I desire my relationship with education to be one that all can connect with. Education is the vital oxygen needed to breathe and without its knowledge we are just bodies with brains but no ability to transform. Education allows for creativity to take flight, for dreams to fly. It can be described in such beautiful and inspiring ways, but education itself, alone, is in the hands of the presenter, the instructor. In the school setting, it is in the hands of teachers. I have experienced great teachers, marginal teachers, and outstanding teachers. Every classroom environment has shared inspiration, challenges, criticism, but I have relived this delight; they all instilled knowledge. Education occurs through experiencing circumstances thrown your way and allowing oneself to take it in, to evaluate it, ponder it, question it, and grow. During my sophomore year of high school, I had an intimidating, difficult teacher that made Spanish challenging. I learned very quickly that Spanish as a second language challenged my abilities. In Spanish class assignments were only submitted once, no redo's or makeups on assignments were allowed. Even pre-arranged absences lowered participation scores and final grades. There were mornings I dreaded waking up because I did not want to go to school just to be embarrassed in front of the class by this teacher. However, I did not want to miss class because my grade would suffer. To constantly be berated and feel like you have no voice in an environment designed for growth and learning was a challenge. For the duration of my sophomore year, I lacked the desire to learn. With this challenging grading system, I struggled to learn, or so I thought. Looking further just the subject I was enrolled in; I was educated on how deal with real life situations. I believe in every environment, there are sprouts of education all around growing for us to bloom as a person and support our futures. That trial time in my life opened my eyes to the realization that no matter what the outside influences, education can be found in all shapes and sizes, concepts, and environments.