Dessa Shapiro

9/27/19

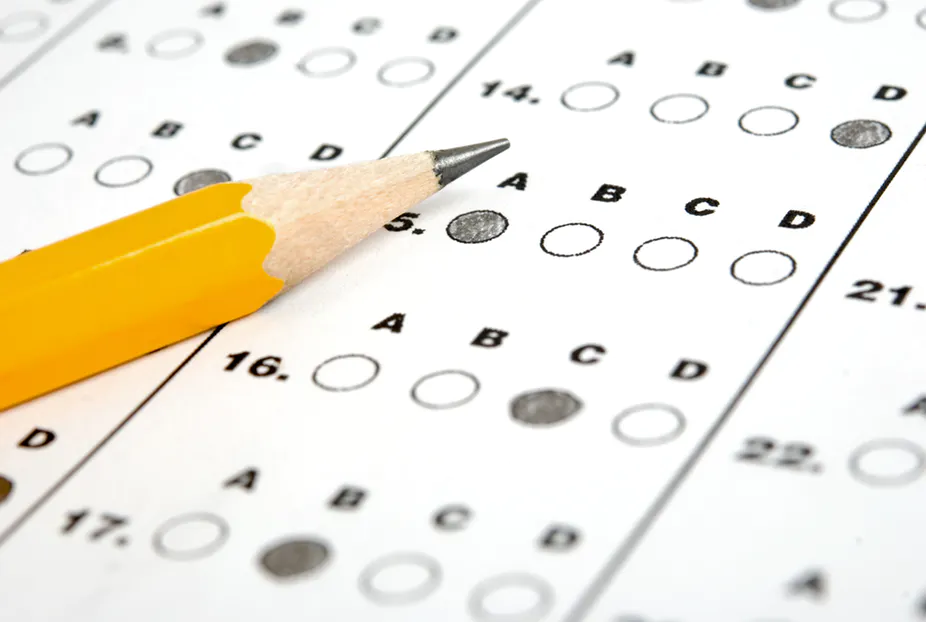
School Life

Over the past week or so I have gotten farther into the book “I Am Malala” by Malala Yousafzai. In the first blog entry, I explained how the Taliban came into Malala’s life and about her early childhood. As I’ve gotten farther into the book a lot of new developments have occurred in Malala’s life. She is still a young girl but is now around 15 years old and the Taliban has somewhat left Swat. After a lot of fighting with the Taliban the military was finally able to get rid of a lot of the Taliban and make peace negotiations with the rest.

Of course, a few of the Taliban were still being violent and threatening others. Malala was able to go back to school without as many risks. Malala and her family were still worried though because they still got a lot of threats. And a lot of the remaining Taliban wanted them dead because they did not agree with the Taliban cause, and spoke out against them. The passage I chose was when Malala was in school at exam time on October 4th.” The night before the exams began I stayed up studying until 3 o’clock…I'd made a mistake filling in the blanks. I was so cross with myself I almost cried”(pg. 238)

While looking for passages I couldn't find that many that I could connect to. Malala and I have very different lives, we live in totally different places with different governments. We don’t have the same experiences with oppression or with how we feel about certain subjects such as education. I picked this passage because I felt I could relate to what Malala says. She is talking about school and how she gets stressed out about tests. This is a normal thing to any student, but I feel this relates to me particularly because it shows that Malala and I are both hard-working.

When I want to do good on something in school or otherwise I will do everything in my power to prepare myself. So I can relate when Malala talks about staying up late to study. Another way I can relate my life to this passage is where Malala says she almost cried. I can see myself in this part because I judge myself a lot. I am always hard on myself when I do poorly on something. I tell myself that I could have done better and that next time I will study more efficiently. When I was in 7th grade I had a pop quiz in spanish. I was so worried because I didn't study at all, and when I corrected my test I got a bad grade. After class had ended, I started to cry because I was so mad at myself because I didn't prepare for that I didn't know was happening. Malala always holds herself up to her standards, like how she would never step down from speaking about the Taliban. Also how she would never stop going to school just because someone wants her to and. I think that I also hold myself to my own standards. Overall I can relate to Malala in this aspect of our lives. And even if it's only a small connection I'm happy I can be anything like Malala.



I chose this photo because I think it represents testing and in the passage I talk about Malala’s final exam.

**Music: Breath Me, by sia**

I chose this song because I think song she talks about having anxiety and she also says when you break down it’s ok. And I think that's what Malala was trying to say in this passage.

Dessa Shapiro

10/8/19

Loving Family

In the book I Am Malala the first part of the section I read not much had changed in Malala’s life since the last blog entry where that Tabilan had run out by the military. Malala’s life has continued to stay the same, not exactly good, but normal. She continued to go to school and hanging out with her friends. She also continued to stress about school and strive to be the best and to make a difference in her society. In the story, one day after school Malala was taking the bus home after school, her parents refused to let her walk because she was still getting threats from the Taliban. One day after school she got on the bus with her friends. While they were one the bus a group of Taliban soldiers stopped the truck and got in. They had rifles with them and said “Who is Malala? “

After that, one of the Taliban soldiers started shooting. They shot Malala in the head and they also shot a few of her friends that were sitting next to her. The bullet passed close to Malala’s eye and into her soldier. Thankfully there was no serious damage but the hospital did transfer Malala in a helicopter to a better hospital. Malala was unconscious and although the bullet did not directly hit her brain there was still some swelling in her brain from fragments of the bullets. The doctors ended up removing some of Malala’s skull to stop the swelling in her brain. After the swelling had gone down they reattached her skull. After a while, Malala’s condition started to worsen. Her father was very worried about her.

` Her father had a friend whose daughter had died when she was only 16 years old and when he called Malala’s father this is what he said “ My father cried.‘Tell me how can one live without daughters,’ he sobbed.”(pg. 260) I feel that I relate to this passage because there are a lot of things in this world that I love. And even though I have a very different lifestyle then Malala, but I know what it’s like to love what you don’t know what you would do if they are gone. I can empathise with Malala’s father because I can imagine what It would be like to lose one of my parents. When I was a first grader my father had to travel away for a month for his job. Back then I was still a little kid and I didnt think he would ever come back. I was so scared I cried almost every night he was gone. So, I can imagine what Malala’s father felt when he thought he had lost his beloved daughter forever. I also feel like in this passage the author brings the reader into the story and makes them feel what Malala’s father was feeling. I know that unless someone I love is in critical condition I will never be able to fully empathize with Malala’s father because I will never have the same experience. I also think that this part of the story resonates with me because my parents and I have always gotten along and I have a good relationship with them. I think that since I have a good relationship it would be that much harder to lose one of them, then for some other people.

**Song: foster the people, pumped up kicks**

I think this song relates to this passage because It talks about kids in a school shooting and Malala was in the same kind of scenario when she was shot on the bus.



This is a picture of my family