

Hello,

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My name is Adam V., but most people simply refer to me as “Red”. This is also my father’s nickname. Hopefully, one of these days I’ll figure out why. Please feel free to address me as Adam or Red – I’m much too young at heart to be referred to as Mr. Vincent!

I am a very blessed family man - married to my lovely wife Tammy, for the past fourteen years. We have four beautiful children, one son and three daughters. The names and ages of my children are Tyler Wayne, Taylor Jene, Aleisha Marie, and Erin Nicole. Their ages are eleven, nine, three and a half and two, respectively.

I have been enlisted as a trombone instrumentalist and staff arranger in the United States Navy for the past seventeen years. Additionally, I have been performing professionally as a musician throughout the continents of North America and Europe, for the past twenty-two years. Some well-known artist and organizations I have performed with are listed as follows: The Memphis and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Elvis the Concert, Kenny Rogers, Regis Philbin, Willie Colon, and The Memphis Jazz Orchestra to name a few.

I am currently assigned "out of rate" as the IT Manager and Webmaster, for the Armed Forces School of Music. I manage six servers, more than two hundred client workstations and three web sites. I have recently been selected by the Hampton Roads chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), as their Information Professional of the Month, December 2002.

I need this class along with college algebra, statistics, and a social science elective to complete my Associate of Applied Science in IT, with a non-programming concentration in communication, at the State Institute of Technology in Memphis, Tennessee. My schedule will only allow online classes at this time.

I plan to retire from active duty within the next 5 years and I am making a career transition to the field of information technology. LAN administration, web design, and web based curriculum development seem most interesting at this point. I enjoy information technology, but there seems to be very little time for my true passion – music.

I grew up in Boys Scouts and am now involved with my sons troop. I am a cycling enthusiast and very interested in physical fitness and nutrition. I enjoy road cycling, golf, basketball, softball, flag football and computer gaming. My son has been absolutely sure he wants to be a computer game designer since the age of nine!

My earliest memories of reading and writing are from kindergarten. I think we started with “See Spot. See Spot run”. I remember tracing letters from the templates above the chalkboard. Honestly, I do not consciously focus my efforts towards thinking about reading or writing. However, I feel being able to read and write have enabled me to learn

many things that otherwise would have been much more difficult.

An example of reading that is challenging to me would be section 508 compliance, which is a policy that requires federal agencies to ensure all electronic and information technology is accessible to people with disabilities. I suppose it could be best described as a bunch of dry legal mumbo-jumbo. Writing seems most difficult when I really need to justify things like infrastructure, hardware or software requirements knowing full well that the money could be used to purchase music, musical instruments or something to help young musicians in their professional development.

The type of reading I do is usually related to parenting, information technology, music or road cycling. I am most interested in self-improvement types of reading and only write when required. The setting for my writing is usually a desktop computer located at home or work with my word processor or a pen and note pad for meetings. Sometimes I use a PDA for meetings that are not “in-house”, but I prefer a notepad and pen.

I am not completely comfortable with the support for online classes provided by the Tidewater Community College. Nevertheless, I need this class and am determined to do everything power to get through it. Who knows if I’m not careful I may learn to write more effectively.

Thanks for allowing me to introduce myself and I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Adam V. eng111