**AUTOBIOGRAPHY ESSAY**

**WACHIRA WINNIE NJERI**

**C027-01-1366/2019**

**IGS 4101/4202**

**CRITICAL THINKING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

**(CAPSTONE PROJECT)**

**The Journey of Winnie Wachira**

**Early Beginnings**

Born in Karatina, Kenya, Winnie Wachira’s upbringing was infused with a love for education and exploration. Surrounded by the nurturing embrace of her family, Winnie’s childhood was marked by the beauty of rural life and the value of learning in all aspects of existence. From her earliest days, Winnie's curiosity was ignited by the warmth of her family's encouragement and the vibrant tapestry of her cultural heritage.

**Exploring the Foundations of Learning and Friendship**

Winnie's educational journey began at Daybert Academy in the small town of Kibirigwi, where she was accompanied by her mother. From the moment she arrived, Winnie discovered that school was her favorite place, offering endless opportunities for exploration and growth. Daybert Academy provided a nurturing environment that encouraged her curiosity and passion for learning. The supportive atmosphere and engaging experiences at Daybert laid the foundation for lifelong friendships and a love of education.

**Exploring Knowledge and Friendship in Elementary School**

During her elementary years at Daybert Academy, Winnie continued to thrive in a nurturing environment that boosted her confidence and encouraged exploration of talents beyond academics. She discovered a passion for art and music, participating in school events and activities that showcased her creativity. Daybert's emphasis on community involvement allowed Winnie to form meaningful connections by engaging in local projects and initiatives. These experiences instilled in her a sense of responsibility and belonging, deepening her appreciation for teamwork and collaboration.

**Challenges and Triumphs in Middle School**

As a boarder at Daybert Academy, Winnie developed a strong sense of responsibility, learning to manage her time and resources independently. Living on campus taught her valuable lessons in coexistence, timeliness, and teamwork, which enriched her personal and academic life. Winnie excelled in her studies, particularly in Mathematics, English, and Science, where her dedication and enthusiasm shone brightly. She joined the Community Church Union at her school, fostering her spiritual growth and providing a supportive community. These experiences cultivated a well-rounded individual, balancing academic excellence with personal development and spiritual awareness.

**A Journey of Self-Discovery and Academic Exploration**

High school at Ngiriambu Girls marked a pivotal milestone for Winnie, as she encountered classmates from diverse backgrounds and ethnicities, enriching her perspective and cultural understanding. Academically, she was drawn to subjects like Computer and Chemistry, where her curiosity and passion for learning were sparked and nurtured. Winnie joined the handball team, honing her athletic skills and learning the value of teamwork and perseverance on and off the court. As a member of the computer club and debate team, she expanded her critical thinking and communication skills, embracing new challenges with enthusiasm. Navigating the challenges of teenagehood, Winnie formed lasting friendships that played a crucial role in her personal growth and development into a more compassionate and well-rounded individual.

**Exploring Kenya's Landscapes & Preparing for Higher Education**

Summer adventures took Winnie across Kenya, from the Nairobi National Museum to the Ngong Hills and Lake Victoria, providing transformative experiences in cultural appreciation and natural beauty. Each destination offered opportunities for self-discovery and reflection, highlighting the interconnectedness of humanity and nature and fostering a deeper appreciation for conservation efforts. College preparation marked the closure of high school and the beginning of a new academic journey, with Winnie choosing to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Business Information Technology at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. Decision-making involved introspection, research, and deliberate choices to align passions and aspirations with the offerings of various institutions, ultimately leading Winnie to Dedan Kimathi University. Balancing academic rigor and extracurricular involvement, Winnie immersed herself in technology clubs and communities, honing leadership and teamwork skills while preparing for the transition to higher education.

**Embracing Campus Life & Balancing Responsibilities**

College life at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology marked the beginning of an exhilarating journey for Winnie, filled with excitement and anticipation for academic and personal growth. Transitioning to campus living involved adapting to newfound independence and forging bonds within the collegiate community while navigating the intricacies of dormitory life. Academically, Winnie immersed herself in a diverse array of classes, engaging with passionate professors and fellow students to explore the complexities of Business Information Technology. Beyond academics, Winnie enriched her college experience through extracurricular activities like joining the Wildlife Club and exploring the picturesque landscapes surrounding the university. Navigating student life involved balancing academic pursuits with entrepreneurial endeavors, as Winnie successfully managed her interior design studio, B.E Creatives, while excelling in her coursework and fostering meaningful relationships with peers.

**Driving Change Locally and Globally**

Winnie's involvement in community service projects, advocacy campaigns, and mentoring initiatives demonstrated her commitment to social responsibility and making a positive impact beyond the campus. Armed with her degree in Business Information Technology, Winnie spearheaded transformative change by leveraging technology for social good and engaging in initiatives aimed at community development and sustainable progress. Winnie's immersive cultural exchange experiences abroad enriched her understanding of global interconnectedness and inspired her to promote cross-cultural understanding and empathy within her own community. Throughout these chapters, Winnie's journey reflects a commitment to driving change locally and globally, embracing innovation, and fostering a spirit of empathy and inclusivity across cultural boundaries. The culmination of these experiences has shaped Winnie's worldview and fueled her determination to continue making a meaningful impact in the world, leaving a legacy of compassion, innovation, and global awareness.

**Gratitude, Growth, and Looking Ahead**

Winnie's journey from humble beginnings in Karatina, Kenya, to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology has been a rich tapestry of experiences, challenges, and triumphs that have shaped her into the person she is today. Throughout her journey, Winnie has been supported by her family, educators, and mentors, who have empowered her to dream boldly and pursue her passions with determination. Education has been a testament to Winnie's resilience, perseverance, and pursuit of knowledge, from kindergarten adventures to high school and college experiences. As Winnie stands on the threshold of a new chapter, she is fueled by a determination to continue making a positive impact in the world through entrepreneurship, community engagement, and advocacy. With gratitude for the past, excitement for the future, and a deep sense of purpose, Winnie looks forward to the next chapter of her life, guided by hope, courage, and dreams of making a difference.