The Purdue University Passport to Intercultural Learning (PUPIL)

Assignment related to *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*

This assignment takes the form of a 3-part project and is designed to facilitate reflection upon your intercultural openness.

**Project Part One – A Narrative**

Respond to the following questions in no less than a total of 1000 words.

1) With which elements of William Kamkwamba’s culture and life experiences was it most difficult for you to relate or connect?
2) What elements of your own culture and life experiences influence this difficulty?
3) With which elements of William Kamkwamba’s culture and life experiences were you able to easily relate or connect?
4) What elements of your own culture and life experiences influence this ability to relate and connect?

**Project Part Two – Imagining and Constructing Intercultural Interactions**

If you could put the two cultures and life experiences together (William Kamkwamba’s and yours), how would you imagine them interacting? Create a representation of this interaction and capture at least 3 responses from your peers regarding your representation/creation.

*Representation Specifics*

1) Be creative. The representation may be a poster or a structure. It may be a musical composition. It may be a poem or a skit. It may be a mock interview. You choose the medium.

2) Obtain your peers’ perspectives and engage them in conversation about your representation. Capture this conversation and your representation with audio and/or video equipment so it can be shared with others.

**Project Part Three – In Search for Solutions**

**You may approach this part of the project from the perspective of you as a child or from the perspective of you now and in college.**

Identify technical questions/problems you have that are similar to questions William Kamkwamba asked, such as,

I couldn’t get this out of my head. How did spinning a wheel create light? Soon I was stopping everyone with a dynamo and asking them how it worked.
“Why does the light come on when you pedal?” I’d ask.
“The dynamo is rotating, that’s why.”
“I know it’s rotating, but why does it work? What is the secret?
“I don’t know.”
“Can I play with it?”
“Help yourself.”

What technical questions/problems do you have for which you are searching for answers or solutions? How would you go about exploring and discovering solutions to these problems? Map out this process. What is it about your culture and life experiences that make your exploration and discovery different than and similar to William Kamkwamba’s quest for answers and solutions? What insight might William be able to provide you in your search? What questions might you ask him?