

Transition into adulthood - insights that give an awareness of growing up after I...

[Education](#)



The paper "Transition into Adulthood - Insights That Gives an Awareness of Growing Up after Leaving School" is a wonderful example of a personal statement on education. Scholars in human growth and development argue for distinct physical, social and psychological traits that define an adult human being from a child. They give age 18, others 21, as a mark of adulthood. However, in real life, the transition from childhood to adulthood does not occur in a distinct fashion that separates the two stages of human development. Instead, it is a social construct that occurs in a gradual fashion. Thus, no adult would easily point to a single epiphany when adulthood set in. However, distinct events and accomplishments in human life always remain significant indicators as to the self-realization of becoming an adult. As such, this paper gives a personal account of an event that marked my transition into adulthood. To me, graduation from high school in 2013 marked my transition to adulthood. While undertaking my high school education, I was also enrolled in a community college under the Dual Enrolment Program. I had to put in much effort into my academics because I knew that success in education was a critical way of assuring a bright future as an adult. Indeed, my effort yielded the desired results as I attained a GPA of 4 out of 4. As I picked my graduation certificate, it dawned on me that I would be independent henceforth.

I acknowledged that while I had guidance in school, the outside world would have me as my guide and teacher. School provided an environment of dependence where I would look upon my teachers to explain rules and give guidelines on expected behavior. Even what I was to achieve academically was more or less informed by my teachers based on their analysis of my

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abilities. My parents were also keen to provide guidance on what was expected of me. On my graduation day, I knew that all these would be no more. I would have to teach myself how to behave in the new society outside the school where relatively no one exists to teach another how to conduct oneself. It is expected that as an adult, one is equipped with relevant knowledge on conduct in the light of the social environment. Any deviant behavior would be dealt with the law enforcers and appropriate punishment administered. It is also expected that adults have own goals that drive their existence. No adult lectures the other on what to do with own life. This autonomy made me appreciate that adulthood had caught up with me. Graduation from high school made me aware that I would not have people to handle my needs as I demanded. It was my right for my parents and the school administration to ensure that I access whatever I needed to succeed in life. That is why, when I lacked, I would talk to my parents and they would provide. After school, this was not to be. I had to fend for myself. As if to prove my adulthood perception right, I got employed at Quick Mart 2 in New Bedford, MA as a cashier. Here, I finalized customer transactions and operated the cash register. I also verified invoices and balanced the cash register at the end of a trading shift. For my services, I would earn some money as my compensation. Given a choice, I would have rather remained with the pay but not the work. However, bearing in mind that adults have to work to make a living, I had no option but carry on working.

With my graduation from high school, I would now be exposed to a society of diversity where I make choices of my company. In school, and indeed even in the community college, I would have my parents and teachers dictate on the

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kind of peers I should keep. The notion was that my peers influence my character. Indeed, this was a good aspect to inculcate in me because even in the outside world, one's company determines one's character and achievements in life. Nonetheless, the outside world presents a different context where relatively no one guides you on your choice of company. The power of choice was not bestowed on me. With the acknowledgment that no one would tell me whether I was making the right choice for friends, I appreciated that I had become an adult.

Therefore, graduation from high school made me appreciate that I was no longer a child but an adult. The idea of autonomy on my conduct, economic independence and freedom of choosing my company was an indication that I had become an adult. Even though there was no clear cut distinction of my transition into adulthood, these perceptions of an adult that I had on receiving my high school graduation certificate make this graduation a remarkable event that reminds me when I started viewing myself as an adult.