**Describe a situation you witnessed, or were involved in, where someone was treated unfairly or discriminated against. How did you respond, and would you do anything differently if that situation occurred again?(120)**

I was in 4th grade when I witnessed a person getting bullied. He was always excluded and treated unfairly by the others due to being autistic.

The first thing that popped up in my mind was to try and stop it somehow. But being inexperienced, I just told the bullies to stop teasing him and reported the case to the teacher. This lessened the severity of the bullying but it was obvious that he was still affected by it.

If I could go back in time, I would definitely take a different approach. Rather than reporting first, I think that comforting the person and teaching him how to deal with the bully is the first priority.

Hi David,

This is definitely a tough prompt that elicits an emotional response from readers. You’ve witnessed a bullying done to someone incapable of defending himself, and I admired your effort in helping him.

However, this short prompt is a chance for you to show your personal growth. You can be more honest with what the bullies did to your friend/classmate/peer. I’ve left comments above to help you clarify more details.

Most importantly, the admissions officer wants to see how you felt when you witnessed such an act. Here are some questions to help you perfect your answer:

1. What prompted you to take actions against the bullies? How did you feel seeing someone vulnerable?
2. Did your parents instil these moral values to help a friend in need?
3. After the bullying lessened, how did you come to the conclusion that the victim was still affected? It’s okay to be more explicit.

In the ending, I honestly feel teaching your peer to deal with the bullies may not be the best approach since both of you are still in 4th grade. The better approach is the first one, which is comforting your peer. Maybe you can elaborate that you want to be a good friend to him instead?

**Briefly describe a personal goal you have set for yourself, and how long you have been working to achieve this goal. Who did you turn to for advice or help, and what was their role? What did you learn about yourself?(120)**

The gaming prices in Indonesia are currently very high due to arbitrary price gouging. As such, this motivated me to determine ways to make game development more affordable.

I’ve been working on this goal since middle school, starting with programming. Since the school curriculum doesn’t go in depth into coding, I decided to learn more outside of school. Building a more effective program to analyze user behaviors accurately might be the key to lower cost so I joined a data science bootcamp to learn how to analyze user behaviors and make smart predictions and decisions for future developments.

From this boot camp, I learnt that my knowledge in this field is still shallow. I got a lot to work on to reach my goals.

For this prompt, it can be seen that the university is looking to see whether you’re a person who has a clear goal. Also, the officers want to know how you handle setbacks in pursuit of your dream.

I suggest you break this down to three distinct paragraphs.

1. You’ve established you wanted to make affordable games. Why is it important to you? Has gaming always been a part of your life?
2. A. What is your expectation from this bootcamp? What challenges did you help?

B. Was there a mentor that helped you? (This is a question in the prompt that you haven’t addressed). How did this mentor inspire you?

1. What did you learn after setting a goal and going through setbacks? How will you

use these new skills/lessons for your future goals?

**Describe an example of a situation where you took on a leadership role, helped resolve a dispute, or contributed to a group's goals. What was your role, what were your responsibilities, and what contribution did you make?(120)**

When my parents went overseas for a couple of months for mom’s cancer treatment, my siblings’ academics suffered. I took the initiative to help them get back on track.

Knowing their temperament, I used positive reinforcement: I prepared their favourite meals to help them focus on studying and gave them rewards when they finished their schoolwork. I also learnt to do house chores to provide them with a clean studying environment.

Things eventually got back on track. The messy house became tidier. Improvements were not only seen in their grades but also in mine. This experience taught me the importance of encouragement in leadership and to advocate positive feedbacks to support my peers and colleagues in the future.

Well done! You’ve clearly identified your leadership role in a specific situation. You’ve also provided actions you’d taken to resolve the issue. The ending also ends on a self-reflection.

There are some comments above that I think may help strengthen your essay a bit more, but overall this essay has already addressed the prompt in a clear manner.

**Describe a group, organization, or community with which you have been involved. How long have you been involved? Describe the impact of your involvement in this community, and what you learned from being a member. (120)**

The taekwondo club meant a lot to me. It’s a community of driven people from young to old: a group of support that helped me overcome my anxiety problem.

I first joined the club in third grade and continued for 4 years. During this time, I got 2nd place in a club tournament and mentored younger kids with the same problem as mine. I would give them advice from my own experience on the road to getting 2nd place and help them develop their confidence.

The biggest thing I received from this experience was confidence. I learnt that performing well earns me more claps and I would turn those cheers into confidence.

This prompt asks you to delve deep, and I like how you chose a different route by writing about your taekwondo club.

Although this club helps with your anxiety problem, it is hard for me to follow along your journey. I think your essay will be more impactful if you can point out why you’re anxious. For instance, you can mention how you’d get anxious in a crowded place/performing for others/being with a crowd.

By doing so, winning the second place in the tournament will show how you slowly grow out of your shell. Then, you want to help other shy, younger members. The advice you gave them should be clearer as well to signify your impact to your community.

For the ending, I’ve left a comment to help you restate and shift the focus into gaining a valuable thing (confidence) through helping others.

Best wishes!

Melinda