is absolutely no problem speaking in an explicit manner.



Moreover, if their economic status did not permit them to be educated, they should not be punished for something which was not their fault.

The opponents of this argument may claim that people should be penalized for using profane language in public because it is inappropriate and makes people feel uncomfortable. This might be true to a certain degree. However, people should not be penalized for using profane language in public because according to the First Amendment, people should have the freedom of speech and the right to express themselves.

In summary, people should not be castigated for using obscene language in public because everyone ought to be free to speak, express their opinions and because of the differences between humans. It would help make the world a better and more interesting place if people could accept others by not judging their manner of expression.

## Educational Choices

### Community Colleges and Four Year Colleges

Soumia Kaouadji, L4

Prof. S. Jesmin

Education is very important in students' lives, especially these days. Most parents want their children to get a better education. Some students prefer to study at community colleges, but other students prefer universities to get a better diploma. Although community colleges and universities are similar, there are several real differences between them in terms of cost, size class, and academic resources.

First of all, cost is one of the differences between community college and four-year college. Students choose to study at community college because it is cheaper than a four-year college. According to the American Association of Education of community colleges, the average tuition was \$3,500 during 2015 academic year. However, the average of four-year college was \$8,000. Students who cannot pay their tuition choose studying at community college because it is the cheapest one. In addition, some students don't have to study and choose a cheap tuition to attend a college. However, students who can pay for their tuition and have enough money can study and attend universities.

Another difference between community college and four-year college is class size. Community college has a small size class, and it often has twenty students. However, universities often have a larger auditorium, and it has hundreds of students. In addition, at community college teachers can explain more and more if the student doesn't understand. In contrast, instructors at universities just explain one time, and student has to take notes because of the number of students. If students don't understand when the instructor explains, they have to do many researches to understand. In addition, teachers at community college know the weaknesses and the strengths of their student. For example, when a student doesn't have a good grade in the exam, the teacher asks his/her student why he received a bad grade. In this case, the teacher can give advice to his/her student to get a good grade in the final exam. In the other hand, instructors at universities don't have these strategies because of the number of students. They don't remember which student has a bad grade, and they cannot explain to each student when they don't have a good grade. The last difference between community college and universi-





ty is academic resources .Community college has a few academic resources like a library and computer laboratories. Students who want to do their researches don't find what they need. For example, my friend, Alia, has a presentation to do, and it is a difficult topic. The topic talk about the original history of her country, so she doesn't find the book of her research. Community college sometimes doesn't have a lot of books. However, there are a lot of books in different majors and specialties, such as Geography, Medicine, and History. In addition, community college doesn't have many computer labs. Sometimes when students come to the computer lab they don't find a seat. The student has to wait for free seat. For example, at 12.00PM, all computers aren't available because that is the time when students finish the morning class. They go directly to the computer lab. On the other hand, students at university have a lot of free computer seats.

To sum up, community colleges and universities both are important to students' lives. There are several important differences between community colleges and universities including cost, class size, and academic resources. Students have to choose the better place to get better knowledge and a diploma.



## Hudson County Community College



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The mission of Hudson County Community College is to provide high quality educational opportunities that promote student success and are accessible, comprehensive, and learning centered.



## Closing Remarks

*The editors of Diversity (Shannonine M. Caruana and Maria Schirta) would like to dedicate this edition to our lost and past colleagues: Dean Pam Bandyopadhyay, Kitty Mazarella, Elena Nehrebecki, and Johanna van Gendt.*

*These colleagues devoted their knowledge to make the ESL program strong and vital. They will continue to be an inspiration to the program and its goals of preparing second language learners to the American culture and the option to pursue an academic career in the United States.*