

Self-Assessment A — Identifying Perspective, Privilege, Prejudice, Purpose, and Civility

The prompt

Please read the passage below. The story, all names, characters, and incidents portrayed in this scenario are **fictitious**. No identification with actual **persons** (living or deceased), places, buildings, and products is intended or should be inferred.

Following the passage is a series of questions that require your thoughtful response. Please submit your responses below and then reflect in your journal.

The story

This is Chiara's first year as a Resident Assistant (RA) and things are going very well. Being an RA is a blessing because she gets her room and board at a reduced rate, and this opportunity will help her to save for grad school. She will be the first person in her family to attend grad school, and her mom is already calling her "Doctor." She's explained that a PhD student is not going to become a physician, but her mom doesn't care, and Chiara loves her for that. Chiara has three other jobs on campus and it seems like all she does is work or study, but being an RA suits her.

She likes helping underclassmen and women navigate those rocky situations and decisions, and she feels like they take her seriously and listen to her advice -- Or at least she thought they did. It seems everybody parties, and she can't stop that. It's what people do at college. Chiara did too, and paid a price for it every now and then, but she also made some decisions that are working for her. She's trying to pay it forward by having weekly floor meetings about drinking and drugs and sexual assault, but she's noticing that her students are showing up really drunk and really spaced, and she feels like things are getting worse. She has noticed that two people on her hall are the ringleaders in the revelry and resistant to her suggestions to chill, and it feels like she goes head to head with them at every meeting.

One of the kids, Michael, is that perfect student with everything on point. His parents visit all the time and his little brother and sister run up and down the halls singing fight songs. It's hilarious, and fine with you. But the other leader, Imani, is someone unexpected. Chiara has been watching the classic tale of a lonely kid finally finding some traction in the social structure, and she's happy that this super smart, super outsider has started making friends. But she has suspicions that something else is going on too. She doesn't want to think that Imani is involved in something risky, but she has that feeling. Exam week is stressful, and she knows there's stuff floating around. Chiara's got her eyes peeled and her ears open, and she hopes these kids aren't being stupid.

The rubric

A successful self-assessment reflection will:

- demonstrate a clear understanding of the story provided for reflection
- share at least one [or more] personal insight about your thought process while completing the self-assessment
- use specifics and examples from the stories and/or prompts to support why you were (or were not) surprised by your thoughts during the self-assessment process