**Narrative Paragraph Assignment**

**Due Date**: August 25, 2015 (Tuesday)—at the start of class

(We will work on these in class Friday. You will have the weekend and Monday to finish them on your own time.)

**Topic**: Respond to the following question: What is the most important thing I (Mrs. Helton) should know about you? Your paragraph will show me why.

**Requirements**:

1. Use MLA header, heading, and title format.
2. Underline all of the VERBS you believe you used once you are done writing.
3. Make a “claim” in your topic sentence (the very first sentence you write) by answering the question above.
4. Support your claim with chronologically ordered details. If you are struggling to think of these, try to remember to address the “WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, and HOW” of your story as you brainstorm.
5. Use your final sentence to conclude your narrative.
6. Strive for a paragraph at least as long as the example below.

**Example paragraph:** What is the most important thing you (students) should know about me (Mrs. Helton)?

If I tell you nothing else about myself, I think you should know that I believe in the rewards of a strong work ethic. I recall from a young age the example set by my parents, tireless in their pursuit of a better life and childhood for me than they experienced. Their tenacity and sacrifices gave me the opportunity to pursue a little girl’s dream, horseback riding, and to have my very own horses. Their expectations were simple, but great: that I, possessing such great privileges, would show responsibility and care for these amazing animals, even when it was not easy or fun. While there were moments when I wished I could be more care-free, I am so thankful that I learned that level of accountability so early in my life. The time I have devoted to showing horses has awarded me many tangible prizes—World and National Championships included—but those are not the greatest rewards. I have transformed into a stronger, more caring and compassionate person for my devotion to my horses and their care. I have the grit to take on difficult endeavors and a heart big enough to act in support of more people than I ever would have imagined. My experiences have been truly empowering, and I now hope to aid others in finding their inner drive and purpose—much as my parents helped me with the singular gift of a horse.