

Copy this essay, including the title and signature / date lines at the bottom. Sign and date at bottom ON YOUR COPY where it says "student signature," and have your parent sign where it says "parent signature." Return the essay with this paper. DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAPER. This is DUE TOMORROW (if Friday, it is due Monday).

WHY AM I HERE?

I am copying this essay because something I said or did makes my teacher, Ms. Landry, think I am confused about why I am in school.

All children must go to school because people have decided that our country will be a better place to live in if everyone is educated. Educated people will probably be happier, earn more money, and make more intelligent decisions during their lives. These things don't seem very important to me while I am in middle school. That is why there are laws that make education mandatory. It makes me do things (like go to school) that I will appreciate later.

I am in school to learn and practice using all the skills I might need as an adult. The teachers know more than I do about which things would be worthwhile and useful for me in the future. They are here to provide me with information to make me more prepared, self-confident, and able to be successful in the future.

Since I am required to be here, I should use my time wisely so that my time is not wasted. There are plenty of students who see that an education is important for their future and I do not want to waste their time either. A good teacher cannot allow me to be disobedient, create disturbances, or show displays of poor attitude. I understand that Ms. Landry has to maintain an atmosphere that makes it possible for all students to learn.

School is not always fun. School is not here to entertain me, nor is it meant to be a social event. The teachers are not hired to show me a good time. Good teachers try to make subjects more interesting whenever they can, but I have no excuse for not cooperating when I don't think something is interesting enough. The teacher does not owe me anything except a chance to learn and grow from the experiences he or she shares. I should accept this fact and make things easier for everyone, especially me.

I will try to use my time wisely and appreciate the opportunities education gives me. I will try my best to do well academically and in the areas of work habits and cooperation.

student signature / date

parent signature / date