**A TALE OF RESILIENCE-AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY BY KENNEDY NJATHI MUNGAI**

My name is Kennedy Njathi Mungai and I was born in a family of five siblings in a small village called Kamuiru village located in Maragua constituency in Murang’a County, Kenya. My dad is a foreman while my mum is a retired teacher. Growing up in a Kikuyu village was an extraordinary experience that shaped my early childhood memories.

As a child, I had a lot of responsibilities, and one of them was to take our goats and cows to the fields to graze. I walked for miles with my animals, carefully watching over them, and making sure that they didn't stray into the neighboring farms. It was a tiresome task, but it taught me the importance of hard work and how to care for animals.

Despite the endless chores, I still found time to play with my siblings and other children from the village. We invented games with makeshift toys like wooden sticks and kites made from dried banana leaves. We also played with marbles and the traditional game of cha baba na cha mama commonly played by the Kikuyu kids.

One of my fondest memories from my childhood was my dedication to the sda church at only twelve years that was later followed by baptism after I completed my secondary education.

While born on a crisp July morning in the charming and picturesque town of Maragua, Kenya, I was destined to become the lastborn child in a family of five. Being raised in such a sizable family instilled in me the fundamental principles of teamwork and cooperation from an early age. My parents, who were both farmers, dedicated themselves to providing for our family, and I often contributed long hours working on the farm, caring for our livestock, and tilling the soil. Despite the obstacles we encountered, I cherish my childhood, as it instilled in me a solid work ethic and a profound gratitude for life's simplest joys.

In the year 2007, at the tender age of six, I commenced my educational journey by enrolling at Kamuiru Primary School, located approximately a kilometer from my residence. Coincidentally, my elder siblings, were also students at the same institution. Hailing from Kamuiru in Maragua, a region characterized by cold weather in the month of july, I often had to don multiple layers of warm clothing to brave the chilly mornings. As a precautionary measure for my safety, my cousin and I would embark on the journey to school as a group, a decision prompted by security concerns. Secondly, traveling as a group helped alleviate the solitude that often accompanied the long distance.

During my lower primary school years, I was fortunate to have an exceptional class teacher, Mrs. Annan. She left an indelible imprint on me. While she maintained a strict and firm demeanor when it came to upholding discipline, Mrs. Annan also went above and beyond to foster a warm and nurturing classroom atmosphere. Her gentle teaching approach had a remarkable way of making even the most intricate concepts seem accessible and comprehensible. She possessed a unique talent for explaining things in a manner that etched them into our memories. Thanks to her guidance, I developed a profound appreciation for the process of learning and cultivated a robust work ethic that continues to shape my character to this very day.

Furthermore, my time at Kamuiru Primary School allowed me to establish lasting friendships with individuals such as Francis Muriuki, Stanley Waweru and Mary Ann Njeri. These individuals played pivotal roles during my primary school journey. Among them, Boniface held a special place in my heart, and we forged a strong bond over the years. He provided invaluable assistance with my studies, and our connection grew deeper as a result.

My parents were strict but loving, and they instilled in us the values of respect and discipline. They taught me the importance of education and encouraged me to study hard. I attended Kamuiru primary school from 2007 to 2015. My mother always reminded me the importance of education because she was once a nursery school teacher and I completed my primary school education in the year 2015.My favorite subjects then were Mathematics, Social studies, and Science. I performed well and got a good grade that guaranteed me a position at a county secondary school. I enjoyed learning new things and was eager to explore the world beyond my village.

Growing up in a Kikuyu village was an incredible experience that I will always cherish. It shaped my character, taught me valuable life lessons, and gave me a sense of belonging. My early childhood memories are filled with love, laughter, and unforgettable moments that will forever remain etched in my heart.

**CIRCUMCISION**

I am a Kikuyu man, and I remember my circumcision ceremony vividly. It is a rite of passage that every Kikuyu boy must go through before he becomes a man. It is a tradition that has been passed down through generations in my community.

The ceremony is a big deal in our community, and it is usually done during the school holidays when the boys are out of school. The preparation starts early, and the boys are usually taken to the forest or the hills where the ceremony will be done.

Before the circumcision, we were required to spend a week in isolation where we were taught the ways of our community and were prepared for the responsibilities of manhood. During this period, we were not allowed to eat or drink anything apart from water. It was a challenging time, but it prepared us for the circumcision and the next phase of our lives.

On the day of the circumcision, there was a lot of singing and dancing, and our parents and relatives were present to witness the event. The ceremony usually begins in the morning, and the boys are given a traditional drink made from honey and herbs to help them cope with the pain.

