

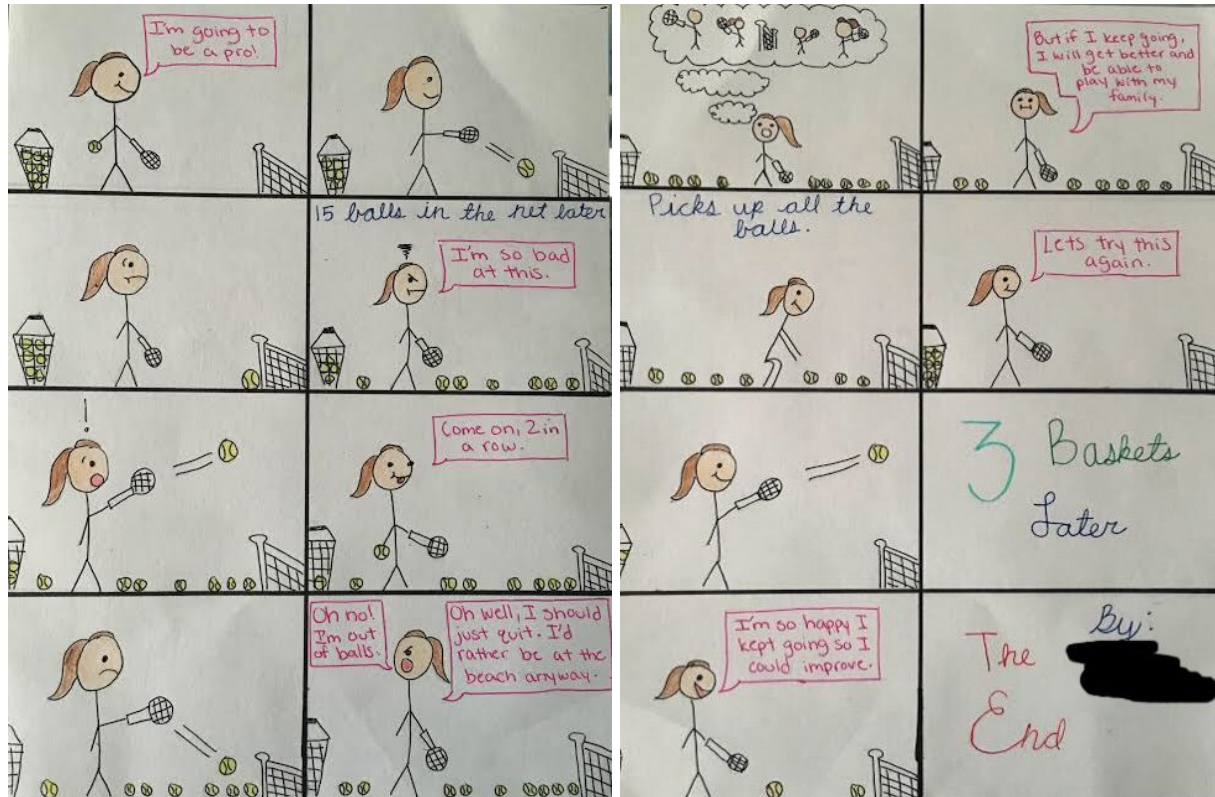
Autobiography Student Sample 2:

Title: Discovering New Values

By: *Awesome anonymous student*

Thesis: Self realization comes from the courage to push yourself to try new things.

Entry 1: Just Keep Swinging (comic strip)



Entry 2: Keeping Friendship Alive (diary)

February 6, 2015

Dear Diary,

Today, I found out that one of my best friends is moving away in a couple weeks! She was trying to keep it hidden in order to preserve our friendship. We all knew that by her leaving, it would never be the same. Our "squad" would be broken, and it would reveal an empty spot to be stolen by another girl. She knew that not long after her absence, she would be replaced. This weekend, we are planning to spend as much time with her as we can to dig up the memories and pile on new ones. Going to the beach is the best way to have fun, lasting memories. At school, she told us that she is going to try and visit every summer so we can catch up. Today was a sorrowful school day filled with friendship and tears.

