Section One: Stuttering

1. The title of the essay perfectly connects with its content, and one can easily relate to what the author says in the body. The title, “My Strangled Speech” connotes hampered speech. As the reader goes through the article, they encounter incidents where personal attributes of the Dan Slater and the attitude of people towards him undermined his ability to communicate effectively when it mattered. From a personal perspective, the title is great as it creates an image in the mind of the reader, which in turns helps them to get into the shoes of Slater and how he struggled with stuttering.

2. The information/statistics provided between paragraphs 15 and 19 is essential as it portrays stuttering as a significant speech issue among the US population as well as highlights the scientific efforts that have been made to come up with a therapy for the problem. As such, it gives credibility to the content of the essay, and it helps one understand the article since such information enables the readers to identify themselves with the frustrations and hopelessness of the author in addressing his stuttering problem.

3. The author uses feigned forgetting to hide his problem. Such a tactic has the advantage of being received well by the audience. When people lack awareness that one is a stutter, the author says that such does not worsen the situation of stutters. Thus, it is helpful as it reduces anxiety by hiding potential shame, which hurts stutters.
Section Two: Standards of Beauty

1. Most examples in the article support the notion that beauty is what men a given society creates as the perfect image of women. This is stated in the opening sentence of the article.

2. Sketchy references to famous people are known as escapist referencing.

3. The anecdote about Phryne exemplifies the value that society placed on breasts as a vital element for perfect beauty, thereby enhancing the notion that society creates standards of beauty.

4. The author’s decision to quote Simone de Beauvoir, Elizabeth Gould Davis, Goethe, Juvenal, John Keats, W. H. Auden, and Madge Garland has a positive attitude towards the notion that beauty is relative and, therefore, depends on the image a given society has created as the ideal beauty.

5. In paragraph 6, the author supports the view that men dictate the beauty of women by providing examples in the Middle Ages and the 16th century where women were forced to look in a certain way to attract men. The author also cites academician Elizabeth Gould Davis to reinforce the point.

Section: Short Reflection Essay

It is almost obvious for every person to imagine their aspirations every single day. From a tender age, parents, and other individuals in our social settings create a standard that helps us formulated the kind of goals that we want to achieve in life. These aspirations change over time, depending on how one interacts with various factors that shape individual ambitions. Similarly, I am not an exception to this common trend in our society. Since childhood, I had this aspiration to acquire material wealth become famous and travel around the world as many celebrities do. From a sincere personal view, I treasured this as a child. However, things started changing as I
approached the teenage period, and this different view has lived in me ever since. Today, I consider success as an achievement that is fulfilling to my life, including academic success, having good health, and impacting positively on the community in which I live.

Succeeding in academic goals is something I treasure greatly. Having the right education would enable me to navigate through various issues regarding personal progress and development is an aspiration that I have made deliberate decisions to accomplish. The desire for academic growth was motivated by the fact acquiring new knowledge through formal learning can be an important resource for me to understand the world around me better. In the natural course of life, there are several elements about life that one cannot know how they affect us if the right education is not acquired. Based on this understanding, I am convinced that, apart from getting employment, education attainment will help me interpret complex issues about my life and the actions I need to take to live a fulfilling life.

Besides academic success, living a healthy lifestyle is one of the goals whose attainment I will consider a success. What good is there in having all the money and you are not healthy? Although I have not been diagnosed with any lifestyle-related medical problem, private research has informed me that the prevalence of obesity has reached a crisis level in the country. Since studies have produced overwhelming evidence suggesting that lifestyle is the cause of many health problems among the population, I will put a considerable effort to ensure that I maintain the required standards that reduce the risk of contracting of disease due to lifestyle choices.

Perhaps the most critical attainment that I would consider as a great success is making a huge impact. Achieving the highest level of education is essential for me in that it equips me with skills to understand the complex issues affecting society. Addressing issues such as addiction, socioeconomic inequality, and lack of opportunity for marginalized groups in our
community are dear to me. Whether I acquire a doctorate or come with an innovation that fetches a lot of money or not does matter more than using my resources to create a positive impact on communities.

In conclusion, my standard of success that pegged on educational attainment, good health, and making the difference in the communities. I may study and become rich as well as travel around the world as I wished as a child, but that does not overshadow the desire for the three highlighted aspirations. Therefore, I see success as attainment that which brings fulfillment to me and also makes a difference in other people's lives.