Here are some questions for consideration as you read and provide comments for your partner’s personal essay:

1. Is the topic interesting? Does the introductory paragraph whet your appetite for the rest of the essay?
2. Does the narration have a theme (or implied thesis)? Does the essay express a point rather than simply recount a story?
3. Does the narration focus on specific scenes? Does the writer pace the story effectively?
4. Does the narrator include vivid details to describe people, places, events?
5. Does the writer make himself a character in his own narration? How can he do so more effectively?
6. What do you like best about the essay?
7. Offer suggestions for improvement.

Writer: Review your partner’s comments; devise a plan for revision. When you submit your revised draft, please complete the following questions in detail (I.E. by referring to specific lines):

* Did you stick with your original topic or did you change it along the way? Why?
* What problems did you encounter during the process of creating the essay?
* List two of the most important changes you made. Why did you make them?
* What part of your essay are you most proud of? Why?