

Student Sample # **711LT**
Grade 7 Baseline Expository

Grade 7 Prompt:

Think of a person who made a difference in your life. It could be a friend, family member, neighbor, coach, teacher – anyone who has changed your life. Write a multiple-paragraph essay to a teacher explaining how this person made a difference in your life.

1 I was recently asked to write about someone who has influenced my life. When I
2 heard this I immediately thought of my older cousin Tyler. Tyler changed my life by
3 showing me what the outcome of my life could be if I continued down the same path I
4 was on.

5 Before I really actually knew Tyler, I was a terrible procrastinator; I put off my
6 homework, I dragged my feet in the morning and was almost late for school, and
7 sometimes I didn't even turn in my homework. Also, before I knew Tyler I was very,
8 very lazy. For example, my grandmother would ask me to go pick up my clothes and put
9 them in the washroom, but instead of doing that I would just go pick them up and throw
10 them in the closet. So, eventually my grandmother would go and get them herself, and
11 her job didn't stop there; she also had to sweep and mop the kitchen floor, vacuum the
12 living room, dust the house, clean the windows, make dinner, bake 300 cookies for the
13 credit union once a month, and occupy my little cousin Otis, and I didn't even help with a
14 single one of those things, and lucky for me that would all soon change.

15 One day, my older cousin Tyler came in and was looking for a place to stay,
16 because all his friends, who he had left, refused to let him stay; his own brother didn't let
17 him stay because he couldn't hold down a job so he couldn't even put forth any money to
18 help with groceries. Lucky for him my grandmother took him in, under one condition, if
19 he went to treatment. Treatment for what you may ask. Well that's simple, treatment for
20 his drug addiction, and you'll never guess how it started.

21 Well, it all started with Tyler being too lazy to finish high school. I mean he was
22 as lazy as a cat sunbathing on a warm day. After he quit high school though, his life
23 speeded down hill faster than a cheetah on rocket powered roller skates. He became
24 addicted to smoking then it turned into drugs. During the time he was at my

25 grandmother's house he had three chances to turn his life around, and he blew them all
26 saying treatment was too hard or he didn't need it. He also couldn't hold down a job so
27 he stole from my grandmother to buy drugs, and sadly for him he got kicked out, and
28 now he lives on the streets.

29 Soon after he left, I realized that I had to change my ways or I might end up like
30 him. I'd be friendless, homeless, penniless and alone. So, when I got home from school
31 the day after I realized this, I went straight to work on my homework and got it all done.
32 Then I played with my cousin to keep him out of my grandmother's hair. I even picked
33 up my dirty clothes.

34 So I started out as a lazy couch potato that didn't help around the house.
35 Then my cousin Tyler came and he truly turned my life around. Now I help as much as I
36 can and I never turn in my homework late; my only hope now is that Tyler can find a
37 good influence, and turn his life around also.