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The Differences Between Marie and Eduardo

 Transitioning to college can be either easy or hard. There's no more being babied, no more being told what has to be done and when it must be done like high school. In high school everything was kind of done for the students there were so many rules on how a student should go about school work and life. Now everything in the students owns perspective. A student must be able to figure out how to time manage, how to study, how to take care of themselves, and also how to complete their work all at the same time. This is where the concept of transitioning to college can either be easy or it can be hard because not everyone is the same not everyone is going to grasp the same concepts on how to succeed when going to college. There's no rule book on what is right or wrong, students spend 12 or more years in school before entering college just to have to drop almost everything they became comfortable with to begin transitioning to a new life in college. As read about in The Transition to College Writing textbook, It becomes very evident that no student is the same when going through the process of transitioning. There are so many aspects put into place, that lead new college students to their own success and it's not always easy.

 In Chapter one the reader is introduced to the many differences between Marie and Eduardo as they go through their transitions of being new college students. Even though these students are both in college that does not entail that they both got in the same way, each student has their own upbringing. In Eduardo's case, he came from a public high school in an impoverished neighborhood, due to the low percentage of students going to college from this high school that means most parents in Eduardo's neighborhood can't afford for their child to go to college. Eduardo also has a language barrier with him and his mom having English as a second language so the school doesn't come too easy when it comes to verbal tests. Marie, on the other hand, went to a private high school that was focused on students getting into college, she did well in school and scored well on tests. With these differences, the two students most likely had different struggles they had to go through while trying to get into college. Many stereotypes come as well, many people believe that lower classed people are uneducated and have no futures but to contrast that with the higher class people most people deem them as being educated and having bright futures. These stereotypes create a significant difference between the two but that did not stop either student from getting into college, the struggles may have been different for them both but college was still in the future for both of them.

 Adapting to college is not the same for everyone as seen worth Eduardo and Marie. Eduardo adapted a sense of success and opportunity this allowed him to really focus on what he was learning and why he was learning it. He allowed himself to create a clear understanding of what he needed to do to succeed in college. There was no previous structure or set of rules he had in mind to follow he just took it upon himself to create his own guide on what he needed to achieve to adapt to college. Marie was kind of the opposite she was stuck in high school she only had one mindset that was trying to memorize everything and overload her self with work. She didn't allow herself to open up to new ideas or concepts. The formulas she was used to using in high school were no longer working out leaving her to try to study more and memorize more. This left her stressed and exhausted from being overwhelmed with school work. Keeping skills learned in high school is ok but only having the mindset that the things learned in high school is all a student needs is not ok. Students should able to be flexible in college, Eduardo shows how being flexible allows him to be stress-free and not be overwhelmed with school work. Eduardo and Marie have two different mindsets in college showing how some students can adapt faster than others when transitioning to college.

 Having a clear understanding as a student can really help to achieve success in college classes. Becoming clear with what the student needs to do for the class, why the student is in the class, and when the student needs everything done for the class. Knowing what needs to be done helps with everything else that college throws at you. Eduardo had it a little easier to understand this concept that is why college came easier to him and his transition. Unlike Marie, she had a difficult time understanding that each class is different and that the courses and assignments were all separate. Marie believed that there was only one way to succeeding and that was to “work hard and if that didn't work, work even harder, " she didn't allow herself to understand working differently and working less could help her in college.

 With students having different upbringings, adaptations and understandings it makes transitioning into college different for everyone. Highschool creates the idea that everything done in high school, is what we will need in college but really its just the idea of this is what students need to get accepted into college. College also has a similar idea that students coming into college know everything they need to know for college already but that's not really true because college is no longer on high school curriculums all the professors in college are different some may have different expectations than others do. This all just means students transitioning into college have to allow themselves to figure out what it is that their professors are asking of them and the skills learned in high school have to be flexible now and be able to accept change. The differences between Eduardo and Marie make a big statement towards students coming into college it tells students to be alert to changes and be flexible with previous skills to allow the new skills learned to work. Adapting and transitioning only becomes easier once students learn what needs to happen and be done to achieve what the students want to achieve.