The circumcision itself is done by an elder in the community who has been trained in the art of circumcision. He uses a sharp knife to perform the circumcision, and the pain is excruciating. However, we were taught to be brave and to endure the pain as it was part of our tradition.

After the circumcision, we were taken back to the isolation site where we were given a special diet to help us heal quickly. We were also taught the responsibilities of manhood and how to comport ourselves as responsible members of the community.

In conclusion, circumcision is an important rite of passage in the Kikuyu community. It is a tradition that has been passed down through generations and will continue to be passed down. Though it is a painful process, it is a part of our culture that we are proud of, and it is an important step towards becoming a responsible member of society.

As a teenager, going to high school meant that I had finally made it to the place where I could lay the foundation for my future. I was excited when I received the letter of acceptance from a reputable high school in Murang’a County. I was proud of myself, but even more excited to tell my parents the good news.

**HIGHSCHOOL LIFE**

On my first day at high school, I was filled with excitement and nervousness all at once, as I walked through the gates with my new uniform on. The school compound looked huge and intimidating, with students walking in every direction.

During my first few weeks, I had to adjust to a new routine and new surroundings, but eventually, I settled in, and I began enjoying the experience of high school. I was fascinated by the different subjects offered, such as biology, chemistry, mathematics, and English, which all seemed challenging, but exciting at the same time.

However, as time went by, I realized that high school was not just about academics; it was also about developing a well-rounded person. The school offered various extracurricular activities such as sports, music, drama, and debate club, which helped to create a sense of community, develop skills and talents, and foster healthy competition among students.

One of my fondest memories of high school was going on a school trip to Mombasa, where we got to learn about the Swahili culture, visit historical sites and sample the famous coastal delicacies. It was an eye-opening experience, and it helped me appreciate the diversity of Kenya, and the importance of cultural sensitivity.

Another remarkable aspect of high school in Kenya is the discipline, which is instilled in students to prepare them for the challenges of life. This is achieved through the school's strict rules and regulations that help to mold students into responsible, self-disciplined individuals.

In conclusion, high school in Kenya is a crucial chapter in one's life, which prepares individuals for the future. It is a time to explore, learn, make friends, and develop new skills and talents. Above all, it's a time to grow and discover oneself, and learn to overcome challenges, formulating a path towards success.

**HIGHSCHOOL TROUBLES**

**BICYCLE ACCIDENT**

As a 10-year-old, I was very fond of riding my bicycle. I loved the feeling of the wind blowing through my hair as I pedaled down the road. It was a beautiful sunny day in the middle of summer when I went out for a bike ride with my friends. Little did I know that tragedy awaited me.

I was going down a hill on my bicycle when I suddenly hit a bump in the road, and my bike swerved out of control. I was thrown off the bike and landed on the pavement hard. The pain was excruciating, and there was blood everywhere. I realized that I was seriously injured.

My friends helped me to my feet, and we slowly made our way back to my house. My parents were shocked and horrified at the sight of me. My face was badly bruised and cut, and one of my arms was broken. I also had a concussion, and I was in severe pain.

I was rushed to the hospital, where I underwent surgery to repair my broken arm. The doctors also had to stitch up my face, which left scars that I still carry to this day. I spent the next few days in the hospital, where I was monitored closely for signs of any other injury or damage.

When I was finally released from the hospital, it was like starting life all over again. I had to relearn basic skills like tying my shoes and brushing my teeth with one hand. The pain was constant, and I had to wear a cast on my arm for months.

One of the most difficult parts of the experience was the emotional trauma. I was afraid to ride a bike again, and it was a long time before I was able to regain my confidence. Even today, I still feel anxious when I ride a bike.

The experience was a reminder that life can change in an instant. It also taught me the importance of being cautious and taking safety precautions when engaging in activities like biking. I learned that accidents can happen to anyone, and it's essential to prepare for the unexpected.

The bicycle accident I experienced as a 10-year-old left me with major injuries that impacted my life in many ways. From the physical pain to the emotional trauma, it was a challenging experience that I will never forget. However, it also taught me valuable lessons about safety and the importance of being prepared for the unexpected.

**SCHOOL FEES NIGHTMARES**

As an 18-year-old fresh out of high school, I was excited to join university and pursue my dream career. However, the excitement was short-lived as I quickly realized that the cost of tuition and living expenses were beyond my means. My family was unable to foot the exorbitant fees required to join the university, and I had to look for alternatives.

