

October 27, 2006

Humanities

Entry #4: Influential People


I never thought about the influential people I had in my life. But once I sat down to write this paper, I realized that I have a lot of people who have an influence on me. There are a lot of people in my family that are doing good in terms of education. I mean they didn't graduate from high school at the top of their class, and go to college on scholarships. They did what was expected and accepted of them at that time which was graduating from high school. But as I think more and more about this topic, I realize that the people in my family who have an influence on me are the ones who have not only graduated from high school, but went above and beyond and went to college. For instance, two people that have had an influence are my two cousins Tamara and Terrell. Like the rest of my family they also graduated from high school. But they took that extra step and went to college. Tamara went to Temple, and Terrell went to John Jay right here in the city. Since they are brother and sister, they were never forced to go to college; they made that choice to go since they knew it would better them. Tamara has graduated and now works as a middle school girl's basketball coach, and for the New Jersey Nets. Terrell has also graduated and is now attending Jackson State University. Another person that has had an influence on my life is my half sister Latisha. Even though we're not close at all, I still admire her for what she's doing academically. Last year in her junior year, she had all her credits. Since she had all her credits it was possible for her to opt out of her senior year. She decided that she wanted to enjoy her senior year like a regular

senior, and would go to school full time. She is now in the middle of deciding what college she wants to go to. She already has multiple schools begging her to come to their school, such as Spellman, which is one of the top schools on my list. These are main people who have somewhat influenced my life and the person I am today.

October 23, 2006

Humanities

Entry 3: In today s Metro



Today I picked up the free metro to read on the train. I found a lot of interesting articles in there that I haven't seen in the news lately. One article that caught my eye was the cover story, which was talking about the U.S. reaching a population high of 300 million. While I was reading this article, my uncle asked me what I thought the gender of the 300<sup>th</sup> million American would be, and where it would be born. I took a random guess and said that it would be a black female, born in New York City. As I continued reading I realized that it was the total opposite. It turned out to be a Hispanic male, born in Los Angeles County, California. I was surprised because I was sure that it would be a girl. I have always heard that there are more girls in the world than boys. I guess I was wrong. As I read on I found out that Los Angeles County produces the most babies in all of the country. The majority of Los Angeles County's population is Hispanic males. I never thought that Los Angeles County would produce the most babies in all of America. I always thought that it would be in one of those hill-billy states like Alabama, or Kentucky. Since they are area always having six and seven kids. Also as I was reading this article I learned that Los Angeles County is one of the over populated cities in the country. As I read on I also learned that it was over populated with Hispanic men. I found this interesting because Los Angeles County is one of the over populate cities in the country but it is also a city that is in poverty. Most families in Los Angeles County are

just barely getting by . I learned all these things about Los Angeles County, and  
America s population from today s Metro.



October 23, 2006

8

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Entry 3: In today's Metro

Today I picked up the free metro to read on the train. I found a lot of interesting articles ~~in there~~ that I haven't seen in the news lately. One article that caught my eye was the cover story, which was talking about the U.S. reaching a population high of 300 million. While I was reading this article, my uncle asked me what I thought the gender of the 300<sup>th</sup> million American would be, and where it would be born. I took a random guess and said that it would be a black female, born in New York City. As I continued reading, I realized that it was the total opposite. It turned out to be a Hispanic male, born in Los Angeles County, California. I was surprised because I was sure that it would be a girl. I have always heard that there are more girls in the world than boys. I guess I was wrong. As I read on I found out that Los Angeles County produces the most babies in all of the country. The majority of Los Angeles County's population is Hispanic males. I never thought that Los Angeles County would produce the most babies in all of America. I always thought that it would be in one of those "hill-billy" states like Alabama, or Kentucky, Since <sup>their</sup> ~~they are~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ always having six <sup>or</sup> ~~and~~ seven kids. I chose to write about this article because it was something that really interested <sup>me</sup> ~~me~~. ~~Something that interested me~~ when I read this article was the graphs they had. It had about 3-4 different pictures of the United States. They were each color-coded with a different color representing a different race. Even though all the colors were very similar, it made me think about America today, and how I look at it. To tell you the truth, the graphs were the only reasons I

does not flow here.

~~bothered to read the article. I was surprised how much information you could find in~~  
~~today's free Metro.~~

this is a free write -

not a revised, polished piece.

You need to take from this one or two  
seed ideas & expand/develop them.

Also while I was reading this article  
I learned that Los Angeles County is one  
of the m

Writer's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 10/25/0

## Peer Revision and Reflection

### Part One

**Directions:** Read your partner's paper twice. The first time, read for understanding and do not mark anything on the paper. The second time, make edits if you see errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar. Then, evaluate the paper and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1= not at all    2= kindof; some of the time    3=most of the time    4=absolutely; all of the time

#### 1. SKILL: Choosing a good idea to write about.

- |   |   |     |   |     |
|---|---|-----|---|-----|
| • Is the idea highly important to the writer? | 1 | (2) | 3 | 4   |
| • Is the idea controversial in any way?       | 1 | 2   | 3 | (4) |
| • Is this idea highly personal to the writer? | 1 | (2) | 3 | 4   |

#### 2. SKILL: Developing your idea.

- |   |              |   |   |     |
|---|--------------|---|---|-----|
| • Is there evidence that the writer used the guiding questions to develop the idea?   | 1            | 2 | 3 | (4) |
| • If not, does the person need to use the guiding questions to develop the idea more? | <del>1</del> | 2 | 3 | (4) |

#### 3. SKILL: Focusing your idea.

- |  |   |   |   |     |
|--|---|---|---|-----|
| • Does the writer stick to one main idea?                                      | 1 | 2 | 3 | (4) |
| • Does the writer avoid tangential statements that may be off topic or random? | 1 | 2 | 3 | (4) |

#### 4. SKILL: Writing sentences with details, instead of empty, general statements.

- |   |   |   |     |     |
|---|---|---|-----|-----|
| • Did the writer eliminate empty, general statements?                         | 1 | 2 | 3   | (4) |
| • Does the writer have specific details in the majority Of his/her sentences? | 1 | 2 | (3) | 4   |

#### SKILL: Eliminating run-ons and fragments.

- |  |   |     |     |   |
|--|---|-----|-----|---|
| • Did the writer eliminate every single run-on?  | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4 |
| • Did the write eliminate every single fragment? | 1 | 2   | (3) | 4 |

Which skill is this student's biggest STRENGTH and why?

your biggest strength is writing your opinion.

Which skill is this student's biggest WEAKNESS and why?

your biggest weakness is grammar cause you miss words and sometimes have run ons.

## Part Two

**Directions:** Skim over the writer's entry once more. This time, underline any sentences that lack specific details. Choose one of those sentences and, using the space below, rewrite that sentence to eliminate the general, vague parts and instead include more specific details. It's okay if you have to infer some details or make them up. Your sentences will be an example for how the writer can further revise them.

1. since their area is always having about six or seven kids at a time.

Now underline a run-on or fragment in the author's work and rewrite that sentence correctly below, using one of the "quick-fix strategies" we discussed in class.

1. I guess that I was wrong because it was a hispanic boy in Los Angeles County, California.

## Part Three:

**Directions:** Start a fresh page in your OWN writer's notebook and title it "Peer Revision Reflection." Write a full paragraph in response to the following questions:

- What can I learn from my partner's writing skills that I can use or apply in my own writing? Be specific.