Name: Ma. Lilibeth A. Dela Cruz

PERSONAL ESSAY

Please answer the following questions. Be as specific and concrete as possible with your answers to the questions.

1. What do you see as your 5 top strengths and 5 top weaknesses as an employee?

One of my top strengths is I excel in individual and group work settings. I can do work on my own and learn by myself as long as I have something to start with. Working in a team is not hard for me as I can easily collaborate with others. I am an introvert and gets shy at first but as I connect with others more, I start to approach others more. I am adaptable enabling me to work in various environments. Learning is one of my priorities in this work and I know there are lots of new things that I will experience here, I am open to all that. In terms of time management, I can do tasks within the deadlines and manage my time in doing the important or most needed ones first then I can focus on which is easier to do. For me, being able to finish one task can encourage me to do more afterwards that’s why knowing the difficulty of the task is also on my check. In addition, I am an analytical thinker, strategic planner, and I have very keen attention to details. I always want my work to be done way beyond the standard.

On the other hand, this can become a weakness as I have a huge self-criticism. I like judging my own work if it is good or not. I have high expectations for myself that sometimes may be hard to reach. Especially the trait of being a perfectionist, as things in this industry may or may not always work out in the perfect way I plan. Also, I have this behavior of being able to finish tasks by the deadline. With all honesty, I procrastinate a lot. My mind seems to work as I want it when I am in a rush or trying to chase a deadline. Moreover, I take on too much responsibility. When I know that I already have too much on my plate but someone asks me for a favor, I’d still accept it. I like helping others to the point I am having so much to do for the day. Lastly, one of my greatest weaknesses is I am not so good in public speaking, or so I think. I do not have much confidence in me in speaking in front of many people. Though I think I can do it but only when strictly needed. Otherwise, I would never speak in front of many people.

1. If Filmetrics were to hire you, what are the three most important things it can offer you to make you consider taking on the job?

The most important for me in this job would be gaining much knowledge and trainings. I am looking for a company that can harness my skills in web development. I want to learn more about programming and how the corporate world actually works. To take on challenges with help from experts, as I am open to growth. Also, maybe having mentors that can encourage and support my ideas too. I have some skills that I make be able to use and I hope that will be okay for the company. This is a new environment for me and I hope I will be welcomed with open arms. In addition, having a healthy work-life balance is a necessity. This has been my priority ever since I stepped on college. It can become too stressful for me when all I do is work. I’d always find time for taking a rest, getting coffee, and such. A flexible working time is very much appreciated.

1. If there were three goals, which, if you know you were able to achieve, would help improve your life tremendously, what would those three goals be?

One goal would be personal development. As of now, I am quite confused in what I would be doing in my life. I am looking to find a new hobby that can help me enhance my well-being. I am thinking of trying crocheting. It is a new thing for me and I believe trying something new can help me move forward. Another goal is financial stability. I am the youngest in my family but all my siblings already have a family of their own. My parents are now both seniors and I am all they got at the end. They are not pushing me hard but I do want to give them much more than I received. When I become financially stable, my mind would be at peace that I am able to give back to the people that raised me. In addition, I would be able to buy the things I need and that can give me a feeling of achievement. In order to reach those two goals, the first step would be finding the work field I really desire. I am stuck between software development and hardware. When I find touch in a field, then I hope to find a workplace that I can become a successful. To pursue software engineering may be a great start for me now. One step at a time, these goals can improve my life in all aspects.

1. What was the most difficult problem you have encountered in your life? What did you do during those times? What were the results? What did you learn from that experience?

The most difficult problem I encountered was when our house burned down. It was on an unexpected day of my life because at that time, somehow our life has been stable and growing. When it happened, my life crushed. I almost lost track of my studies at that time. I couldn’t find the energy in doing the things I used to do. I lost everything in that fire so I was devastated. It took me a while to move on. Then, I thought to myself, this is a sign for me to step out of what I was used to. I should take that happening in my life as a new start. I became strong for my parents and I excelled in class despite of that draining event. I really learned from experience when old things go, new things will come. Now, we have a better roof above our head. Our hose is more stable and wider than it was. I am thankful for the new beginning that came to my family. My whole world turned but it was amazing.

1. What were the three most important changes you have experienced in the past 5 years? What did you learn from those changes?

In the past 5 years, one of the most important changes was when I overcame my fear of becoming a president of the class. For me that position held so much responsibility that I thought I couldn’t do, what more in college. Eventually, I was chosen to be the class representative and I stayed as that for the past 3 years until now. My classmates seemed to have trust in me and I made sure to never fail them. I took all the responsibilities of a class president that I never thought I could do in my whole life. This made me gain more confidence in myself for doing things I thought I couldn’t. Another one is taking this course. When I was in senior high school, my mind was set on becoming either a civil engineer or an architect. Destiny wasn’t in my hands at that time and I ended up in Computer Engineering. Even my classmates were surprised when I told them because this field was so far from what I dreamt of. I was astonished myself when I actually excelled in this course as I never expected it. I found that I can really easily adapt to what is in front of me. Despite not having any interest in computer engineering in the first place, I took effort to find fun in it. I eventually saw how amazing and interesting this course is. Now, here I am at my last year and willing to take on a field I never thought I would. Another important change was my point of view of life and everything else in it. Before, I was so focused on finding a special someone that can help me grow and would be with me for the rest of my life. That changed when I met someone that left me later on. Then, my life moved on. I realized I didn’t really need anyone for me to grow. My life can go on and I can succeed in many things without a special someone. Now, my priorities are finding a stable job, providing for my parents, getting a license, and many more for my family and for myself. The world is bigger than I thought and I want to explore it. I am taking little steps to achieve my goals one by one.

1. If there are areas for improvement in your work attitudes/ behaviors which you think the company can help you with, what would those areas be and what type of help do you expect to receive?

I think I greatly need help in public speaking. Though I know that this doesn’t happen much in our field unless we are teaching, I hope to overcome this fear I have. I feel that I have it in me, I might just need a little push and hoping to achieve that in the company. Maybe an opportunity to practice this in a supportive environment. Also, there are times I don’t fully hear what someone is saying. I may struggle to retain verbal instructions when said so fast. I hope it would be okay to take-down notes, recording voices, and such. When I am assigned with so many tasks, I tend to forget some and a reminder wouldn’t be any trouble. Moreover, I am eager to learn more about programming and to gain more skills. I expect to have trainings that can really benefit me in this field I wish to take. This gives me a peace of mind as I know I am doing in something useful.

1. Why do you think Filmetrics should hire you? What can you offer in return?

I am a Computer Engineering Technology student. In our course, we are more on hands-on work such that I was able to make websites and mobile apps on my own. We’ve used C+, HTML, CSS, Python, JavaScript, VS Code, Android Studio, XML, and more. I also have knowledge in PHP and SQL database. Aside from these technical skills, I can bring a combination of problem-solving capabilities, adaptability, strategic planning, analytical thinking, and a keen attention to details. My flexibility in working individually or in a team, and my eagerness to learn and grow can help the company’s growth. I can offer in return is I have a strong work ethic and I am very much willing to go beyond my knowledge and skills to achieve the company’s goals. I am prepared to take on challenges that will benefit me and the company too. I have great confidence that I my skills and dedication will have a positive impact on the team and Filmetrics.