

One of my greatest strengths as a student is that I persevere when I come up against a difficult challenge. One situation where I showed this perseverance was in my Language Arts class last year. Mr. Jones assigned a synthesis essay where we had to use three sources to support a position on whether GMO foods should be required by law to be labeled. It was very difficult for me because the sources we had to choose from were hard for me to understand and because I had never written a synthesis essay before. So, instead of giving up, I re-read the articles, I took notes on them, and I paid really close attention to the teacher when we talked about the articles in class. After that, I came in for help before school so the teacher could help me work on my outline. As it turned out, I wrote a pretty good paper, and my final grade on it was a B. I never would have earned a grade that high without persevering through the challenges of that assignment.

One of my greatest strengths as a student is that I persevere when I come up against a difficult challenge. One situation where I showed this perseverance was in my Language Arts class last year. Mr. Jones assigned a synthesis essay where we had to use three sources to support a position on whether GMO foods should be required by law to be labeled. Another challenging assignment I had to complete last year was in my science class where we had to take a test on photosynthesis, a very complicated process plants use to create energy from light. Both assignments were difficult for me because it is hard for me to read challenging material. The articles we had to read on GMO foods used many long words with technical definitions, and my science book uses advanced vocabulary and complicated sentences. But instead of giving up, I used the reading strategies my ninth grade language arts teacher taught me. As I read I take notes on key ideas, I look up difficult words in the dictionary, I ask questions about the material to keep my mind engaged in the ideas, and I make sure to re-read the material several times over the course of two or three days. Neither assignment was easy for me, but with a lot of hard work and using the skills I have learned in school, I was able to do well on the GMO and the photosynthesis test.