**Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others**

At around the 4th grade, I began to really contextualise the world around me and its workings. Experiences that were appalling to my younger self, having my mind itching when placed in a social environment with especially wealthy people. As the cogs started to turn to propel the earth into rotation, I had found myself digging deeper and questioning the more intricate increments of these cogs that make money move, which personally is the largest factor to a significantly more enjoyable lifestyle to experience in this life we only get a single shot on. The desire to fully internalise the traversing of money between parties like organisations and individuals was unstoppably growing and had myself thrusted into wanting to be that person equipped with the knowledge to help individuals and companies to make the best financial decisions available to them.

Since young, my parents have shed blood, sweat and tears to primarily prioritise placing me in an environment that sees me being raised within the social environment that I should desire to belong to as an adult. Engaging in various conversations with individuals of different backgrounds have helped me develop an established foundation of the numerous aspects there is to the industries that revolve around the society that we live in. My father especially has gone to the extent of ensuring my accompaniment in his business meetings, which proved to slip ideas of the decision-making aspects of business between parties involved in the economy. I found myself overhearing phoned conversations in the car regarding a more niche area of stock trading had me engaged in the concept of financial risk and its returns as well as benefits.

Towards the middle of my high-school years, I placed myself in a position where I had direct confrontation with this world, almost like putting my first foot forward into this world that has been engraved with constant itch in the back of my mind. I was delegated to a branch of my father’s new café where I accounted, specifically tabulated, the data for cold-pressed fresh juices monthly. Through this I was able to directly learn to use technology to keep track of financial transactions and data regarding the specific beverages being sold in the cafe’s operation. As my current interest also branched out to mix with aspects of marketing, imposed through various news of up-and-coming businesses skyrocketing, I was able to not only have my hands on tabulating necessary data but also was able to discuss strategies for the specific product with my knowledge on the statistical data, scraping the realm of quantitative data analysis. However done through brief and rare discussions held on the dinner table between a busy father and a student, I was able to discuss the statistics and information regarding the operations of the café from other branches to evaluate possible strategies. Piquing my interest, though challenging, I was tugged deeper into this reality that fuelled the workings of the world.

As a student-athlete involved in the team sports of football almost for the entirety of my life, I should assign the credit where its due. Working within the setting of a team, where chemistry and synchronization is important to achieve maximum efficacy as a single unit, my communication skills have been boosted when on the pitch to direct my teammates and initiate plans or simple movements. Throughout my sporting career, I was often appointed to take the role of a leader, honoured with captaincy. Aside from technical skills, I developed the ability to voice out what needs to be heard, as well as keep the team compact, stringing the different players together as a single whole. To top it all off, the nature of the sport allowed me to evolve into a flexible individual, as I had to work with and against various team structures at club and school level where I am placed in differing live situations.

With my finance major serving as a stepping-stone, my goal is to contribute to the advancement of the local economy of Indonesia. Specifically, I aim to assist large local firms in making informed decisions when engaging in international trade. By leveraging my expertise and knowledge gained from my finance major, I aspire to guide these firms in making the right strategic choices that will enhance their international business activities and contribute to the growth of the Indonesian economy. Through a strong foundation in financial theory, accounting principles, and quantitative analysis, I will be equipped to analyse complex financial data and provide valuable insights for decision-making. Additionally, studying in the UK will expose me to diverse financial environments, enriching my understanding of global markets and international business practices. By honing critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication skills, I will be well-prepared to excel in the competitive job market and make a meaningful impact in Indonesia's financial sector.

Dear Darren,

This is a great first draft. You’ve properly showcased your future plans, and how a finance major will help equip you to achieve these plans. I have several notes, as below.

First, you need to clarify early on (from the very first paragraph) what your intended major is. You’ve only made vague references to it in your first paragraph, and your second and third paragraphs made references to other subjects (economy, marketing, business strategy) that are *outside* of the realm of finance. Try to narrow down your focus to only what your major/course will discuss.

Second, you need to expand the “pursuit” section of your essay. Showcase more of what you’ve done to familiarize yourself with the subject of finance. Have you read any literature on the subject? Joined competitions? Taken summer courses or internships? What have you learned from them? This is arguably the most important section of your essay, and it will showcase whether your **reasoning** to pursue this major is **convincing**.

Lastly, just so your paragraphs aren’t too lengthy or repetitive (keep an eye on the character count!), try using the PEEL structure – Point, Evidence, Elaboration, Link (to your next paragraph), to make your writing more effective.

Otherwise, you’ve done good work so far. Keep it up and do ask your mentor if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Arianne

ALL-in Essay Editor