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English Composition

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Learning How to Love Reading

Back in 2014, sitting in Ms. Driggers English class the grade started reading a novel, *The Outsiders* by author S.E. Hinton. At the time, reading a novel was not what I wanted to do. The first day we started reading the book I was not really interested in reading any further. By the second chapter I felt myself driving deeper into the book. By reading this novel I realized, at the time, that it's not that I didn't like reading, it was no one showed me that I can find something to read that is interesting. Ms. Driggers did that for me, she showed me that reading does not have to be an assignment, it can be for you own pleasure.

Ms. Driggers was my seventh and eighth grade teacher; in my college English class we read Deborah Brandt's essay in *Writing about Writing* about literacy sponsors. I can see that Ms. Driggers is one of many of my literacy sponsor. During and after reading novels, she would help us understand ideas and explain to different points that were trying to be made. If it was not for Mrs. Driggers, I would not enjoy reading certain novels. She opened a new spot in my brain that loves to read. Without having read *The Outsiders*, I would have never read the novel if it was for someone pushing me along.

After finishing the novel, my classmates and I were asked to write an essay based off *The Outsiders*. In seventh grade I did not take a liking in writing just like with reading. I most

commonly enjoy writing, creative pieces or just writing for pleasure. I never have taken a liking into writing unless it had to do with something that I like. With reading I can visual make the story, but with writing I am having to create and visual think of the story. Which happened when writing the essay about *The Outsiders*. I love the novel, but I could not form my thoughts into word. After reflecting on what I had read over a course of month and a half and writing about it. It really changed my perspective about reading and writing. Ever since reading, *The Outsiders*, I have really enjoyed reading other novels that spark my interest. When it comes to writing I have figure out that I love to write on my own time or work that I for myself.

After reading, *The Outsiders*, it had shaped my view on reading for the better. Finding a book that I could read repeatedly was something that amazed me on another level. For once I was passionate about reading. Since reading the novel I figure out that I can now go into reading, a novel, article, or journal with an open mind. I still to this day get frustrated with reading thing that are not interesting to me, but I understand that everything you read is not going to appeal to you.