June 30, 2015

Dear Diary,

The "squad" is finally reunited! We have the rest of the summer to explore and adventure. Having her back makes me feel happy inside because I know that we will have so many fun and exciting memories to add to the existing ones. One downfall is that we found out that her mother was diagnosed with cancer again. She fought her previous cancer and won, but now that it has come back for revenge, we are uncertain who the winner will be. The "squad" is helping my friend through a tough time by distracting her from the severity of her mother's illness and focusing on enjoying her company. This makes me realize the importance of friendship and how it could make the most terrible things a little less stressful. It helps me understand a saying:

"Be nice to everyone because everyone is fighting their own battle."

July 27, 2015

Dear Diary,

Summer is almost coming to an end and the "squad" will be broken up once more. When she arrived, it was almost as if she never left. She told us about her new home and exciting incidents that happened. We did everything we enjoyed doing before she left and it was the most fun I've had all summer long. We also spent some time with her mother before they left and it was really fun. I can't wait for next summer when she comes to visit again. Spending time with the whole "squad" reminds me of the highlights of junior high which makes me feel happy inside and out.

Entry 3: Family Matters Most (fairy tale)

Once upon a time, there was an adventurous family of elves that lived in the kingdom of Lothlorien. In the kingdom, there lived a strong father and gentle mother of a mischievous son and daughter. They lived in a simple house with two playful, baby griffins. This was considered a typical family in the kingdom, but what most people didn't know, was that they also had an adventurous, rebellious side. They heard of a rumor about a dangerous, vicious dragon living in dark, depths of one of the four corners of the world. This family decided it was best to travel to meet this foul creature and slay it. They found passage to the land by boat, but it was difficult since no sailor wanted to encounter the beast. They packed up their belongings and were on their way to slay the dragon.

When they reached land, they paid the kind sailor and were seeking refuge for the night. They walked along a narrow, stone path and found a small cottage just up ahead. When they knocked on the old, wooden door, a woman answered. "Hello, can I help you?" she asked. "We are elves from Lothlorien," the father stated, "and we wish to spend a few nights here." The lady said, "Sure! As long as it's ok with my husband." Her husband gave them a slow nod welcoming them to his home. The family was given dinner and a place to sleep. They knew that in the morning, they would train and practice for when they face the treacherous dragon.

In the morning, they practiced as they planned and had one on one duels. When the father and son had a duel, the son misplaced a step and twisted his ankle. "Owww!" he cried. Everyone rushed toward him, to help him up. It seemed that his wound would prevent him from helping to defeat the dreadful dragon. He definitely felt he was bringing the family and quest down. He knew that the next day would be more difficult without him. The next morning, he was in so much pain, he couldn't bare to stand. His father felt partly responsible for his injury, so he felt obligated to stay with him, so he let the women fight the battle.

The mother and daughter left to go fight the dragon. When they reached the dragon's cave, they were greeted by a surprising, "Hello, what can I do you for?" They looked at eachother confused and said, "We have come here to slay you, you foul beast!" The dragon's face wasn't filled with anger or rage, but instead confusion and pain. "Why!" he exclaimed, "I'm always nice to elves and I try to help them in anyway I can." The dragon looked genuinely humble, so the ladies put down their weapons and the mother told him about her son's situation and asked him if he would take them back to Lothlorien. "Your family must be very close and supportive," the dragon remarked. "Our family matters most," said the daughter. The dragon gently picked up the mother and daughter and carried them to the small cottage. They thanked the lovely couple and were on their way back home. When they reached home, they took their son to the best healer and she was very fascinated by their trek. The family's story was passed on through the generations and every time it was told, it brought families together.

Self Portrait:

