**Biography Questions of Import**

Past:

1. Where were you born?

I was born in New Jersey in 1970. New Jersey is beautiful. I lived in a house in the woods. There were raccoons, foxes, snakes, and many, many trees. We played outside ALL the time. We loved to climb trees.

1. Tell one happy thing you remember from your country.

Our whole family…my mother, my sister, my mother’s sisters and cousins, and their children all went to the beach together for the summer. We had about 15 people in the house. Some slept in beds, some slept on the porch, some slept in the dining room. We had a lot of fun with the whole family every summer.

1. Tell something difficult from your country.

When I was little, my parents got divorced. Every weekend, my sister and I went to live with my mother and my aunt. Every Sunday, we returned to live with my dad and my grandmother. I was always very sad. Every time my mom left me at the house, I would cry and scream. Then I would chase her car down the street until she got too far away. Then I would come home and cry in my room.

1. When did you come to the US?

I went to Guatemala when I was 25. I wanted to live in another country. I didn’t want to be a pastor’s wife. I moved to Guatemala. I taught English in Guatemala at El Shaddai Christian School and at Mariano Galvez University. But, before that, I worked at the garbage dump teaching children and at the women’s prison in Antigua and at a home for homeless girls. I met my husband. I had children.

1. How did you come to the US?

Then my husband lost his job at Kelloggs and we decided to come back to the United States. New Jersey was too expensive. North Carolina was very nice so we came here. My husband got a job and we are happy here.

Present:

1. Where do you live?

I live in Garner next to South Garner Park.

1. Where do you work?

I work at Garner United Methodist Church building. I teach English for Wake Tech. Before that, I worked in Raleigh at Wiley Elementary School. I taught Spanish, I taught Science, and I was a substitute. I volunteered with many programs and events. I tutored and helped the school committees.

1. Who are the 3 most important people in your life?

My children are 2 of the most important people in my life. I help them with school and they help me feel happy to be with them. Sometimes it is a lot of work. Sometimes, I get frustrated with them, but I am very proud of them.

My step-mom is very important to me because I can always talk with her about any problems I have.

1. How do you feel here (emotion)? Why?

I am very happy here. I am doing everything I love to do. I love to teach and I have wonderful students who want to learn. I don’t give tests. I don’t like tests. I like to talk with my students and help them succeed. I love Garner. It is a beautiful town. I love to do things with my family in this area. I love my dog. I love to run with my dog. I love to talk with my dog. I love to walk with my dog.

1. How is your life remarkable (amazing)?
2. How is your life difficult?
3. How are you admirable?
4. What quality most shapes the way you live? (perseverance, love, anger, impatience, patience, fear, responsibility…)
5. What is the most important lessons you have learned from your life?
6. What do you think it means to be a hero? How are you a "hero?"

Future:

1. What do you hope you will do this year?
2. What do you hope you can do in your life?
3. What is your biggest dream?

<http://www.fno.org/bio/TRAITS.HTM>

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In the summers, my whole family…my mother, my sister, my mother’s sisters and cousins, and their children all went to the beach together for the summer. We had about 15 people in the house. Some slept in beds, some slept on the porch, some even slept in the dining room. We had a lot of fun with the whole family every summer.

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When I was 25, I visited Guatemala. I wanted to live in another country. I didn’t want to be a pastor’s wife; I wanted to be a missionary to help people in other countries. I moved to Guatemala. Eventually, I taught English in Guatemala at El Shaddai Christian School and at Mariano Galvez University. But, before that, I worked at the garbage dump teaching children, at the women’s prison in Antigua and at a home for homeless girls. I met my husband. I had children. I was very happy.

Then my husband lost his job and we decided to come to the United States. New Jersey was too expensive. North Carolina was very nice so we came here. My husband got a job and we like it here. I live in Garner next to South Garner Park. I work at the Garner United Methodist Church building. I teach English for Wake Tech. Before that, I worked in Raleigh at Wiley Elementary School. I taught Spanish and science, and I was a substitute. I volunteered with many programs and events. I tutored and helped the school committees.

My children are 2 of the most important people in my life. I help them with school and I feel glad to be with them. Sometimes it is a lot of work. Sometimes, I get frustrated with them, but I am very proud of them. My husband is very important to me because he helps me a lot with the children. They love spending time with him, playing sports, listening to music, and watching movies.

I am very happy here. I am doing everything I love to do. I love to teach and I have wonderful students who want to learn. I don’t give tests. I don’t like tests. I like to talk with my students and help them succeed. I love Garner. It is the most beautiful town. I love to do things with my family in this area. I love my dog. I love to run with my dog. She is the most amazing dog. My life is the best.

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