

High School/High Tech Creative Writing Program
Writing Excerpts
Summers 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

The following writing excerpts are from High School/High Tech summer interns. Using a fun and free environment, the interns work on writing and communication skills as well as confidence and self-esteem. By building on preexisting skills, the students' become better prepared to face coming challenges in their respective academic and career futures.

The Differences in Our Lives

Ribbons of data
Steady as leaves.

The deep pain that I have;
The darkness hides behind my sad eyes.

A mystery of sadness --
Life is so hard.

I feel as if I am all washed up.
Searching the tides for a sponge,
Choosing what to keep,
Sifting through the past.

Like an egg on a rock!
Does anyone understand?

Darting through the waves,
Will I make it out alive?

From the water line, I
Put life in the balance.

As I go up and down the shore with wet feet,
I feel like no man understands me.
The Seaweed drags me down --
I'm dead-looking like shells.

Does anyone understand?
(Jared Jones, Chesney Devote, Hector Avila)

I Come

I come from a place where it is hot and humid,
And the spirits keep you cool.
I come from a place where people work hard to live,
And they live hard to work.
I come from a quiet community.
I come from a three-bed, one-bath house.
I come from a supportive family.
I come from sitting around with nothing to do.
I come from a world of reality –
Into a world of fantasy.
(Irenecarr Young)

I Am

I am the lone wolf of the forest.
I am the sourness of the lemon in the tree.

I am the wild ways of the Gorillaz;
And the weirdness of an Outkast.

I am the elegance of London;
And the technology of mystical Japan.

I am the coolness of blue and gray;
I am the creativity in my imagination.

I am the dark rings in my eyes,
All four of them.

I am the artist in the child.
(Joseph Jenkins)

Bloom of Blue

You've been dreaming.
For now and forever.
What now?
Endless possibilities now open
Breathing life into a
Bloom of the blue . . .
(Hector Avila)

Wake Up

Take the slow road and think bigger.
High -speed living is digging your own grave,
So enjoy life.
There's no such thing as enough answers.
'Cause dreams don't make problems,
People make problems, so
Pull it together.
Wake up and
Stop trying to make an endless escape.
You can have it all.
(Chesney Devote)

Word to the Wise

Set your sights on peace of mind.

From simple to sensational
Make your dreams attainable.

Start something good.

Share your wishes with confidence
Introducing everything in between.

Stop worrying;
Turn the page;
Pick your plan.

From floor to ceiling
Earn rewards.

You'll find your true colors.

Keep life simple.
(Robert Clay)

To Prove a Point

I believe that just because you have a disability doesn't mean you're not smart.

When I was in the third grade I had to take a test that determined that I had a learning disability. At the time I did not know what that meant. I just knew that I had to go to a different class during certain subjects. The other kids didn't know that I had a disability until I got to the 5th grade. The 5th grade is when I moved. I had a new school, different teachers, and different students. The change was hard for me at the new school I could not hide from my disability. Students found out and started making fun of me.

Instead of letting it roll off my back, I took it out on my Special Education teacher. I always got in trouble and had to go to the principal's office. Life went on and I was in middle school. I turned it down a little, and I only got in trouble two times. At the end of middle school I realized that it doesn't matter what people say. I made up my mind to prove that just because I had a disability I was still smart.

When I was in the 8th grade I made AB honor roll every report card. I received the most improved in math. In 9th grade I was moved to the advanced math class. There were juniors and seniors. I was making better grades than they did. In my ARD, they decided to put me into regular math, and I did well. I worked harder than the other students because it took me longer to understand. I graduated with a 3.0 and was 114 out of 506 students. That might not be a lot for a person without a disability, but to me that shows I came a long way from 171 of 471 and a 2.0. I feel that I proved everyone that called me dumb and slow wrong.

I proved that just because you have a disability doesn't mean you're not smart.
(Denesha Massie)