**Reflection I**

 Music can be defined as “vocal or instrumental sounds combined in such a way as to produce beauty to form, harmony, and expression of emotion” but for me music is defined as “memories and histories of my life”. Music is my friend, family and partner, which was always there for me by my side. Music has grown up with me since I was born; it is something that is really close to me but yet very far away from me. Music is very close to me if I think about how music was there since I was born but it is also very far away from me because there is so much about music that I don’t know about. I have played many instruments such as piano, violin and clarinet but have never studied history of music. For me, music can be defined as “memories and history of my life”, for example if I listen to the song called, “My heart will go on” by Celine Dion, I remember the days when the movie Titanic came out and the memories within that time. By remembering those days, it is just like reading my old diaries by just listening to the song.

Also, I was born in South Korea and came to Canada when I was in grade 5. At first, it was really hard for me to speak English fluently as other friends in school, so I decided to make friends by teaching them a Korean song. After listening to the Korean song, they showed interest and we danced together and sang together. Even though you don’t understand the lyrics, music is one thing that can make us connected to each other. Even though my friends in Canada didn’t understand the lyrics at all, we had fun and built memories out of that.

I started to learn how to play instruments since I was seven years old. First instrument I learned was piano and I have participated in many piano concours. I have played piano for 6 years and best result I got from playing piano was getting a silver medal in grade 4. Second instrument I learned was the violin in grade 5. Personally, violin was really difficult instrument to learn and only instrument that made me cry. By playing violin, it helped me to get an interest in classical music and helped me to figure out that there are different genres in music. Finally, the third instrument I learned was the clarinet, which I started in grade 7. I participated in musical orchestras with the clarinet and it has helped me to learn more about music. When I was young, I just played instruments because I thought I had to but as I grew up, I realized that we don’t just learn instruments for school but for ourselves. When I play an instrument there are connection between instruments, listeners and myself and I enjoyed making this connection because for me, it was like sharing our own stories. This formation helped me to realize that music is also type of communication.

As I grow older and was in my teens, I was going through puberty. Through this stage of my life, music was my adviser. Before this stage of my life, I listened to music with the melody but after this stage, I started listened to the lyrics. These lyrics came to me like friend, family member or a partner talking to me and understanding me.

 Even though we live in the world with high technology, it is harder for us to follow because it is developing really fast. Technology is not something really new to us because it was always there since we were born. In the first class, we introduced ourselves in front of the digital camcorder and everyone just used digital camcorder like using things they use in everyday life. After talking with the class, I was really amazed that using technology wasn’t anything new to us anymore. But as I stated before, technology is developing really fast and it is getting harder for us to know it all. I always wanted to compose music with computer but never had chance to learn how to do it. I always wanted to make my personal stories into the song, and by learning how to compose music with computer will help me to achieve that goal. I like the fact that I can put in my personal stories and learning new technologies. In this class, I’ve liked to develop myself further in music and using digital media.