

Patrick Sullivan
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Mayflower Scholarship

“The Relation of The Mayflower Pilgrims and My Life Plans”

The uncertainty of life and the journey that it has for any individual is stressful, but inevitable. Throughout life each person embarks and travels through hardships and joyous times. These hardships can be anywhere from minute to the extreme that can take any journey or goal off task. Each journey is unique to the difficulties that it may bring. Journeys do not have to have a quota for the amount of time they need to be. They may take hours, days, years, or even a lifetime. For example, The Pilgrims had departed on their journey from the United Kingdom on September 6th, 1620. They would have left earlier, however, they had a setback when they had left in July of that year and their ship, Speedwell, had leaks. This forced the Pilgrims to depart at a later date and in the middle of the storm season. They persevered and stayed faithful to this journey and decided to still go, even though they knew the trip would be the most difficult and dangerous journeys of their lives. The delay of the ships' embark to the new world would push away almost anyone, but because of the strength the Pilgrims had they moved on and decided to partake in the new world. This delay of departure to the storm season led to many pilgrims on board becoming terribly sea sick, and even led to one dying due to the conditions on board the ship and the conditions due to the weather. This weather had developed a large storm that had struck the ship and greatly damaged a support beam on the frame of the Mayflower. The Pilgrims on board had come together to fix the beam with a large screw to keep the ship supported. They did this all together in the middle of a fierce storm at sea. Miraculously only one Pilgrim had died during this journey. The Pilgrims were on their journey for sixty-six days and had high

hopes for starting a new life and freedom in a new world. The values of perseverance, determination, and comradery that the Pilgrims had to carry on their journey provided them with success they had to reach their destination in strong and healthy conditions. Once they had reached Cape Cod, Massachusetts on November 11, 1620 the passengers had grown stronger mentally and physically. This journey was possible with the values the Pilgrims had displayed before and during their long and arduous adventure. The knowledge of the hardships that the Pilgrims had to undergo during this journey gives hope to many that nothing is too big, and setbacks can be overcome if one has the values of perseverance, determination, and comradery. I will take these values to heart as I begin my journey in a few short months. The past couple years have provided me with many setbacks and worries in my life. Back in early March 2020 the entire world held the uncertainty of what would come in the future. No one in the world could have predicted the pandemic. Stores were out of stock and hand sanitizer was selling online higher than the price of gold at one point. The world was, and to an extent still is, at an uncertainty of what are the mass effects related to this pandemic. Half of my high school career was me sitting in my room staring at my computer screen alone watching a teacher try and teach the class with the little materials they could find at home. These setbacks affected everyone and everything. Some people made the best of the pandemic, however. I was about to begin my baseball season when the pandemic had taken it away from me. This was a setback, but I had made the best of it and with the downtime that I had I was able to get better at home. I was able to focus on my health better too. I was able to learn how to cook and track food with the time that was widely available to me. There was a sense of perseverance that was given to me after I had realized that this setback was inevitable and it is how I make of it that will impact the future for the rest of my life. This pandemic had created a camaraderie amongst me and my friends.