The idea of taking out a student loan crossed my mind, but I soon discovered that I would need a co-signer, and my family was not in a position to provide one. I was stuck between a rock and a hard place since I was not eligible for financial aid given that my family's income did not match the threshold required.

Despite my efforts to get funds from friends and relatives, I still could not raise the required fees to join the university. I found myself in a tight spot, devastated and hopeless. I had always known that education was the key to success, and a chance to join the university would undoubtedly provide me with not only education but also a chance to develop my skills and access better job opportunities.

It was at that point that I decided to take a gap year to save up for tuition fees. I took on a few odd jobs, such as gardening, babysitting, and house cleaning, and focused on saving every coin I could. Although the jobs paid little, the money I was saving would help me foot the university fees.

Yet, even this was not without its own set of challenges - I struggled with feelings of doubt, fear, and self-doubt. Doubt that I would be able to raise enough funds and fear that I might never be able to achieve my dream of getting a university education. Despite these challenges, I was motivated by my desire to get an education, and I persevered.

After a year of hard work and diligence, I finally managed to raise the funds required to join the university. I learned that with hard work, commitment, and patience, anything is possible. This struggle has taught me the value of hard work, determination, and persistence. It has also given me a sense of pride and accomplishment knowing that I managed to raise the funds on my own.

The struggle to raise the fees required to join the university was challenging and determined my future. However, it has also taught me essential life skills such as perseverance, self-confidence, and hard work. Today, I am grateful for the struggle, as it has played a significant role in shaping the person I am today.

My mum used to depend on county government bursaries, I remember my last school balance was cleared through bursary form. My mum used to struggle a lot to get the opportunities but the lord was always with her.

**STRUGGLE IN WORKPLACE**

While struggling to raise school fees I opted to work in a Cyber cafe in Maragua town owned by a friend of our family. Here are some of the struggles that a 19-year-old may face while working in a hotel to raise school fees:

1. Long and tiring work hours: Working in the hospitality sector can be demanding, with many employees required to work shift hours, including late nights and weekends. This may leave little time for academics and extracurricular activities.

2. Physical challenges: The job may require standing for long periods or carrying heavy items, such as luggage. This can be physically tiring and stressful for a young adult.

3. Lack of growth opportunities: Depending on the position, there may be limited opportunities for career advancement, which can make it difficult to imagine a sustainable future in the industry.

4. Mental exhaustion: Having to balance work and studying can be mentally exhausting, which can lead to burnout and negatively impact both academic and work performance.

5. Poor or irregular pay: Many entry-level positions in the industry, such as housekeeping or kitchen staff, are notoriously low-paying, making it challenging to save up for tuition and living expenses.

Working at a hotel to raise school fees can be a difficult experience, with long and tiring work hours, limited growth opportunities, and low pay being some of the challenges. However, determination and a strong work ethic can help individuals overcome these challenges and achieve their academic goals.

Working there it also gave me some lessons that I learnt and benefitted with. They included;

1. Time management: Working in a hotel while raising school fees requires prioritizing and managing time efficiently. You need to balance work and school to ensure that both are handled effectively.

2. Customer service: In a hotel, customer service is key, and dealing with different types of people from all walks of life teaches one to be patient and understand different perspectives.

3. Multitasking: Working in different areas of the hotel, like front desk and restaurant, helps one develop multitasking skills.

4. Responsibility: The responsibility of earning money to pay school fees gives a sense of independence and pushes one to take responsibility for their actions and decisions.

5. Financial literacy: Constantly handling money teaches financial responsibility, budgeting, and the importance of saving.

6. Communication: Working in a hotel requires one to be clear and concise in communication to avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretations.

7. Professionalism: Uniforms, policies, and procedures in a hotel teach professionalism, including punctuality, adhering to dress codes, and maintaining a positive attitude.

8. Mental fortitude: Working in a hotel requires one to adapt to different situations and people, test mental strength and help build resilience.

9. Teamwork: Working in a hotel involves collaborating with team members to ensure excellent customer service.

10. Appreciation: Experiencing the struggles of earning money to finance an education teaches one to appreciate the value of hard work, education and that nothing comes easy.

**ADMISSION TO DEDAN KUMATHI UNIVERSITY**

In the backdrop of these responsibilities, I received the opportunity to pursue higher education. I was granted admission to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology in November 2021, at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. My academic path at the university was directed toward a Bachelor's Degree in information technology. As I transitioned into this new phase of my life at the university, my determination and aspirations remained unwavering.

