

Gratitude

Iris Rhee 8th Grade

I am grateful for my family, my friends, and everything that I have experienced in my life so far. Without my family I never would have existed in this world. My friends helped me find who I am. Everything that I have experienced brought both good and bad memories. I truly treasure all those subjects from the bottom of my heart.

My family brought me into this world of light. I am grateful for all the support they have given me and I hope that they will continue to support me. They provided me with good food, a warm household to stay in, and put up with my immature behavior when I was little. Without my family I never would have experienced living in this world and I am grateful that they gave me a chance to be a part of the world. My family is what started my small fire of life and made me begin my own journey of life.

All the friends I had helped me realize who I am and what my interests were. They were there to help me when I did not know what to do and also gave me sound advice. My friends also helped me find hobbies that I am interested in which in turn helped me realize my potential. They were also there to lighten the mood whenever one of us were feeling down. I feel very grateful to have such wonderful friends to be a part of my life.

I am grateful to have been able to live in this world for my life, since I was able to experience both good and bad memories. The good memories are like a soothing bell that entice the feeling of nostalgia and happiness. While the bad memories serve as a reminder and warning for consequences and help teach that life has its ups and downs. To be able to experience so many wonderful and tragic memories is like a blessing since they all help me to change and grow up. I will always hold dearly the memories I have experienced for as long as my consciousness will allow me to.

I am also grateful for many other things, but they all branch off of the subjects that I have already mentioned. I am once again truly grateful for being able to be with my family, friends, and for being able to experience so many memories. Everything that I have experienced is also due to my family and friends. All the things that I have experienced from them helped me become what I am now. I hope that I can continue to be with my family and friends while creating memories that I will cherish for life.

What I am Grateful For

Trevor Klassen 8th grade

I am thankful for my grandparents, because they took me in at a young age. They have taught me very valuable lessons of life and my grandpa also introduced and encouraged me to ride and love dirt bikes. These are some of the things I'm thankful for in my life.

My grandparents took me into their home when I was only eleven months old. My parents got in trouble with the law, so I went to live with my grandparents. We live in the Santa Cruz Mountains on a six acre parcel, I even have my own room. My grandparents let me build a dirt bike track on the property, because of all the space we have. I am thankful to live with them.

My grandparents teach me valuable life lessons. One is that I will have to work for what I want. An example of this is splitting wood for the fireplace to keep the house warm. Then I have to make a bill that has the hours I worked, what I did, and how much money they owe me for working. Then I give it to my grandpa, then my grandpa pays me. I mark the bill paid and lastly, my grandpa puts it in his desk. The second life lesson they have taught me is to be honest. For example, when Mrs. Merlo asked all the boys if they made the holes in the locker room wall I raised my hand and said I did it. Even though I knew there would be consequences. Another lesson is to be a good person and always treat others how

you want to be treated. They don't let me get away with much. This relates to being a good person because my grandparents always encourage me to say thank you, please and your welcome and to never think I am better than other people. Because of these life lessons, I'm trying to be the best I can be as a person.

My grandparents introduced me to my favorite hobby: riding dirt bikes. When I started riding there was a little dirt bike left over from my cousin as he out grew it. So it was left at our house. I decided I really wanted to ride the bike, so my grandpa taught me when I was about five years old. I am grateful my grandparents gave me the tools to be a talented rider. They sent me to a two day class in the desert with eighteen adults. At the end of the class, I was one of the top three riders in class. I'm proud of myself for that. Dirt biking is a fun sport and a good way to stay physically fit. These skills will help me later in life. They will help me in life because if I don't have a job I can race or start my own business.

My grandparents may be tough but I know they do it out of love for me. They took me in as a baby. They taught me the difference between right and wrong. They also introduced me to riding dirt bikes. Because of this I am thankful for my grandparents love and understanding this Thanksgiving.

"What am I grateful for?"

Akemi Yorita 7th grade

Since I believe education is important for me to become a responsible and reliable adult, I have been trying hard to gain knowledge and skills at school. I also think teachers have a big impact on students because they can make students enthusiastic or unexcited about their classes. Luckily, each teacher I have this year guides me in different ways to overcome difficulties and complications. As I advance to a higher grade, materials I have been learning are getting harder and harder to comprehend. I need to spend more time finishing my homework every day and to study for tests in each subject. My teachers are available to assist me whenever I need their extra help and explain the new concepts until I understand them fully. Thus, I am grateful for all my teachers at West Valley Middle School. Usually math is the hardest subject. However, Ms. Tate, my Math teacher makes math easy to understand. The way she teaches math is very clear and it's simple to follow each step of calculation. I can convert the metric unit from one unit to a different unit very easily with the quote she has taught me: "King Henry Died Unexpectedly Drinking Chocolate Milk." This phrase makes it easy to memorize the metric system. I enjoy my history class. My teacher, Mrs. Jaquet, always gives a chapter review game for each chapter before a test. I can learn a chapter lesson by participating in her fun games! I really like her review game since it helps me prepare for a test. She makes students present a current event every other week in front of classmates. By doing current event projects repeatedly, I have gained courage and confidence to speak in front of people. I thank her for giving me this great opportunity. This year, I have two new teachers: Mr. Gomez, my Science teacher, and Ms. Segura, my Language Arts teacher. Compared to six grade's Science, the new concepts I have been learning this year are very complicated and hard to understand. Mr. Gomez explains a lesson over and over until students know the content of a chapter. I appreciate him spending so much time repeating complex material until students can comprehend it. He also lets students perform exciting labs and experiments. Since I am an ESL student, I am having English and grammar problems. I ask Ms. Segura to help me with my papers after school or during break time. She is always available to help students from early morning to late afternoon. She is the only teacher who uploads the class notes to TeacherEase. I can go over her notes at home before her tests and midterms. I am grateful for her saving her class materials on our website. All teachers pay attention to each student's different needs. Without help and support from each teacher, I could not be an honor roll student. I am thankful for my teacher's kindness and extra

assistance. If I were at a public school, I do not think I could get this much one on one attention and help from my teachers due to larger classes. I am very happy to be a student at West Valley Middle School.

Electricity

Isaiah Scates 6th grade

Do you like reading at night? Do you enjoy the nice heater in your house, which keeps you warm while you are sitting and watching TV or using the computer? This is all powered by electricity. We use electricity every day to get around life. I am grateful for many things, but mostly electricity.

I came up with this idea because I thought of my video games. I use electricity every day: to wake up to my alarm clock, to eat hot food, and to listen to music on the road to school. Almost everyone in America uses electricity for something. If we did not have electricity we would not have computers, lights, TV, and cell phones. I am grateful for these things.

Some people with disabilities rely on electricity for their life. People use electricity at night to power their breathing machines, or they might need it all day because they can't breathe without a ventilator. People who need surgery would probably feel safer if the doctors could see what they were doing. In the old days doctors had no way of getting good lighting because there was no light source that was bright enough to see well, but now we have light bulbs. We should all be thankful for what doctors can do now that we have electricity.

Someone had to make things for our electricity, but who? Thomas Edison made things that used electricity. He made the light bulb and improved the telephone. Because of him, inventors made more things for electricity. He showed us what we could do with electricity. It all started with the light bulb.

We use electricity because it makes life easier. Electricity makes life more entertaining. We are happy and joyful because of it. I am thankful for electricity. Are you?