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**How Education Was In My Country and What Level I Was In Compared To Studying In
the US Now and How I Am Better Than Before and More Helpful**

I am a first born child born to a family of four, a first born boy_ the only boy_ in the family¹. We resided in upcountry on a ranch which used to be managed by my parents. Life in the countryside is quite interesting in that most things there are so natural fresh and real. My siblings and I went to a nearby school known as Dar-Althiker Preparatory School in Saudi Arabia. Here we studied partly and later transferred to another school. Our school being a public school it was managed by the little funding from our school fee. Similarly, there was a small percent from the government that was subsidizing the fees we paid (used to purchase books, school furniture, and other stationery)². Though this could not even cater for a quarter of the money needed. Therefore this shortcomings made the education services that were offered here to be not as sophisticated as the one offered in private institutions in the country. These services were not similar due to the lack of or the inadequacy of learning materials in our schools. For instance, in the laboratory, there were less experimental apparatus and computers that would be used for technological consciousness among students and teachers. As a child, I always wanted

¹ Dash skewer

² Parentheses

to school in a better school that was more advanced than the one I was enrolled in. Thus I had an indifferent attitude towards this school thus it really affected my academic performance and even my relationship with my fellow students. But despite all this, I had hope that one day I would go to a better school.

As soon as I completed sixth grade my father was employed in a company in the city. It was a breakthrough for the whole family since our living standards would change for the better. We relocated to the city and thus we had to transfer to another school. When we got enrolled in one public school named Al-Andalus School. It was not easy to cope since most students were used to the environment unlike us. Knowing we were from the countryside they used to tease us and make fun of us. I really felt disheartened, though the school was not very different from my former school. These schools were similar in terms of the equipment in the school they were scarce and could not be enough for all the students.

In this institution, we faced the same problems as in the countryside thus this made me so overwhelmed. Since I had high expectations for the new school: ³this was not the case instead I was still in the same place that I was in before. This prompted me to work harder with the little resources at hand so as to be able to realize my dream in education (to study in a good school in the United States)⁴. Though it was so challenging I had no option but to work hard towards my goal. When I was in my seventh grade there was an inter-school competition. Where the best

³ Colon

⁴ Parentheses

student from each school would be given a scholarship (study in the best international school in the United States)⁵.

That evening when I returned home I was really contemplating on how to do the assignment and get the scholarship. I was so afraid of that even if I got the best mechanism for tackling the task how would I present it to people? This was a problem since I had an inferiority complex. The following morning I discussed the issue with my class teacher Mr Rami encouraged me. He even assisted me in doing the assignment since he always believed in me;⁶ it was due to the competence I had shown in class in the past couple of months that I had been in that school. Mr Rami helped me make a comprehensive three-dimensional presentation⁷. This presentation would be accompanied by the verbal presented on the competition day which was just a week ahead. He made me present to my fellow students so that I could overcome the fear. This regular presentations before my fellow students and teachers made me gain a lot of courage. At this point in time, I was very confident and I was optimistic that I would win the competition.

That Monday when I returned home I found my mother extremely sick and helpless. I called for an ambulance and she was rushed to the hospital. This made me not to go to school the following day since I had to take care of my siblings. In the evening around 5:00⁸pm my class teacher Mr Rami passed by our house to ask why I had not gone to school. He was so sad since he felt like we were going to be defeated in the competition. Though I gave him hope and told

⁵ Parentheses

⁶ Semi colon

⁷ Dash

⁸ Colon

him not to worry since I was practicing at home. On Wednesday, I went to school as my dad stayed at home to take care of my siblings. On reaching the class I realized the broad smile on Mr Rami's face he was as cute as a rose⁹. I was not so much settled since I was worried about my mother's health I still played strong. This time was so challenging since I had to perform well in the competition and yet I was so stressed by my mother's illness. Monday was the competition day I arrived at school very late. As soon as the competition begun Mr Rani and I went to one of the classrooms and rehearsed one more time before going on stage.

No sooner had I just stepped one foot in the hall than I heard my name being called to present. I ascended, my calves burning, my ankles throbbing, my back laden with supplies, to the stage, I paused, frightened, and with overwhelming emotions to begin the presentation¹⁰. As I began presenting the hall was filled with silence after a long period of infotainment¹¹. Parents, neighboring schools, and other guests were getting in one after the other. I completed my presentation on time. Other schools presented until very late. Lucky enough, at the end of the day I was the winner thus was given the scholarship. I was sent to California to study a business course. This scholarship was a dream come true¹² since all my life I had wished to study abroad. Currently I am better than when I was in Saudi Arabia. I am in my second year of college pursuing a business course.

⁹ Simile

¹⁰ Freight

¹¹ Telescoping

¹² Metaphor