

Alexandra Membreno

Ms. Funderburk

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My Personal Literacy

As I was reading Mother Tongue by Amy Tan, I could relate to that story. I'm a naive speaker I know two languages which are Spanish and English. Spanish was my first language I learned at home since my family, and I are hispanic. My parents came from El Salvador and came here with my older sister which at the time she was a baby and then they had me here in USA.

My background is different from everyone else, and I learned at a very young age I was different from my classmates even though that didn't bother me since I still got along with them. When I started going to school I learned English very quickly in all different aspect reading and writing I don't remember much when I was little in school wise but I knew my favorite thing was to read books at the library I would read the book in my mind instead of reading out loud. The more years past and the older I got I started to notice that I would confuse my English and Spanish.

I would have a code switch in my writing and speaking. My friends would also laugh the way I would speak and confuse words in both languages they would always tell me that it sounded that I had accent in the way I talked in English like I can speak it good and clear which was something that I never notice in high school.

Something I also learned that I wasn't the biggest fan of reading out loud my essay in front of my classroom or reading out loud when we reading story as a class whole because I felt like my English sounded weird and I felt like I would mess up my words or Sutter too much. But at the end of the day, it's just my mind playing with me.

Growing up with other students I felt like people saw me different like I would get weird faces or dirty looks at times or the food I would bring from home was different from what everyone is used to eating I would bring my culture food which is pupusas , quesadillas , tocos , and other Hispanic food kind .

At home it was different since we all speak Spanish or English at times with my parents, I mostly speak Spanish with my parents and with my siblings we speak English. Having a different background is nice because it's something that makes each person unique to one another because one of the challenges I had to face or breakthroughs I had to overcome in school and life in general is translating for my parents when they didn't understand something. In academic wise I was more confident in my work and assignment but mostly in my writings and doing my essay, since when I was in 5 and 6th grade my language art teacher would always say I had to do better

and that I had to elaborate more of work. Until one day I finally got a 90 on my essay and she was proud of me because she knew I struggled but she knew I was going to overcome that challenge.

One of my favorite memories was reading “The Outsiders” it was a book I felt connected to that I had to get a copy of my own and it was all in that one year in 6th grade that shaped my writing and reading a lot since that was something that our teacher wanted to teach us and to read out our essay to the classmates and they would give us back feedback of our writing which was something that helped me but made me nervous at times .

But overall, I think my literacy has improved over time. I now know how to manage both languages maybe there will be times when some mistakes will happen but it’s not as bad as it used to be back then in middle school and it’s something I learned about myself and since it’s my senior year overall I can say it has been a long journey but all of these small things have been something that shaped me into who I’m today. I want others to know that being different and unique is something special because I believe in God. One thing I learned is that we all have purpose in this world no one comes into this world without a purpose and weather writing and reading it’s something we use one the daily bases it’s something that shape us because it’s something that connects with those around us our friends, family, and love ones .