

First and Last Name

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College Writing P1

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Prompt: Describe an event, a person or an educational experience that has had a major impact on your life and why.

My Grandfather the Inspiration

I was born and raised in Minsk, Belarus. In case you didn't know where that was, it is located right next to Russia. Minsk was also the city where the person that had profound influence on my life lived; my grandfather. My grandfather truly has an honorable heart and he is the most generous person I know. He came from a very hard life. As a youngster he lived in poverty, experienced war during his childhood years and experienced a terrible hunger. Later in life, he managed to become a doctor to pursue his dream. It has been his life-long dream.

In America, a doctor earns a high salary, and it should have been the same for my grandfather. This was not the case. Belarus used to be a communist country. Currently, Belarus is no longer communist. Nevertheless, there are people who still have the mind set of the old regime, especially the Belarussian president. My grandfather's salary for being a doctor was only five hundred dollars monthly. That is ridiculously low by Western standards. This income was barely enough to survive.

In the years my grandfather raised me, he was highly supportive of my deafness. He was deeply patient with me when I could not pronounce things correctly, talked too

loud, or didn't comprehend what people were saying. He helped me learn how to overcome difficulties and be able to speak for myself. My grandfather was the first person who did not pity me for my deafness, and I liked it. He understood that deafness is acceptable, while others had responded differently. I could do anything ordinary people can do. I just cannot hear. People don't realize that it doesn't matter to us if we are deaf or hearing. He indeed understood me, and that is one of the many things I love about him. He could put himself in any persons' shoes and try to understand their feelings by really listening and really grasping how people truly feel.

He managed to live his life to the fullest no matter what. He always knew how to put a smile on his face through every obstacle. He never failed to stop and smell the roses and appreciate life. My grandfather's history provoked me to do better and to appreciate everything more. He also has inspired me to give it my best 100% of the time. I am fortunate to be a part of this generation rather than previous ones. I am lucky to have a better future here. I am honored to have learned it all from my grandfather. All the hard work I do will get me very far in life and help me achieve my goals. I want to be able to stay positive through every hardship. There is always the good out of the bad. He is the gentleman who taught me how to strive to be the best person I can be under any conditions. My grandfather is the most powerful inspiration of my life.

Word Count: 499