

“Rules of the Game” Personal Narrative Writing Pece

In Amy Tan’s short story, “The Rules of the Game,” the narrator describes the story of her blooming ability as a competitive chess player. She sees her ability as stemming from her individual achievements while her mother feels that her daughter’s success is, in part, owed to her influence. Thus her ability as a chess player becomes a responsibility to her family.

This illustrates a difference in cultural values between traditional Chinese culture, which prizes the influence of family and communal honor, and American culture which prizes individual achievement above the influence of the community.

Think of a time when you experienced significant pressure from others to perform or achieve. What was the situation? What were you expected to do? Was the pressure and expectation from others harmful or helpful? What did you learn from the experience?

Your personal narrative should be at least four paragraphs in length.