I carried with me an ultimate goal that I had long nurtured – the attainment of a Ph.D. in finance. This aspiration was intertwined with my vision of becoming a prominent farmer and a successful entrepreneur in the realm of business. These dreams and ambitions served as the guiding lights illuminating my path as I journeyed through the myriad experiences and challenges life presented.

my journey has been a challenging one, yet I remain unwavering in my determination to turn my dreams into reality. While the pandemic upheaved life as we once knew it, it also created a unique opportunity for me to explore new avenues and uncover hidden talents. Armed with diligence, resolve, and a positive outlook, I am confident in my ability to attain all the goals I have set for myself. Beyond my individual pursuits, I am perpetually in pursuit of fresh experiences and opportunities to acquire knowledge and personal growth. My passions extend to travel, art, literature, and music, and I actively seek out ways to engage with these interests in meaningful and enriching ways. In the grand scheme of things, my ultimate aspiration is to lead a life that is both deeply satisfying and meaningful, one that leverages my unique talents and interests to contribute positively to society as a whole.

Reflecting on the path I have traversed, it's apparent that my journey has been marked by its fair share of obstacles and trials. Nonetheless, my resolve remains unwavering as I continue to steer my course toward the fulfillment of my dreams. The onset of the pandemic was nothing short of disruptive, dramatically altering the contours of life as we knew it. Yet, in the midst of these challenges, it presented me with a distinctive opportunity to explore uncharted territories and unearth hitherto undiscovered talents. Armed with unrelenting determination, an unyielding work ethic, and an optimistic outlook, I am confident that I will achieve each of the aspirations I have set for myself.

Beyond the realm of my individual pursuits, I am ceaselessly on the lookout for novel experiences and fresh opportunities that enable me to expand my knowledge and foster personal growth. My interests span a diverse spectrum, encompassing the realms of travel, art, literature, and music. I actively seek out avenues that allow me to engage with these passions in ways that are not only meaningful but also profoundly enriching. When all is said and done, my overarching objective is to lead a life characterized by both deep personal fulfillment and a resounding sense of purpose. This life, I envision, will harness my distinctive talents and interests to make a positive and substantial contribution to the well-being of society at large.

Summing up my journey, it is evident that I have encountered numerous challenges along the way. However, my unwavering resolve to transform my dreams into reality remains resolute. The COVID-19 pandemic drastically altered the fabric of our daily existence, introducing disruptions that affected every facet of life. Paradoxically, it also served as a catalyst, propelling me to explore uncharted avenues and unveil latent talents. Armed with an unflagging work ethic, sheer determination, and a buoyant attitude, I am confident in my ability to realize the goals I have set for myself.

Beyond my individual pursuits, I possess an insatiable appetite for novel experiences and fresh opportunities that foster my personal growth and expand my knowledge. My passions extend across a broad spectrum, encompassing the realms of travel, art, literature, and music. I actively seek out avenues to engage with these interests in ways that are not only gratifying but also profoundly enriching. In the grand tapestry of my life, my overarching aspiration is to lead a life that marries deep personal fulfillment with a profound sense of purpose. I envision a life that capitalizes on my unique talents and interests to make a meaningful and positive contribution to society as a whole.

The transition to Dedan Kimathi University was not without its challenges. I had to adjust to a new campus environment, make new friends, and get used to a different academic culture. However, he found that the experience was ultimately rewarding. I was impressed with the quality of education and resources available to me, and I felt that I was being challenged and pushed to his full potential.

Decision to transfer from Technical University of Mombasa to Dedan Kimathi University was a difficult one, but it ultimately paid off. The experience taught him valuable lessons in perseverance, adaptability, and determination. I'm now on track to achieve his academic and career goals and is grateful for the opportunity to attend such a prestigious university.

**MAKING NEW FRIENDS**

Adjusting to a new environment can be a daunting task, especially when you are starting a new phase in your life. This was no different for me when I transferred from high school to Dedan Kimathi University. However, I was determined to make the most out of the experience and make new friends.

One of the first things I did when I arrived at Dedan Kimathi University was to attend the orientation program. The program was designed to help new students like me get acclimated to the new campus environment, meet new people, and learn about the various resources available on campus. It was a great opportunity to ask questions and meet other students who were in the same situation as me.

Another way I made new friends was by joining clubs and extracurricular activities. Dedan Kimathi University has a wide range of clubs and organizations catering to various interests, from sports to music to community service. I joined a few clubs that aligned with my interests and met some amazing people along the way. These activities provided me with an excellent opportunity to meet like-minded individuals, learn new skills, and explore my interests.

I also made an effort to connect with my classmates. In my classes, I made an effort to sit next to different people each time, strike up a conversation, and exchange contact information. This way, I was able to connect with more people and build a network of friends.

