**Many students pursue college for a specific degree, career opportunity or personal goal. Whichever it may be, learning will be critical to achieve your ultimate goal. As you think ahead to the process of learning during your college years, how will you define a successful college experience? (300 words)**

An internship at a water treatment plant in Indonesia has shown me that although the plant provides clean water to the population, it draws power from the electric grid, which is powered by a non-renewable energy resource. While looking further into this, I learned that Indonesia is investing more into renewable energy sources to increase the environmental sustainability. Even though Indonesia is the second largest producer of geothermal energy, there is still a lot of room for improvement for the technology behind these geothermal plants to be more efficient. This prompts me to contribute to research efforts in renewable energy and make positive, long-lasting changes to the environment.

In addition, during my internship in Jakarta, the heavy traffic made me realize how the pollution level was so high due to the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission from the cars’ exhaust. This brought me to think that while R&D to improve renewable energy technologies are important, it is also equally important to monitor and reduce these GHG emissions. Therefore, I plan to be involved in CMU's research on GHG monitoring and detection, while simultaneously doing research to improve renewable energy technologies.

Moreover, as a self-proclaimed animal activist, I look forward to developing an on-campus program at CMU where you can promote "adopt don't shop" cause and, at the same time, help manage CMU students’ stress. I plan to do this by proposing PAWS (Pet Away Worry & Stress) at CMU where everyone in the CMU community can spend time with puppies from shelters as methods to relieve stress, while giving the puppies a second chance for feeling loved and, hopefully, get adopted to their forever homes. Being able to help animals in shelters and contributing to promoting the wellbeing of the CMU community is also how I envision myself having a successful college experience.

Hi Abian:

I think your essay has a straightforward structure to begin with.

However, I would go back to the prompt and incorporate how learning will help you achieve your goal throughout your essay.

In the second paragraph I think you’ve sufficed in addressing this.

However, I feel like the last paragraph does not really support the prompt or your goal. I would revisit the interconnectedness of your points and make sure to have a concluding sentence that can answer the prompt.

All the best!