**ABC Project**

**Part 1**: **Autobiographical Analysis**

Working in class, you will compose an **autobiographical analysis** (3-4 pages) of your cultural history and education. You may analyze experiences related to family structure, ethnic background, religious and cultural traditions, schooling, socioeconomic status, recreational involvement, achievements, and setbacks.

The paper should analyze three aspects of your life: 1) the impact of inherited or environmental influences, 2) the importance of perspectives developed through personal choice, and 3) a description of your trajectory at this point.

The purpose of this task is to become aware of your personal beliefs and attitudes, setting the stage for learning about another person’s life story. Pay close attention to the ways your experiences influence the way you understand “normal” and “abnormal” behavior in society.

It is important to be as honest and descriptive as possible, but *you are not obligated to divulge all aspects of your personal life*. If you feel that the information you are writing about is too sensitive to share, let me know and we can work out a way for you to fulfill the assignment and still feel safe.

**Due: Monday, November 24**

Example of Paper Introduction

My Three Worlds

When I was growing up, I felt like I lived in three separate worlds. There was the world at school, where my peers were competitive, smart, Ivy League-bound overachievers. There was my rough-and-tumble working class neighborhood, where we played baseball and soccer in the street, formed treehouse clubs, and slid down steep hills on cardboard boxes. And there was my church group, filled with girls who wanted to go the mall, paint nails, and play Truth or Dare at sleepovers. These three worlds almost never overlapped, but I moved between them every day, feeling a little bit like an outsider in each place. This constant switching made me a little shy but also wiser. I learned to be tolerant of differences and to fit in and get along wherever I went.

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|  | **Superior: 20-19** | **Good: 18-16** | **Developing: 15-14** | **Not Yet: 13-10** |
| **Ideas** | Your paper demonstrates an unusual depth of understanding into how your life experiences have shaped your perspective. | Your paper is focused on important events or themes from your life that have shaped your perspective. | Your paper is about your life but focuses only on events rather than showing how they shape your perspective. | Your paper does not address the assignment. |
| **Organization** | You demonstrate control and sophistication in organizing ideas to make a point. Your introduction is catchy and compelling. Your body paragraphs transition smoothly. Your conclusion highlights the significance of your insights. | Your paper has clear introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs, with clear topic sentences introducing each body paragraph. | Your paper exhibits rudimentary organization, but it is at times random or disjointed. | The paper lacks organization and cohesion. |
| **Support** | You develop your ideas thoroughly, presenting abundant, convincing evidence from your life of how key experiences have shaped your perspective. | You provide adequate supporting examples from your life to show your perspective. | Your paper provides some examples from your life experience, but they are either not sufficient or you do not show how they influenced your perspective | You do not present examples from your life. |
| **Presentation** | Your paper is free of grammar and convention errors. You demonstrate control and sophistication in making linguistic and stylistic choices. | Your writing is generally smooth and free of grammar or convention errors. | There are occasional distractions because of convention errors or awkward language use. | Error-ridden language often distracts from your point. |