Lastly, I took advantage of social media and online forums to connect with other students. Dedan Kimathi University has several social media groups for students where people can connect, share information and ask for help. I joined a few of these groups and found them to be a great way to connect with other students and stay up-to-date with campus events.

Adjusting to a new life at Dedan Kimathi University was a bit overwhelming at first, but I soon found that making new friends was not as difficult as I thought. By attending orientation programs, joining clubs and extracurricular activities, connecting with classmates, and using social media, I was able to build a network of friends that made my transition much more comfortable. It was a rewarding experience that helped me to grow personally and professionally, and I am grateful for the opportunity to study at such a prestigious university.

**CAMPUS DATING**

Campus dating is a common experience for many college students, and it can be a great way to meet new people and form meaningful connections. For a 20-year-old DKUT student, there may be a variety of dating opportunities available, such as social events on campus, student clubs and organizations, or dating apps specifically designed for college students.

When considering campus dating, it's important to prioritize personal safety and respect for oneself and others. It's also important to be aware of and comply with the policies and regulations of the university, such as those related to sexual assault prevention and reporting.

Ultimately, campus dating can be a positive and rewarding experience for college students, but it's important to approach it with a healthy mindset and prioritize one's academic and personal goals as well.

**EARLY PARENTHOOD**

Being a parent as a male student came with both advantages and disadvantages. Here are some of the potential pros and cons:

Advantages:

1. Sense of Purpose: Being a parent can provide a strong sense of purpose and motivation, as the student is not only pursuing their own academic goals but also working to provide for their child's needs and future.

2. Time Management: Parenting requires strong time management skills, which can be a valuable asset for a student. Balancing parenting responsibilities with academic coursework and other obligations can help develop time management skills that may be useful in future careers and life in general.

3. Networking: Being a parent can also provide opportunities to network and connect with other parents, potentially leading to new friendships, support networks, and job opportunities in the future.

Disadvantages:

1. Financial Burden: Raising a child can be expensive, and the financial burden of childcare expenses and other costs may make it more difficult for a student to manage their finances and pay for their education.

2. Time Constraints: Parenting responsibilities can be time-consuming, making it difficult for a student to balance their academic responsibilities with their parenting duties. This may lead to stress, anxiety, and reduced academic performance.

3. Social Isolation: Being a parent as a student can also be socially isolating, as the student may have less time for social activities and may feel disconnected from peers who do not have children.

Ultimately, the decision to become a parent as a male student is a personal one that requires careful consideration of individual circumstances and priorities. It can come with both benefits and challenges, and it's important to weigh these factors and make informed decisions about how to balance parenting and academic responsibilities.

**PASSION IN CHARITIES**

Throughout my life, I have always had a passion for engaging in charitable activities. This passion continued to grow when I transferred to Dedan Kimathi University, where I discovered numerous opportunities to get involved in charitable activities. Dedan Kimathi University offers various initiatives and programs that enable students to engage in charitable activities, which has given me a platform to give back to society and make a positive impact.

One of the programs that caught my attention was the Community Service Program. The program provides an avenue for students to participate in different community projects, including health and sanitation, environmental conservation, and education, among others. This program allowed me to partner with various organizations to provide aid to vulnerable communities. Through this program, I participated in various activities such as visiting orphanages, cleaning up public areas, and teaching children in underprivileged areas.

Another way I engaged in charitable activities was through the various clubs and organizations at Dedan Kimathi University. For instance, the Red Cross Club in the university offers an excellent opportunity for students to participate in charitable activities such as blood donation drives, disaster response and management, and public health campaigns. This club has been instrumental in helping me fulfill my passion for engaging in charitable activities and make a positive impact on society.

Furthermore, the university's student government also organizes various charity events throughout the academic year. For instance, the student government organizes fundraising activities to support various initiatives, such as building water wells in drought-stricken areas, providing food and shelter to the homeless, and donating educational materials to underprivileged children.

Through these activities, I have realized that engaging in charitable activities is not only about giving back to society, but it also helps me grow as an individual. By working with different organizations, I have been able to develop essential skills such as teamwork, leadership, communication, and problem-solving. I have also learned to appreciate the value of community service and the positive impact it can have on society.

Dedan Kimathi University has provided me with an excellent platform to fulfill my passion for engaging in charitable activities. Through various initiatives, programs, and clubs, I have been able to make a positive impact on society and grow personally. I encourage all students at the university to explore the various opportunities available and engage in charitable activities. It is a rewarding experience that not only gives back to society but also helps develop essential life skills.

