

Am I Happy? Free Write

Although sophomore year is already feeling as if it is taking a toll on my mental health and sanity, and although I have much to worry about in my future, I feel happy. More importantly, I feel content — happy and satisfied at the same time. By worrying about school and the future, it means that I care about a very potential positive future. The fact that I can have a laptop to type this on, worry about good grades, or even go to school, I know that I am very fortunate and am living a life of luxury compared to many others. The root of my happiness is the fact that I can have a generally happy future, one without major obstacles, with so much help along the way.

At this moment, however, it is somewhat difficult to believe that I am “happy.” I’m typing this up at past 10:00p.m., worrying about two upcoming quizzes, thinking about the next homework assignment I have to work on, and feeling tired mentally and sore in my legs. I’ve had a difficult cross country race, an intellectually trying day at school, and a long and painful piano lesson. School is endless, with homework continuing to the weekends, and bad grades threatening to appear every day. Life doesn’t appear optimal for happiness and joy; but I know that in the end, this tough training will prepare me well for later life. The artificial hardship of attending school will (hopefully) only benefit me in the future, and this is why I endure it.

On the bright side, there are many entities in my life that I can be proud and happy about, even if they are overwhelmed by the constant presence of school. My extended family, for example, always brings a joyous atmosphere, much like the one that Montag described in Clarisse’s household. I take pride in my academic achievements, as well as musical and athletic ones. I have not much to be too ashamed of, nothing that will negatively impact my future. I have no reason to suspect that in the times to come, too much will change; I am wishful that my growing up will be a positive experience, and for that I am content.