

Prompt: Someone once said, “Your life is your message to the world. Make sure it’s inspiring.” You can inspire a movement by speaking up about what matters to you. What important issue, if solved, would make our world a better place? Be sure to include why you deeply care about this issue and state what we may all do to help make a difference.

- *Essay must be an original **personal narrative**.*
 - *Essay must **relate to the prompt**.*
 - *Essay must be typed.*
 - *Essay must be **500-750 words**.*
 - *Essay must include **descriptive details**.*
 - *Essay must contain **a variety of transition words**.*
 - *Essay must use **sensory language**.*
 - *Essay must have **a clear message**.*
 - *Essay must have **emotional appeal**.*
 - *Essay must have **a logical sequence of events**.*
 - *Essay must have **a conclusion that follows the narrated event**.*
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While I was sketching the figure that was unfolding in my head, bit by bit, I unconsciously let go of different thoughts and memories plaguing my mind, leaving my mind a blank, empty canvas for me to fill up again. My mind silently urged me to put something in the now-empty space. I obeyed, filling it with the ideas I had for the person I was imagining was exhilarating, seeing the person that had blossomed through my imagination look like something that I could be proud of.

A lot of my art stems from my imagination, bringing forth characters that were similar to ones that I had met in books over and over again or new characters that I had thought of on the spot. Even though I drew mainly figures, art isn’t limited to just people. With art, there are no boundaries. I could draw whatever I wanted to, whether it was a person or a blade of grass peeking out of the cracked concrete of the sidewalk. I didn’t even have to draw, but it was a way for me to let go of reality. Many artists use reference photos, but lots of other people prefer models like boxes, people, and fruit that they base their sketches off of. . Art can be as simple as you want; a paper and pencil can create wonders just as an intricate color wheel and a sketchbook filled with creative ideas.

Art, for me, is a cure for my boredom. Whenever I feel like I have nothing to do, I’ll grab a pencil and sketch away, doodle in a coloring book, or even watch speedpaints that other artists have created just for inspiration. There are people

that don't regard art as important, but art can help relieve stress and carry you away on its wings to a world you have never seen before. Of course, sometimes you would use real-life objects to inspire your art and it might be a bit stressful to try and copy the objects but even then there is a peaceful, tranquil mood when drawing and it helps put everything into perspective.

A more common problem is that art is very underappreciated. Sports and academics are more often placed on higher pedestals than art, which is seen more as a hobby than anything that can have an impact on life. Many people, most of them unconsciously, lean towards the other two interests because they hear of more successful athletes, scientists, and mathematicians than they do of artists. Parents usually want their children to either excel in their studies or focus on getting better at a particular sport, perhaps even both. Even though there are many successful artists in the world, all of them are separated by the type of art they make, even if they are all art. Many singers are not commonly thought of as artists, even though they are and people don't see much of a similarity between singing and sculpting.

In my life and in others', there probably has been at least one interaction with art, sometimes even more. As children, we all doodled away on scraps of paper and random notebooks, drawing what we were sure were amazing pieces of art. Now, people don't really have the time to draw, paint, or engage with other aspects of art. Sure, many people listen to music, but they only passively listen and sometimes maybe sing along. If art was valued more in this world, it could get recognized by a larger community of people as helpful. The world would learn to be more thoughtful and let go of our stresses. Art stems from our creativity and our imagination, meaning that we are the only ones restraining ourselves from taking flight.