**HIKING AND EXPLORATIONS**

One of the great benefits of attending Dedan Kimathi University is the proximity to stunning natural landscapes and hiking trails. The university is located in Nyeri County, which is surrounded by beautiful forests, hills, and mountains, providing students with excellent opportunities for hiking and exploration.

As a student at Dedan Kimathi University, I have had the opportunity to go on several hikes and explore the surrounding areas. One of the most popular hiking destinations is the Aberdare Ranges, located a few kilometers away from the university. The Aberdare Ranges offer a range of hiking trails, from easy to challenging, providing something for everyone.

Another great hiking destination is Mt. Kenya, the second-highest mountain in Africa. Mt. Kenya is located a few hours away from the university, making it an ideal destination for weekend hiking trips. The mountain offers several trails, including the popular Sirimon and Chogoria routes, providing stunning views of the surrounding areas.

Apart from hiking, Dedan Kimathi University provides students with opportunities to explore the rich cultural heritage of the area. The university is located in a region that is home to various indigenous communities, such as the Kikuyu and Agikuyu. Students can engage in cultural tours and visit historical sites, such as the Karatina market, the Mau Mau caves, and the Baden-Powell Museum.

Moreover, the university has several student organizations that focus on outdoor activities, such as hiking, camping, and nature conservation. These organizations provide students with an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and explore the surrounding areas while promoting responsible tourism and environmental conservation.

Dedan Kimathi University offers excellent opportunities for students to engage in hiking and exploration activities. The proximity to stunning natural landscapes and cultural heritage sites provides students with an opportunity to unwind, connect with nature, and learn about the rich history and culture of the area. I encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities and explore the surrounding areas. It is an excellent way to de-stress, meet new people, and make unforgettable memories.

**CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Asa student at Dedan Kimathi University, I have found that engaging in co-curricular activities is just as important as academics. Co-curricular activities provide students with an opportunity to explore their interests, develop essential life skills, and enhance their overall college experience. As a result, I have developed a passion for engaging in co-curricular activities, and I am actively involved in several clubs and organizations at the university.

One of the clubs I am passionate about is the Photography Club. The club provides students with an opportunity to learn and develop their photography skills, participate in photography contests and exhibitions, and attend workshops and seminars. Through the club, I have been able to explore my passion for photography, connect with other students who share similar interests, and participate in various photography projects.

I am also an active member of the Environmental Club, which focuses on promoting environmental conservation and sustainability. The club organizes tree planting and clean-up campaigns, environmental awareness workshops, and sustainability projects. Through this club, I have learned about the importance of environmental conservation and the positive impact that small actions can have on the environment.

Apart from clubs, I am also involved in sports activities at the university. I am a member of the football team, which participates in the university league and other tournaments. Being part of the team has not only allowed me to stay physically active but also helped me develop essential skills such as teamwork, leadership, and discipline.

Furthermore, Dedan Kimathi University has a vibrant music and arts scene. I am part of the music club, which provides students with an opportunity to learn and practice music, participate in music competitions and concerts, and engage in music-related outreach activities. The club has allowed me to explore my musical talents, connect with other music enthusiasts, and participate in various music events.

In conclusion, my passion for engaging in co-curricular activities at Dedan Kimathi University has been instrumental in enhancing my overall college experience. These activities have provided me with an opportunity to explore my interests, develop essential life skills, and connect with like-minded individuals. I encourage all students at the university to explore the various opportunities available and engage in co-curricular activities that align with their interests. It is an excellent way to enhance your college experience and develop essential life skills that will be useful in your future career.

**HUSTLING AS A COMRADE**

Being a student in campus can be challenging, especially when it comes to finances. Despite having access to student loans, scholarships, and bursaries, some students may still struggle to make ends meet. As a result, many students engage in hustling activities to supplement their income and sustain themselves in campus. I am one of those students.

My hustle involves buying and selling clothes, shoes, and accessories. I source the items from various suppliers, both locally and internationally, and sell them to fellow students and other customers. I also advertise my products on social media platforms, such as Facebook and Instagram, to reach a wider audience. Through this hustle, I have been able to earn some extra income and sustain myself in campus.

Apart from buying and selling, I also offer services such as photography and graphic design. I have honed my skills in these areas through personal practice and online courses, and I offer them to fellow students and other clients at a reasonable fee. These services have enabled me to make some extra income and develop my skills in the process.

