Lin Yuan

Eng 100

Assignment 1: [Adaptive Mindset](http://www.sabatinomangini.com/uploads/4/5/9/6/4596832/adpative_mindset_eng_100_assignment_sheet.pdf)

Due:10/8/2015

Always Thrive

My flight landed on the airport of Detroit on August 15, 2010. With a goal of learning English and some other knowledge, I started a wholly new journey in a country about whom I knew nothing.

Under the pressure of earning foreigner student tuition, three times of citizen's, I went to make money from the second week of my new journey instead of going to school. After two years of hard-working, in September 2012, I finally started school in [West Chester University](wcupa.edu) with a terrible English both in speaking and writing. With an ambition of learning more and graduating faster, I took five courses. Consequently, in the beginning of the semester, I paid the price of overestimating my own ability. I had to spend more than 7days a week in preparing classes and doing assignments. Even so, I still couldn't catch up with the professors' paces of teaching. Especially in the classes of World History and Ethics, I completely didn't understand what professors and students were talking about. The only word I said in the whole semester of History class was "water." Every Ethics class began with a small test. Most times I didn't comprehend the questions. In order to get scores from the test, I always wrote down some words which were probably unrelated to the questions at all.

In front of such a hard time, I didn't allow myself to create any excuses that possibly wilt myself. Every morning, I spared my bedtime to read English loudly for 30 minutes. Also, I downloaded English conversations from [Podcasts](podcasts.com) into my phone. Whenever taking bus to commute between home and school, I listened to the conversations again and again until to the point of being able to dictate the dialogue 100% correctly. Meanwhile, I insisted in attending every class and finishing every homework no matter how hard the situation was. My effort were not wasted. Gradually, I found myself spent less time in doing assignments and could have a short conversation with people. At the end of semester, I got three "A"s, one "B", and one "C".

Now It has been 4th year since I started school. I have persevered in practicing speaking and writing. Now I communicate freely in both speaking and writing. Though I still make a lot of mistakes in vocabularies and grammars, I have made a significant progress.

Recalling these years, I never gave up learning. I have been always believing that overcoming challenges by working hard will improve myself intellectually.

Suppose that I didn't trust myself and gave up from the first day of the school, there wouldn't be any change on me. I would still struggle in English. This negative attitude would discourage me constantly until to the last day of my life.

Every flight has countless dangers, like crashing when landing off or lightening by thunder. However, the potential dangers can't disrupt the passenger's determination of getting to destination. Likewise, the people who have [growth mindset](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QMokk7znAFs) should always thrive as long as they are alive.