*In 150 to 250 words, please write about why you are interested in applying to and attending Swarthmore.*

Swarthmore seems to be just the place for me. Cozy campus, friendly people, what’s not to love? I think the scenery is where Swarthmore’s true value is at. The open auditorium was definitely a first for me, being in the middle of a forest. Colleges of today are all about cutting edge architecture and multifunctional facilities. The convenience is undeniable, but subsequently our lives have become mechanized and tedious. We take for granted the comfort we are enjoying, and as a result we fail to appreciate our surroundings and the nature around us.

*You have been given the option of having one superpower, but, in exchange, you have to give up one of your five senses. If you take this offer, what do you hope to accomplish with your new power and what would you miss about the sense you’ve given up? (400 to 600)*

If I were to have one superpower, it would be the ability to heal any and all diseases. No matter how life-threatening, enduring the disease is, I can cure it.

Oh, right, there was a penalty as well. Having lived 17 years with all full five senses, I’m really grateful for them and cannot bear to think what I would ever do if I were to lose them. I may be near-sighted, but I use my eyes more than any other senses in a day. Music is my love and life, so I cannot afford to lose my hearing. Eating without any sense of taste is pure agony. I miss the sensation of that breezy chewing gum which would surge right up like a heavy dose of wasabi, so smell is out of the question. And touch? If we can’t touch, how do we feel our own two feet firm on the ground?

So, my answer is that I need neither any superpower nor any loss of senses. I love my current life, and I don’t think it’s necessary to depend on make-believe to solve our world’s problems. This is reality, after all.

***Brandeis*** *attracts students from many corners of the world. As an international student at Brandeis, how would you enrich the campus community? (250 words or fewer)*

*Why have you chosen to apply to* ***Lehigh*** *University? (max 150)*

***Cornell*** *Engineering celebrates innovative problem solving that helps people, communities…the world. Consider your ideas and aspirations and describe how a Cornell Engineering education would allow you to leverage technological problem-solving to improve the world we live in. (650 words.)*

*Fugitive slave, abolitionist, entrepreneur, feminist, intellectual, and Rochester luminary Frederick Douglass said “Man’s greatness consists in his ability to do and the proper application of his powers to things needed to be done.”*

*You’re showing us your “ability to do” in this application. Please describe also how you apply your “powers to things needed to be done.” Explain why you want to join our* ***Rochester*** *community of independent thinkers who create positive change and make the world “ever better.”*

*Write an analytical or creative response of 250 words or less*

*1. What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood, or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.*

*(MIT supplementary)*

*2. Most students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. Tell us about yourself.*

*3. You've got a ticket in your hand - Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?*

There’s a story of a certain ticket in my country, one that takes you back to childhood. Once aboard, there was no turning back. But its passengers would most likely be weary businesspeople, harking for the easier days. I’m still in my teenager years, but I do regret a lot of things I could have done sooner. If I could board that childhood train, I would tell myself to study harder so I could enter a good school and have more free time to myself. I would tell myself to confess to that girl who probably still thinks good of me, despite the distance between us now. I would tell myself to take life in its stride and worry not what others say. Life is too short for us to live to someone’s beck and call anyway.

*1. There’s a difference between being busy and being engaged.* ***Lafayette*** *comes alive each day with the energy of students who are deeply engaged in their academic, co-curricular and extracurricular explorations. In response to the prompt below, keep it simple – choose one activity and add depth to our understanding of your involvement.*

*What do you do? Why do you do it? (20-200 words).*

I’m a learning software programmer, so I enjoy writing my own programs. Recently, I wrote a helper allowing inputting Korean characters using the QWERTY layout. The actual coding was not difficult, but thinking of an implementation that is easy to remember, comfortable to use and customizable took the best of development time.

The first day, I mustered what little programming skills I had to write a primitive proof-of-concept, but the next few days I worked on optimizations, logical adjustments and learning the language itself to work out what works and what doesn’t. When I was finished with the first implementation, I was elated yet dissatisfied with its efficiency, so I went back to the drawing board. I repeated the same cycle of brainstorming, writing, scrapping, writing and finishing for the next few weeks, until when I could finally call it a passable program. I don’t think I’ve ever worked this hard my entire life. What if I continued doing this as my job? Would it be similarly stressful and exhilarating? Then again, there’s little point in worrying about such things. It’s only important that I loved writing the program, and I would definitely do it again given the chance.

*2. Students identify* ***Lafayette*** *as an excellent fit for countless reasons. In your response, be deliberate and specific about your motivation for applying to Lafayette.*

*Why Lafayette? (20-200 words)*

*1. Please briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities or work experiences. (Max: 300)*

*2. Why are you interested in* ***Rensselaer****? (100 words or less)*

*2. When did you first learn of* ***Carleton****? (no more than 150 words)*

*3. Why are you applying to* ***Carleton****? (no more than 150 words)*