I have also participated in several paid surveys and focus groups. Companies and organizations usually conduct surveys and focus groups to get feedback on their products or services, and they pay participants for their time and opinions. These surveys and focus groups have provided me with an opportunity to make some extra income and give my opinion on various products and services.

Moreover, I have worked as a part-time tutor to primary and high school students. I offer my services during the weekends and holidays when I am free from my studies. This hustle has enabled me to earn some extra income and share my knowledge and skills with others.

Hustling has been instrumental in sustaining my life in campus. It has enabled me to earn some extra income, develop my skills, and gain valuable work experience. I encourage fellow students to explore various hustling opportunities that align with their interests and skills. Hustling is not only a way to make extra income but also a way to develop essential life skills that will be useful in your future career.

**ROLE MODEL AND MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER**

Being a role model and motivational speaker in the community is an essential and rewarding task. It involves inspiring and motivating people to achieve their goals and reach their full potential. As a student at Dedan Kimathi University, I have embraced this responsibility and have taken every opportunity to share my experiences, insights, and advice with the community.

One way I have been able to serve as a role model and motivational speaker is through volunteering. I have volunteered at various organizations, such as schools, youth groups, and community centers, where I have had the opportunity to share my experiences and encourage young people to pursue their dreams. I have also spoken at career fairs and mentorship programs, where I have shared my insights on academic success and career development.

Another way I have served as a role model and motivational speaker is through social media. I have a large following on various social media platforms, such as Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, and I use these platforms to share inspirational messages, success stories, and tips on personal development. I believe that social media is a powerful tool that can be used to reach a wider audience and inspire positive change.

Moreover, I have participated in various public speaking events, such as conferences and seminars, where I have spoken on topics such as leadership, personal development, and academic success. These events have provided me with an excellent platform to share my experiences and inspire others to achieve their goals.

Lastly, I have served as a mentor to several young people in my community. I believe that mentoring is an essential aspect of being a role model and motivational speaker, as it provides an opportunity to guide and support others in their personal and professional development. Through mentoring, I have been able to share my experiences, offer advice, and provide support to young people who are striving to achieve their goals.

Being a role model and motivational speaker in the community is an essential and rewarding task. Through volunteering, social media, public speaking, and mentoring, I have been able to inspire and motivate others to achieve their goals and reach their full potential. I encourage fellow students to embrace this responsibility and use their experiences and insights to make a positive impact in their communities.

**REDISCOVERING MY TALENTS AND HOBBIES**

Rediscovering a passion can be a life-changing experience. It can reignite a sense of purpose, enhance our well-being, and provide us with a renewed sense of fulfillment. For me, rediscovering my passion in swimming has been a transformative experience that has enhanced my physical and mental well-being.

Growing up, I was passionate about swimming, and I participated in various competitions at both local and national levels. However, when I joined Dedan Kimathi University, I became so focused on my academics and other activities that I neglected my passion for swimming. As a result, I lost touch with the sport and stopped participating in swimming activities.

However, during my second year in campus, I decided to visit the university swimming pool to reconnect with the sport. The first few times I swam were challenging, and I struggled to regain my stamina and form. Nevertheless, I persisted, and over time, I began to enjoy the sport once again.

Swimming has numerous benefits, both physical and mental. Physically, swimming is an excellent form of exercise that strengthens muscles, improves cardiovascular health, and helps maintain a healthy weight. Mentally, swimming provides a sense of relaxation, reduces stress, and enhances overall well-being.

Swimming has had a positive impact on my life, both in terms of my physical and mental well-being. Since rediscovering my passion for swimming, I have developed a regular swimming routine that has improved my overall fitness and health. Moreover, swimming has provided me with an opportunity to unwind, de-stress, and improve my mental health.

Rediscovering my passion for swimming has been a life-changing experience that has enhanced my physical and mental well-being. It has reminded me of the importance of pursuing our passions and the impact that they can have on our lives. I encourage everyone to explore their passions and pursue activities that bring them joy and fulfillment.

**CAMPUS HARDSHIPS**

As a student, it is not uncommon to face various challenges that can make it difficult to focus on our studies. These challenges can range from personal issues, financial constraints, family problems, and health issues, among others. However, it is essential to remain focused on our studies despite these challenges to achieve our academic goals.

Personally, I have faced various challenges during my studies at Dedan Kimathi University. One of the significant challenges I faced was financial constraints. I come from a humble background, and paying for my tuition fees, accommodation, and other expenses was a constant struggle. However, I remained focused on my studies and explored various opportunities, such as scholarships and part-time jobs, to supplement my income and pay for my expenses.

