**Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you stand out as a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?**

"Beep, beep, beep! That’s the sound of my daily 8:00 a.m. alarm as I prepared for the market's opening. I immediately stimulated myself with a cup of coffee, while scrolling through my investments portfolio and the financial news. In utter disappointment, my investments were down 30%.

My inexperienced trading intuition began to wonder: maybe tomorrow will be a better day, and I'll be able to recover my losses.

The following day, consumed by greed, my intuition was completely wrong. I was down even more. As panicked as I can be, it finally sparked me to hit the sell order.

Had I sold the day before, I would have only lost 30% of my portfolio. As I reflected on the actions that led to my decision to not sell, I discovered I had to be more disciplined. By strategizing when to take profit and when to stop loss, and sticking to it, I will be certain and not be sidetracked by my own greed and fear for the future of my investment career.

Through my time of investing, I tried to use my portfolio losses and gains as an opportunity to develop my discipline and psychology. In times of loss, I decided to concentrate on my psychology so that I wouldn't be feared or panicked when the market unexpectedly dropped. This enabled me to develop a strong mentality. As for the gains, I would concentrate on discipline, such as knowing when to take a profit and avoiding falling victim to greed. As I gradually cultivated these qualities, I was able to not only become a more decisive trader, but also gain more profits and minimize my losses.

Through investing, I have developed myself into a calm and disciplined person. Be it exercising, daily chores, and studying, I’d always stick to the plan and complete what needs to be done promptly, thus, evolving me into a more productive person. Ultimately, I believe that my more disciplined self will assist me in overcoming challenges and unexpected situations which is what I will be expecting during my time in the UCs.