Week: 1 Discussion

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[Institutional Affiliation(s)]

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 In “The Clinic” the author Jeff Gremmels reflects upon his experience when he was a medical student, doing an internship in the hospital (Gremmels, 2010). The author shared a story of a young boy who was abused by his step-father and therefore he was in severe depression. The main idea of a story was the importance of knowing patient’s history before treating them. When the author was in a hospital, he saw that a young boy was rushed into the hospital as he had severe stomachaches. When author went to examine him, the boy was unable even to describe his pain in words. So, to understand boy’s condition, the author reflected upon the medical lessons that he learned during the lectures he took in medical college. However, as the mother of a boy was very dominating, author was unable to determine the reason why a boy had a severe stomachache.

A conflict in a story arose when the author asked boy's mother regarding the bruises on the boy's body. The mother made an excuse by telling the author that her son is very active in physical activities and often gets bruises while playing in the forest, especially in the rain. The author knew that something was wrong, yet stayed quiet and went home. In the climax of a story, it was revealed that the bruises on boy’s body were results of the physical abuse his step-father. It was also revealed that the boy had a history of self-mutilation along with depression.

The author then went to see the boy in his room and found a note. On a note, the boy wrote a poem to express his feeling. The boy was in a depression and had experienced severe trauma; he wanted to attain freedom. Therefore, using compare and contrast techniques, he compared himself with an airplane and UFO that fly freely in a sky without restrictions.

# References

Gremmels, J. (2010). The Clinic. Retrieved from

<https://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/backtothelake3/msp/Gremmels.pdf>.