

I Needed to Do Something for Myself

Silvia Ruiz

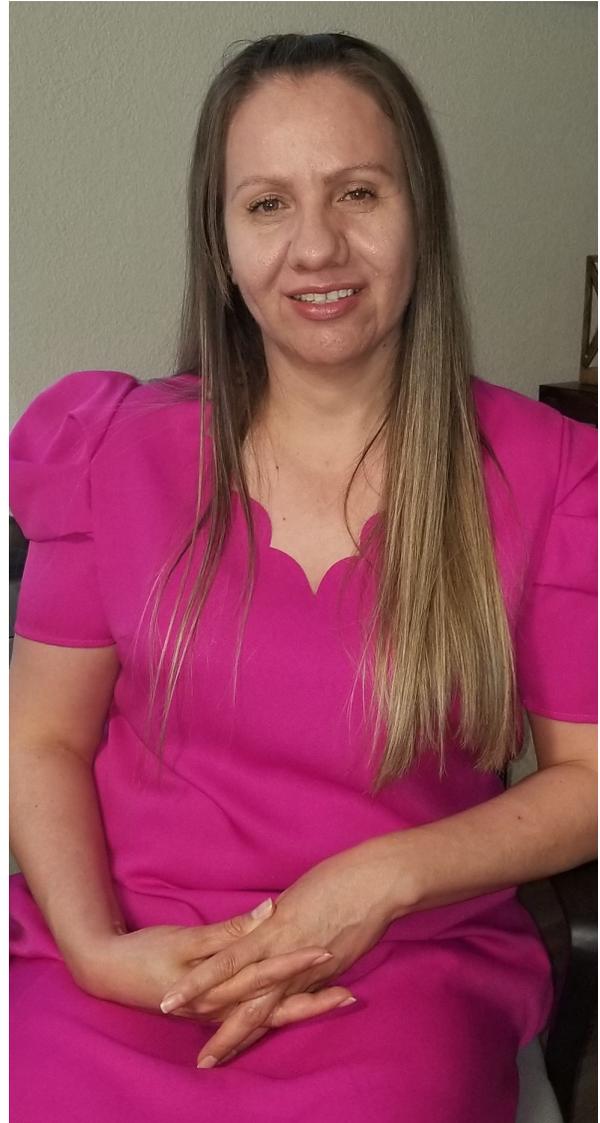
BEFORE YOU READ: Do you have balance in your life? Discuss.

I started going to school because I was trying to find *balance* in my life. I have spent half of my life dedicated to my husband and my children. I felt that my life was not complete. I needed to do something for myself, but I was not sure what to do.

I live in this beautiful country. It has given me the opportunity to have a better life. I decided to search for something that I could do. I realized that to do many things, I would need to be able to speak English. So, I found this wonderful school. I started to learn more than I thought I could. This is what has helped me find a balance in my life. I continue doing all the things I do for my family. However, now I am also doing something for myself.

To sum up, going to school has inspired me to do more things for myself without forgetting about my family. I will continue studying. I know that age is not an *impediment* to learning something new every day.

AFTER YOU READ: What does impediment mean? Share an *impediment* in your life. What critical and creative thinking skills have you used to deal with the impediment?



Silvia Ruiz is a student at YCLC in El Paso, Texas. She was born in Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico and moved to the United States three years ago. She is extremely grateful to have the opportunity for a better future for her family and herself. She says, "Life has many challenges and is full of hard work, but it is worth every single bit of it. Thanks to all who have helped me accomplish my goals."