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English 11000
Dr. Wiggins
9/29/2022

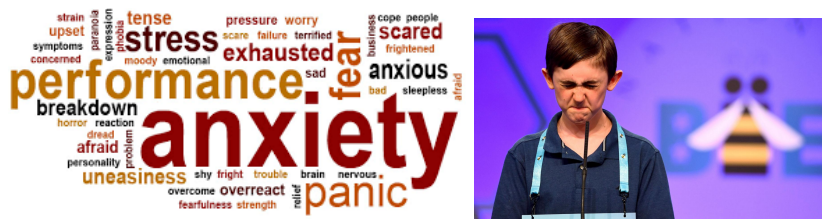
WLLN Cover Letter
"G-O-H-S-T."

In the narrative I am addressing my classmates and instructor and whoever may find themselves reading this. Throughout this paper I've tried to be as transparent as possible to give my reader a better understanding of the reasons behind the words. After writing this assignment I've revised and improved my organization of thoughts into writing. This is something I need more practice with. Continuing to write will help me understand my strengths and weaknesses as a writer. The rhetorical situation worksheets taught me to better analyze writing pieces in order to better grasp the author's intention with their writing. It brings another level of depth to what you absorb from the writing. With the greater detail provided it allows me to apply what I'm learning to my writing. After reading "Mother Tongue" by Amy Tan and June's work I've learned a lot about how our ideals and attitudes towards linguistic standards can empower and oppress people's use of language. A part of Amy's work that shows this would be her mother whose second language is English and her experience at the hospital when the hospital wouldn't help Amy's mother with missing medical reports. In June's piece she teaches her students Black English this becomes part of her students' identities and it empowers them as a people. When they need to communicate their frustration about the unjust killing of Willie's brother they are faced with a choice to communicate that message through what they identify with or what the killers identify with and this is a clear image of how societal standards affect the use of language. My main message to my reader is the effects of anxiety on us. And how our fears find their way into our

lives. I believe that fear has a large effect on our use of language and that we should speak more about what we are scared of. I believe that when we talk about what we are scared of we build a tolerance to that fear.

Three Media to support narrative

<https://youtu.be/zgPGDCvNUhM>



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Language and Literacy Final draft
"G-O-H-S-T."

My first memories of anxiety began when I first started elementary school, ever since anxiety has been an obstacle for me. Its manifestation can be seen in many different parts of my life. Some examples being my relationships, the way anxiety makes me think or act, my use and perception of language, and it's control over my weaknesses or insecurities. This led to me as a teen choosing to make anxiety the center of my world in avoidance of the uncomfortable. Most of the actions I took in my everyday life were derived from fear. Something I've learned is to take responsibility for the things I find myself avoiding and act on it.

I am proud of who I've become and I am ready to let the real me manifest himself into a strong and healthy person. The introduction to college has opened my world to something new and given me the opportunity. Looking towards my future and who I am becoming I can begin to make sense of my past experience with anxiety. I can remember being confused as to why I felt sick to my stomach so often. To the young child I was, it felt that this feeling came at random. I soon realized there was a pattern to my unexplainable sickness. Every time I was separated from my family and home my body would make it known to my mind that something was wrong. I tried my best to avoid leaving my comfort zone but life kept moving, school became more and more important, and hiding at home wasn't going to work.

Now that I better understand myself it's time to understand how my fears influenced my language and interpretation of words. My life as a student has always been all over the place. There were moments where I showed good progress and others where I seemed to have lost all motivation to try. So how did my fears find its place in my education? Well it began with me learning to read, write, and most importantly understand what we are reading and writing. Learning to write was a stressful thing for me to do. It wasn't necessarily the material that made it hard but what it meant to learn such an important skill. I naturally felt pressured and I wasn't necessarily prepared to deal with it in a healthy way. Not knowing how to deal with the pressure put a gap between me and my peers further distancing me from what made me, me.

I want to go back to my fourth grade English class. Every Friday my class would have a spelling bee. Out of all the spelling bees held I participated only once because once was enough for me to be absolutely certain I never wanted to participate again. To me my anxieties outweighed the benefits of participating. Every Friday my English class of twenty or so kids would line up underneath the black boards at the front of the room in preparation for the spelling bee. To me the preparation was like torture every step filled with anticipation for what was to come. I pictured myself failing in my head and it playing on repeat. As the teacher moved down the line giving each student their word to spell I watched my peers closely thinking about how I will appear when my turn comes. Soon enough it was my turn. The word was "G-H-O-S-T." There was a brief pause in my anxious thoughts. I knew this word and had studied it the night before but the pressure from the spotlight was growing. In the back of my mind I knew the answer but navigating this storm in my head was another test itself.

I stood there in line pretending to be thinking of my answer but I was really trying to decide if I was going to fight the storm in my head to find the right answer. My stomach was turning and I stopped breathing I could feel myself losing control at this point. I had become more concerned with my appearance than my answer and in my head. I was failing to stay “normal” so in an attempt to get out of the spotlight and these horrible feelings I blurted out my unfinished answer “G-O-H-S-T.” After giving the wrong answer the class laughed and others taunted me. I can remember feeling defeated by myself at that moment. To this day I avoid spelling in front of people and often make spelling errors in my everyday writing. It is one of my many weaknesses. Recently I've wanted to change that.

It has become my mission to find myself and my confidence and fight back my anxieties in order to become the real me. Reading “*Mother Tongue*” by Amy Tan showed that a person can not be defined by the proficiency of their language. Learning to be patient with yourself and those around you is the best way to overcome the difficulty of language barriers. Amy Tan's short story showed me that I need to be patient with my writing in order to better organize my thoughts into relatable literature. I may not be perfect but each day I move towards a better version of me.

Dear Luigi,

Good job! This is much improved over the rough draft. Don't be afraid to express your thoughts completely (e.g., how you will accomplish a goal, why your fear has gripped you for so long).

Additionally, your cover letter was a bit lacking. Push your writing so that it looks more the final draft of your narrative.

Overall Grade: B