

As a freshman in high school, I find myself in a completely new environment. It is a drastic change from middle school and a tough transition. Much of the change, though, is exciting! In this way, I think that I can relate to refugees. But, unlike refugees, I can take some of my old life with me. I still have many of my friends from last year, and all my previous teachers have taught me the things that I need to succeed here. Refugees have nothing when they leave their country. The things that they have learned must be completely revised to live in the new culture that they come into.

I know that what I have experienced doesn't even come close to what refugees must go through, but I believe it is enough to understand it. Though completely changing your environment can be frightening, it can also be a great experience, and everyone should make the best of it.

Written by: Beth Sherman, 9th grade