

*ITCS LAZZARI BEST ESSAY*

*by*

*Martina Artusi*

WHO AM I?

My name is Martina, I'm a mint chocolate cream puff; I'm a little bit plump, like a pastry, my hair is blond, like cream. I'm a blend of rich chocolate infused into a bittersweet minty flavor which combine to provide a strong flavor that represents who I am.

I'm a contradiction between two different flavors that came together, Now at fifteen, I am still innocent and naïve, I am fearful of heights, scary movies, and bed bugs. I look at life as a mine of opportunities. I do not know who and what I will be when I'm 22, 27, or 32. I am really open to opportunities and experiences. I want to learn a wide range of topics, from foreign languages and geography to hip hop and modern dance. I look at life as a spontaneous adventure; wherever life takes me, I'll be there for a reason. I don't have a clear image of my identity. I am the perfect blend of my innocent and carefree childhood, where everything was great and of my present and confident, fifteen year old self, who believes that through determination and the right kind of attitude, I can go far. I am the perfect contradiction of Mint Chocolate cream puff.

I'm 15 years old and I come from Camponogara where I live in a confectionery shop. Something more about me? Well, I'm talkative, I like chatting a lot, I love meeting new people!! I'm always optimistic, I never think that something is going bad.

The best thing that makes me happy is when my friends feel good. I hate when somebody is angry with me because I feel sad.

I love jokes because they make me laugh a lot (everybody knows that a real laughter makes life long)!!!

I care about people in need. In fact I would like to feed everybody who's starving because my taste is simply divine.

I worry about nature and I can't stand when people leave their litter on the ground.

It really gets on my nerves when I hear on the TV that someone harasses a woman And in Italy it happens quite often

I love dancing and I want to become a dancer. After school I want to go to the University and get a degree in languages.

My favourite clothes are: jeans and large sweatshirts. I love trainers!!

I really like reading especially stories about people who lived during the Second World War.

I haven't too much time to watch television, but when I do it I usually watch dance programmes like "America's Best Dance Crew" or music programmes like Mtv.

With my friends I talk about everything: from music to boys, from dance to school.

When I'm not at school I usually do my homework and when I finish it I go to dance training or I go out with my friends.

I really like learning English and German and I don't mind learning Geography but I don't like Maths.

If I won a million euros in the lottery first of all I would buy a beautiful car for my dad and a valuable ring for my mum. If I suddenly had two weeks free I would call my friends and pay an unforgettable journey to New York !! I think that we'll have a lot of fun there!!!

I admire everybody who gets what they want.

I'm so young and I have much time for doing all the things that I would like to do in my life. First of all a long journey around the world to know the different cultures and countries!!!!

I love knowing that there is someone different from me.

As a cream puff I consider food a cultural element. And I think that the preference for some food and the refusal for others, comes from the culture. Every culture has a code which is determined by geographical, environmental, economical, historical and nutritional components.

There are dishes which are related to the place where you come from, they affirm your identity, and a meal promotes the integration for a different culture.

As you know I'm a chocolate cream puff. Few days ago a customer took me to his home and I heard that they were talking about different eating habits in the world. I learnt that In the United Kingdom for breakfast they have: eggs, bacon, grilled tomatoes, fried mushrooms, fried bread or toast with butter and sausages.

I thought: really?? That's incredible !

In Italy we usually eat: coffee, milk, cereals, biscuits, tea and croissants. It's totally different!!!!

We eat that stuff for lunch!!

Then I heard that they eat fish and chips for lunch! Where I live we usually eat pasta, meat, vegetables, cheese or fish. I'm so curious to taste their food!

I listened to the conversation and I realized that on Tuesday there was going to be a special party!!

They were going to prepare different food like hamburger, sandwiches, cheese cakes from America; couscous, kebab, lentil from Africa; sushi, sashimi from Asia and pasta, pizza, risotto from Italy of course.

I can't wait... and obviously I will take part in it!!! But I really hope that nobody will eat me!!!

I'm so young and I want to do lots of things in my *sweet* life!!!!!!

I've lived in Camponogara all my life and I really like living here because it is a small town and I know most people here. The weather in winter is cold but it rarely snows. In summer it is hot and sometimes is too hot! But I love summer because my friends and I can stay out a lot of our time. We usually have bike trips in our city or have supper outdoors and at night we look at the stars.

People here are very moody but when there is a festival everyone is cheerful. We are always ready to meeting new people!

The country of Italy is made up by many different regions and provinces, each one with its own distinctive dialect, history and culture. In my region we speak a special dialect, the Venetian which is almost a language for us. It's too funny practicing it with old people: sometimes I don't understand what they say, but they teach me the meaning of the words because the dialect is part of my identity and I don't want to neglect it. I'm worried about the possibility that most of young people neglect our native language, in fact lots of my friends don't understand or don't speak a bit of Venetian. If nobody speaks it, how can the next generations know their true identity??

However I love my country, Italy has the most beautiful art in the world. From every country of the world lots of people come here for eating our specialities like spaghetti, pasta, pizza and other food. They come to Venice for a gondola ride, for visiting Piazza San Marco and Rialto Bridge, each year there come about 22 millions of tourists!!

In Italy there's a difference between North and South, even in the food. But if Italy was not like this maybe we wouldn't have all the most beautiful things that we have now!!

I love living here, but when I grow up I hope I'll have the opportunity to go to other cities and countries and I'll be able to make comparisons with the place of my childhood!!!

In fact I don't want to be a cream puff all my life!