Another challenge I faced was health issues. I fell sick several times during my studies, and this affected my ability to attend classes and keep up with the coursework. However, I remained focused on my studies and took necessary measures, such as seeking medical attention, adjusting my study schedule, and seeking assistance from classmates and professors, to manage the situation.

Moreover, personal issues and family problems can also affect our ability to focus on our studies. However, it is essential to seek support from family, friends, and counselors to manage these issues and stay on track with our studies.

Focusing on our studies despite various challenges requires determination, resilience, and perseverance. It is essential to remain focused on our academic goals and explore various opportunities to overcome the challenges that we face. By seeking support, managing our time effectively, and staying motivated, we can overcome these challenges and achieve our academic goals. Remember that education is an investment in your future, and the sacrifices you make now will pay off in the long run.

**OPENING A SAVINGS AND CREDIT ACCOUNT**

Opening a SACCO account was good way to save money and invest in shares, as SACCOs often offer competitive interest rates and investment opportunities for their members. However, it's important to do your research and choose a reputable and financially stable SACCO to work with.

Regarding the gift of a 4-acre land from a parent, this can be a significant asset that may appreciate in value over time. It's important to ensure that the transfer of ownership is done legally and in compliance with any relevant laws or regulations. This may involve working with a legal professional to draft a transfer of ownership document, filing the necessary paperwork with government agencies, and paying any applicable fees or taxes.

It's also important to consider the long-term financial implications of owning property, such as property taxes, maintenance costs, and potential liabilities. Working with a financial advisor can help ensure that you have a solid plan in place for managing the costs and risks associated with property ownership.

Overall, opening a SACCO account and receiving a gift of property were positive steps toward building long-term financial security.

**PASSION IN SUPPORTING MANCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB**

Growing up as an Arsenal fan can be a unique and exciting experience for many football (soccer) fans. Here are some of the potential experiences and emotions that might be associated with being an Arsenal fan:

1. History and Tradition: Arsenal Football Club has a long and storied history, with a rich tradition of success and legendary players. As an Arsenal fan, you may feel a strong connection to the club's history and take pride in being a part of its fan base.

2. Rivalries: Arsenal has several long-standing rivalries with other football clubs, such as Totten ham Hotspur and Chelsea. Being an Arsenal fan can involve a strong sense of rivalry and competition with these other teams, which can add excitement and intensity to matches.

3. Ups and Downs: Like all sports teams, Arsenal has experienced both successes and failures over the years. Being an Arsenal fan can involve emotional highs and lows, from the thrill of winning a championship to the disappointment of a losing streak.

4. Community: Supporting Arsenal can be a way to connect with other football fans and build a sense of community. Whether it's watching matches together, attending games at the Emirates Stadium, or interacting with other fans online, being an Arsenal fan can be a social and communal experience.

Overall, being an Arsenal fan can be a fun and rewarding experience for many football fans, offering a sense of history, tradition, and community, as well as emotional highs and lows associated with supporting a sports team.

**CAREER PATH**

Developing a passion for IT and Graphic designs lead to fulfilling careers that make a positive impact on society. Both fields require dedication, hard work, and a commitment to excellence. As a student, it is essential to explore these passions and develop a plan to pursue them after campus.

Agriculture is a crucial sector of the economy that provides food, income, and livelihoods to millions of people. Developing a passion for agriculture can lead to a fulfilling career that involves working with farmers, managing agricultural operations, and improving agricultural productivity. To pursue a career in agriculture, it is essential to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge through education, internships, and work experience. Moreover, exploring different aspects of agriculture, such as crop production, animal husbandry, and agribusiness, can provide insights into different career paths within the sector.

The military is another field that provides an opportunity to serve the country and make a positive impact on society. Developing a passion for the military can lead to a fulfilling career that involves serving in various capacities, such as combat, logistics, intelligence, and support services. To pursue a career in the military, it is essential to meet the necessary qualifications, such as physical fitness, academic credentials, and aptitude tests. Moreover, exploring different branches of the military, such as the army, navy, air force, and coast guard, can provide insights into different career paths within the sector.

After campus, pursuing these passions can involve various paths, such as further education, internships, apprenticeships, or direct entry into the workforce. Moreover, it is essential to seek mentorship, network with professionals in the respective fields, and remain committed to lifelong learning and professional development.

Developing a passion for agriculture and the military can lead to fulfilling careers that make a positive impact on society. It is essential to explore these passions, acquire the necessary skills and knowledge, and develop a plan to pursue them after campus. Remember that pursuing your passions requires commitment, hard work, and dedication, but the rewards are worth it in the long run.