5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of

personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.

Seeing the faces and smiles lit up from all the children, teachers and parents gave me a

sense of joy and eagerness to do more. Building a school for underprivileged children in

Garut, Indonesia was a significant accomplishment that sparked personal growth and a

profound understanding of myself and others.

The event itself was a transformative experience, as it taught me dedication, perseverance,

and collaboration with local communities and the other volunteers. Witnessing the completed

school and gratitude from the community filled me with a sense of purpose and fulfillment. It

reinforced my belief in the power of education and its ability to positively impact lives.

As I was teaching and interacting with the children, I gained more understanding of the

challenges they face. However, these children were always willing and proactive to learn

despite these challenges. Their determination inspired and made me appreciate more the

opportunities and experiences I receive. Moreover, I realized that every child deserves a

chance to grow and be happy, regardless of their background.

As a result of this realization, I organized several more events to support children's

development, not only in academic education but also in non-academic education. For

example, I organized a tennis workshop for elementary students from a local public school.

In this workshop, we gave them the opportunity to experience a sport that not a lot of

Indonesians know about. Furthermore, it also allowed the children to learn a new skill,

promoting physical activity and teamwork.

Through these events, I was able to first-hand experience enhancing the education system

and also impacting children’s lives. Seeing their progress and the positive changes in their

lives reaffirmed my dedication to making a difference. These experiences showed me the

impacts of small acts of kindness and how they can generate a lasting impact on individuals

and communities.

These events and realization transformed me in profound ways. It fueled my passion for

education, amplified my sense of social responsibility, and broadened my understanding of

the world. It reinforced my belief that by investing in the education and well-being of children,

we can create a brighter future for all.

**Note:**

Hi Ms or Mr, for this essay I have something in mind for what to write about. However, I am

finding difficulties in being able to express it in writing and also highlight the values I want to

show. If it is possible, please give me tips and feedback on how I can improve it, or maybe

we can discuss how I should format the essay.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Have a great day.

Best Regards,

Gillian Sudjarwadi

Dear Gillian,

This is a good attempt at your first draft. Your focus on assisting the less fortunate gives your essay the potential to be quite engaging. However, there are several ways you can improve further on your content and structure.

First, since this is an essay on *your* personal growth, focus on introducing us to who you are – after all, personal growth needs to have a starting point. What were your values and views before the project? How did it change through this project and through working with the underprivileged children? Use vivid descriptions, and retell things from *your* perspective to allow the reader to see from your point of view.

Second, decide on what the central theme of your personal growth story is. What values did you gain through this experience? Focus on one or two main values – it could be anything from leadership, selflessness, dedication, perseverance, etc. Allow it to take center stage in your story.

Finally, be more descriptive in your writing, to help the reader visualize the events of your story and relate to you more. For example, describe how you helped in building the school or organized events for the children, and what obstacles you faced in carrying them out, instead of simply *telling* the reader that you’ve done all this.

You’re headed in the right direction. Keep up the good work, and don’t hesitate to ask your mentor for help.

All the best,

Arianne

ALL-in Essay Editor