**1.  Why are you interested in the major you indicated as your first-choice major? (250-300 words)**

DRAFT 3

I remembered being in Grade 9 and asking my father to teach me about the stock market. Seeing graphs with so many colorful red and green lines was very interesting for me. Soon, he made a Siminvest account – one of Indonesia’s local stock investment apps – and I finally got to trade on my own. All his teachings about the stock market propelled me to follow the current financial news every single day and now, I’m looking at a 24% profit from my initial investment. Every time I eat breakfast, I always make sure to scroll through the Economics section on Apple news, the New York Times, Washington Post, or The Guardian.

Aside from that, I often read autobiographies and memoirs of successful stock investors in order to understand their different perspectives and strategies in looking at short and long-term profits. For example, Warren Buffet uses value investing as his primary strategy while others use strategies such as growth investing, short selling, and quality investing. I believe that it is helpful to write down these different strategies. There is always something new to learn about the stock market, like using the right strategies that can allow the money invested to outpace inflation and increase in value.

I would like to continue improving my technical analytical skills in identifying market trends and trading opportunities. Working in a fast-paced environment with high exposure to learning skills like raising capital, IPOs, and financial forecasting cultivated my interest to have a career in investment banking. I believe the skills that I’ll be studying at UT Austin will not only help me pursue my goal but also provide me with opportunities for development and networking, and collaboration with a larger pool of talented and hardworking classmates.

Hi Catherine:

I think this is nearly polished.

I would cut down or split the longer sentences to avoid run-ons.

All the best!