Jacob Wall

Professor Boswell

English 1301

1 December 2011

An Education

“Formal education will make you a living; self-education will make you a fortune.” These famous words by Jim Rohn allude to the fact that education is indeed transforming into two very broad definitions. In An Education, Jenny may have made many errors and misjudgments but she leaves at the end of the film with not just a valuable formal education but also, as Jim Rohn points out, a fortune – a self-education.

Defining education is much like asking someone to define what an airplane is. Someone may define it that it as a small tubular object, one engine, and has wings or someone may define it as a massive tubular object, two engines, and has wings. As you can see, part of the definition overlaps – the same applies to education. There is formal education and then there is self-education. Then and of themselves both have education in their name but one is based off of repeated tests, studying, and translations and the other is based off of experience, an application to continued life. Because there are two different types of education that also means that there are two different types of educated people, commonly known as (insert\_opposite\_of\_street\_Smart) and then street smart. The most common definition of an educated person is one who