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Narrative Essay: Journey through the Desert

There are events in life that can change your life experiences and worldviews. Changes can bring isolation, doubt, fear, pain, success, or happiness. The major event in our family occurred when we moved from Mexico to the United States of America. It was a challenging life experience, leaving our birth land and crossing the border to a new country. Although, as a family, we always dreamed of living in the United States, we were not psychologically prepared for the challenges we would encounter moving to the U.S. My parents always wanted the best for their family and hoped to transit to better opportunities in the United States. Working on the farm to feed the family was tough for my father, he finally made the decision to move to America. Indeed the journey to America was challenging, however, my parents had dreams and hopes of prosperity after settling in America.

After spending life in Mexico living an average lifestyle, my parents moved to the U.S, a journey that opened up new hurdles and more opportunities in life. Crossing the desert and scrub-lands in Coahuila, Mexico before entering into the USA was a life-threatening experience for my parents. Along the long journey through the desert, they were in a small group. They had heard stories of immigrants crossing the dessert suffer robbery, assaults, and abduction by criminal gangs. Fortunately, they never encountered any violent gangs along the journey.

However, the food they had carried along could not last them the perilous long journey of many miles through the desert. The many miles and months they hiked in the desert, despite the amount of food and water they had carried, it was a difficult journey to survive.

The journey to the US border through Mexico was a nightmare. The journey was hazardous and the weather changes increased as they drew closer to the border. During the day, the furnace-like heat of the desert and the extreme cold nights were a major challenge. It was a very shocking experience for some of the members of the group, partly because they could not handle the desert heat and cold. Besides, there were several species of snakes and other venomous creatures such as killer bees, along the hundred miles of the desert landscape. Some people died from exposure to cold and heat that caused dehydration and other medical conditions influenced by exposure to the hostile desert environment. My parents were determined to come to the U.S, thus they kept pushing to ensure they pursue a better life for themselves and the family. In spite of all the hardships, my parents and some members of the small group, finally arrived in the U.S. After settling in the U.S my father got a job at a construction firm while my mother worked at a hotel.

My father always narrates the story to us about the experience of crossing the border. The number of dead bodies and the encounters with venomous animals along the journey sounds very disturbing and shocking. I am happy my family beat all odds and moved to the U.S. It was a great chance to experience life in a different country. I was nervous at first, always wondering if we would make it in a new country, but since my parents had friends who had already settled in America, within a few months I adapted to the new life in America. Despite the challenges we encountered, I am happy for the new life here and grateful that my parents secured well-paying jobs and are now prosperous.