Who Am I?

I am proud to be a member of two cultures. Even though I am only thirteen years old, I have lived in two countries and in two cultures. I have lived in both Mexico and the United States.

I was born in the state of Michoacan. I was born in a small town called Quinseo. Life there was simple and peaceful. There was a small church where we would go to hear mass on Sundays. There was a corral where we would go and watch rodeos. After school, my friends and I would go for a swim in a creek. My mom did not work, she stayed at home taking care of our family. Life in Quinceo was nice, but money was sometimes not enough to support us.

In 1996, the day came when my dad decided to bring us to the United States. Leaving my town was difficult, but it was important that my family stay together. When I left my dear Mexico, I had a lot of very special friends and nice teachers.

When I first came to the United States, I started at the Cesar E. Chavez school in Chicago. I found affection and company at the school, between Hispanic people, my friends, and my teacher, Ms. McCready. She helped me constantly.

My education now is different than Mexico because I am studying in two languages. I feel very happy because I have the ability to communicate in two languages. In my case, being able to speak Spanish is an indication of my Mexican heritage. On the other hand, my ability to speak English is an indication of my triumph and the struggle that I have as an immigrant in this country. Now that I have been here three years, I am proud to offer my help, support, and dedication to the people who need me.

I encourage those who come from Mexico and other countries to learn English and to continue speaking their native language. Doing so will help them reach out to others.

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