

# Mixed strategy



College isn't Really that Bad Some years ago, I was always having nightmares when I was planning to enroll in college. I would usually wake up soaked in sweat like one who has ran a hundred miles. Actually, I was really hesitant to enter college because I had visions that it was going to be very difficult and that the professors would be giving oral examinations most of the time and students would be put into extreme embarrassment in the midst of unfamiliar faces if they fail to answer the questions. I thought it would be all work and no fun at all compared to my high school experience. My parents would always remind me whenever I came home late from partying that I should change my ways if I were to get a college education. My friends and classmates would no longer be there for me and that I should learn to stand on my own, be independent, because college is going to be a serious matter. My mother, who only finished seventh grade, would lecture to me again and again how important college education is and that if I want to have a better life then I should mend my ways. On the other hand, my father, who is a law school drop out, would back her lectures with the gravity of college. He said that if I would not learn any study skills I would be put in extreme embarrassment because professors would give unannounced quizzes and oral examinations. A student would be asked to stand up whenever he/she is called to answer and he/she would not be allowed to sit unless he/she is able to answer correctly. Before I graduated high school then, I spent less time with my friends and began to take a serious look at my life and my life ahead. I wanted college so much that I should be ready to face it and as much as possible finish it, not only for my parents' sake but for my own personal satisfaction and fulfillment. I wanted a life that is more comfortable and convenient than what my parents gave me.

Having spent more than a year in college, I feel that life is not that bad after all. I have new-found friends who back me up whenever I get entangled with my Math problem sets, others are there just to cheer me up whenever I have to spend sleepless nights just to beat the deadlines for my papers. Friends can be found everywhere and I can choose the good ones who will give me good influences. My professors are also not as bad as my father said. They are very supportive and understanding. My professor in Art, for instance, lent me some of her books for my project in Miro and Dali. She even coached me on how to use the internet for research since I only used the internet before for playing online games. Thanks goodness, I never experienced standing up to answer difficult oral examinations and my classrooms have always been favorable places for learning and fun. On occasion, I still go out partying but I have to be sure I go home to get enough sleep for the next day's class. One of the most memorable experiences I have so far is when I was applauded by the whole class when I gave my report on my Film Assignment. I presented the art pieces found in the adaptation of C. S. Lewis' children's novel, *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (2005). I showed video clips of the statues of Mr. Tumnus, the Faun, and the other beings, as well as the crystal castle of the White Witch and her towering throne. For the first time in my life, I felt important and respected. This experience has boost my self-confidence and I believe whatever challenges I will have to face in the future I will have the courage to face them and the right people to cheer and support me.

#### Works Cited

Joan Miró (1893-1983) Salvador Dali (1904-1989 *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (2005)

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