

English 12 Original Composition

Scale Point: 5 Comment

This paper was awarded a 5 because it is a well-developed and organized composition. There is thoughtful discussion. Sentence structure is varied and the vocabulary is well chosen and appropriate for the tone of the composition.

In April I was faced with an very difficult decision. Without any work available in the lower mainland my father recieved a job offer by a company in Jamaica. Needing to financially support me, my sister, and mother, he had no choice other than to accept. Being apart from my father years before my mother made the decision to move there as well. My sister had been attending university and was unable to go so I was faced with a major decision. At first I tried to weigh out the pros and cons. Basically it came down to me staying and living with a very close friend of mind. Not realizing the results of my decision I have had to live in a difficult and somewhat frustrating environment, had to deal with being independant, and had to handle the situations of teenage life alone.

When first hearing about living with my best friend, we were both ecstatic. I, however, did not realize the pressure it would put on our friendship. Putting us into sibling like situations it has been hard to get along. By realizing I will be living in her house for a year I had to make a change. Not only did I have to learn how to live like this, I also had to do it without any help. I came to the conclusion that I must try harder to co-operate with her, and to treat her like my sister. I try not to disagree and pick fights and from then on it has been a lot more pleasant at home.

Being given absolute independance at the age of seventeen has also been hard to handle. Without the boundaries and rules of a normal teenager it is very easy to get out of control. Simple tasks such as doing homework can be strenuous if you are not made to do it. It is very easy to grab a bite to eat or go to the mall, instead of studying for an english test. I have had to learn how to discipline myself and to manage my time which has been a new experience.

The hardest thing that has come out of this experience is being alone. The stress of school and a social life can be very tough to deal with by yourself. Having to keep your problems bottled up has been increasing difficult. I was always able to confide in my parents and seek help from them if needed. However, without this support system my stress level has dangeoursly increase. One of the hardest things I have had to learn is how to deal with loneliness and the affects of no parental guidance.

Not every teenager would be able to handle the situations I have encountoured this year. The experience of having my parents a great distance from me has allowed me to mature greatly. Others have also noticed my growth as a person. This experience has changed my life forever, and I believe has marked my start to an adult life. Without the many events throughout these last couple of months I would not be the same person I am now, or have the same outlook on the world around me.