Sample B Paper Essay

For what qualities that you have learned or inherited from your parents are you most grateful?

Ronald and Brenda ------- are two very different people. Ronald is more outgoing, friendly, stubborn, and aggressive. Ronald loves to be in a school environment. Brenda, however, limits her interaction with school. She is patient, passive, and tends to stay to herself. I guess opposites really do attract. These are my parents and their union produced a very unique person. For in that person one can find both of my parents’ qualities. I am most grateful to attain these qualities: my friendliness, patience and stubbornness, and my strong desire to attend school. The combination of these two great people brought about a person that every one has grown to know and love, me.

I am a person that can get along with anyone. Whenever I am somewhere in which I am not familiar with anyone I always manage to make a friend. I have learned that by simply saying hello can brighten a person’s day. I am truly grateful for this quality because it can be advantageous. For example, I was in an airport a couple of weeks ago, and there was an old man sitting down waiting on his plane to arrive. I sat next to him and we had a great conversation. Well it just so happened that our flight landed a little early, but I was not aware of it so I left my seat to explore the airport. As I walked back to my seat I noticed a commotion at the end of the terminal; it was the old man. When he saw me the attendants were relieved because they said the man would not allow the plane to leave until I arrived. He made such a commotion that others became spectators, and the plane certainly would not leave a little old man while people were watching. This was truly a great experience for me because it showed me being friendly
to someone can make a world of difference in their life and mine. I could have missed my flight!

I am grateful to be both patient and stubborn at the same time. I learned patience from my mom. Since I played little league baseball my mom would say “take your time” or “don’t rush”! These snippets of advice have stuck with me throughout my middle and high school matriculation and now here at Paine College. I have learned that “good things come to those who wait”. No matter what the situation is whether it be school, boys, or money my patience will be advantageous to me in the future. While I am patient I tend to be stubborn as well. I inherited this quality from my dad. When he and I argue it seems as if it never ends. Even though I know I am probably wrong I will not budge an inch from my first opinion, and he is exactly the same way. Although this sounds like a negative quality I believe that it can be positive. I was on the debate team in high school and this quality helped me win a great number of debates. No matter what the other team argued I would not falter or hesitate and this was very intimidating. I am famous for saying “That’s my story, and I’m sticking to it”.

My dad is a great role model for me academically because he has instilled in me the importance of education and without it what could one offer the world. Ever since I started school until now my dad has been in school. This motivates me to stay in school however long that it is necessary for me to stay. I plan to attend medical school and later pursue a speciality area like cardiology or oncology. Well that means that after I graduate from Paine College I will have another seven years to go to achieve my goal of becoming a cardiologist or oncologist. Some people believe that I might be devoting too much time to school, but I just say “you gotta live those years anyway, why not live and
learn at the same time”. This inheritance will take me far career wise and I am truly grateful for it.

Friendly, stubborn, patient, and zealous are a few qualities that are indicative of me. These are very important qualities to have because they can take me a long way in my professional and personal lives. I am truly blessed to have parents who are so different from each other. If they were the same then maybe I would be a one-dimensional person, and I would hate to be that. I am multi-faceted with high career aspirations. I attribute my attitude, enthusiasm, and morale to the qualities that I have either learned or inherited from my parents.
Evaluators’ Comments

This essay follows a good plan of organization and has a clear thesis statement, but the introduction and conclusion are labored and long-winded. Development is good. While the sentence structure is unsophisticated, the author’s voice still comes through. Topic sentences for the first and third developmental paragraphs are particularly good and the paragraphs themselves are very well-developed. This is a better than competent essay because of the organization and development, but it lacks distinction in part because of diction.

Errors include the following:

**Serious**
- Word Choice – 1
- Pronoun – 1
- Sentence Structure – 1
- Parallelism – 1

**Minor**
- Missing commas and other errors in punctuation