

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Before this year, bullies were bullies for no reason, weirdos were just weird, and daredevils weren’t afraid of anything. Before this, people I loved lived forever. I spent this year looking for something and wound up seeing everything around me. It’s like I was asleep before and finally woke up. Know what? I’m wide awake now.”**

You have been in high school for a semester. During that time you have grown a considerable amount (hopefully) in maturity, academic drive, etc. Please write an essay about what you have learned this semester as a freshman. It should not necessarily be focused solely on academic learning. What did you learn about yourself, about the world around you and your place in it? It should begin with an introduction and end with some inspiring words. You should also explain, briefly, the path you are taking in high school. What you are looking for and how you hope to continue to grow in the next 3 years. This should be no more than 1 page.

Use the open space below to dissect the prompt and organize your ideas and written response. You should spend approximately 5 minutes “dissecting” and understanding the prompt, and organizing your responses. Type your final draft and upload it into your PTP in “Education” under “Essays and Reflections.”

**Prompt for Introduction:**

I have been attending high school for \_\_\_\_\_ months and am currently a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Describe something that really stands out for you in these last ‘x’ months in h.s.)

I started out this year.....

**Prompt for main body (1 -2 paragraphs worth):**

At this point, \_\_\_\_\_ months later, I am discovering..... (explain things that are becoming clearer to you in terms of how to grow or make some changes/differences)

Although things started out.....

**Prompt for conclusion:**

Overall, my school year has been..... so far.

I would like to improve on...(explain where you see going and how you expect to finish of your high school career. Share some words of wisdom or inspiration that will help you to be successful).