

Name

Encounter title and/or number



Thinking back and looking forward

If, when you look back, you draw conclusions about the experience, what are they?

Complete as many of these as you can...

I liked the experience for the following reasons...

I obviously liked the experience for the reasons that I was getting to know my boyfriend better and that I was let in to his family. I also really liked learning these new things about his culture. The fact is that from every such experience, it has made other such experiences easier. The more knowledge you have the easier it is gain more knowledge, and it can help to understand other situations better and help you to gain a better understanding of how to behave and how to react in situations with other groups.

I disliked the experience for the following reasons...

Thinking back I actually don't think I disliked anything about that specific experience, although in the time after that there were many things that I did not like. For instance they were sort of homophobes, and did not believe that a person could be born gay. This is something I absolutely disagree with and I am a great fighter for gay rights.

There were some things which **I approve** of and these are my reasons...

Contrary to my anxiety towards meeting his mother I really liked how welcoming and accepting she was, specifically with time. I was integrated into the family and accepted as who I was even if that was someone from a completely different background.

There were some things which **I disapprove** of and these are my reasons...

See question above.

Also I felt sometimes that they would use the fact that they were black as an excuse to call other people racist if someone maybe did not like them. This is something I do not condone.

Thinking back
and looking forward

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Try to imagine that you are telling someone you know well about all this. It could be your brother or sister for example.

Do you think they would have the same opinions as you? Would they approve and disapprove of the same things for the same reasons?

Try to think about why people you know well and who belong to the same group(s) as you (same family, same religion, same country, same region etc) might have the same reactions and write your explanation here:

My sister definitely would, as we are quite alike and we are both fighters for equality and ... people's rights.

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Did the experience change you? How?

Because this experience was the first I had really had of the sort, it has changed me in a ... huge way. It has given me so much knowledge that has changed my views and opinions about a great deal of things. In many ways it has been a sort of starting point to a slow ... change towards who I am today, as a lot of changes happened in the years after and I have come across countless other cultural experiences since.

Did you decide to do something as a result of this experience? What did you do?

I introduced him to my life as well. Took him home for dinner and introduced my sister to his family.

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Will you decide to do something as a result of doing this Autobiography? If so what?

I already decided half way through this Autobiography to write an e-mail to him and his ... family to see how they were doing, because we haven't spoken in a while. It just made me analyze the situation more than I have ever done before.

It also really makes me want to write essays about race and culture, as well as start reading more about it, as I find these issues very interesting.

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What else?

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Today's date

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