

Motivational Words of Wisdom

1.2 Who am I Final Response

Photo Collage by Danica

We often do not realize the impact that words have on our lives. Daily bombardment of words in various forms (song lyrics, poetry, e-mail messages, billboards, to-do lists, text messages, social media notifications, television, film, school assignments, literature, heartfelt discussions with loved ones, etc.) forces us to filter, prioritize, and organize them to manage our day. It is only when we stop to consider the significance of words on our life that we really contemplate their value. English has only twenty-six letters in the alphabet, and Japanese has fifty, but the combination of letters can change lives. I know they changed my life! Motivational words of wisdom from my grandmother, my parents, and my favorite travel quotations have influenced my upcoming degree and encouraged me to be a passionate, lifelong learner.



My grandmother

My grandmother always provided some of the best advice for me when I was growing up. "Study what you are passionate about!" She repeated this mantra to her own children and grandchildren so that we would be motivated to learn things that we enjoy. Even though mealtimes in our household were special, knowledge had precedence. I think this is why I want to study Fine Arts in university. I am passionate about photography, painting, and sculpting and my grandmother's words of wisdom and where I live have both greatly influenced me. Japan is simply stunning! The people and culture are so inspirational.



Me!



I love sushi!



Painting, pottery, & photography is so calming for me.



Some favorite photos in Japan



My parents' words of wisdom are always encouraging and no-nonsense, with a dash of humor. My mother always tells me to enjoy what I am doing and work hard despite any adversities. My family still lives in Japan. We move around a lot for my dad's work. I really like travelling, and I'm glad that I can mix travel and schoolwork. My father's familiar saying, "Words of kindness go a long way in this world!" is so indicative of the realities of life.



My favorite travel quotations provide inspiration and motivation. I collect quotations, much like paint brushes!

"Not all those who wander are lost." — J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." — Augustine of Hippo

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." — Anna Quindlen, *How Reading Changed My Life*

"Wherever you go becomes a part of you somehow." — Anita Desai

"A good traveler has no fixed plans and is not intent on arriving." — Lao Tzu

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." — Marcel Proust

"Travel far enough, you meet yourself." — David Mitchell, *Cloud Atlas*

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