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Gr. 11 – Python   Reading and Writing

QA Essay Entry #3: Comparison and Contrast Text

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Topic: Becoming a CIITeen: What Track and/or Strand to Pursue?

The COVID19 Pandemic remotely changed our lives most especially for us students. We have to adapt and do online classes because the spreading of the virus is so life threatening. Everything and everyone have to adapt virtually nowadays to confine the viral pandemic.   Most of the educational institutions have adapted to this, because it's the new normal as they say. One of the schools that found its way to this new norm is the CIIT SHS/COLLEGE. Since the school specializes in computer technology, it has found a way to make online education possible earlier on. The CIIT offers a variety of strands that specializes in Technology, these strands are the Programming Strand, the Animation Strand, and the Arts and Design Strand or also known as the "Media and Visual Arts Strand".   According to their website, CIIT is one of the leading schools in Digital and Technical education in the Philippines, CIIT Philippines offers a Senior High School program that produces students who can adapt to the changing demands of the industry, both now and in the future. CIIT Philippines developed an industry-standard curriculum that implements hands-on learning in multimedia, animation, or programming and provides the knowledge and skills students can use even before moving up to college. The SHS curriculum of CIIT offers specialization subjects that can be credited to College if the student chooses to continue their studies at CIIT. Each strand will pursue different courses and careers, the student's skills and passion will identify which job is great for them. The Specialized Subjects in each strand may vary depending on the skills needed to be trained except for the Core and Applied Subjects, which are important in every strand, because it teaches them hands on experiences on how to work, act and think in the industry. The Strands are unique from each other, but all of them are important because they are correlated from each other. A programmer can work with an animator and media visual artist to design or create a project. Just like in creating software's applications, it is usually a collaborative work by a programmer, animator or a visual artist. It goes the same way, when animators and artist needs some app to help them render their faster or easier and be able to visualize their idea efficiently. A student can assess their ability which strand they will most likely to progress and pursue. The best part of having these specialized strands is that you are assured of guidance and opportunity to discover yourself.

The Core and Applied subjects of every strand of Grade 11 in CIIT for the first semester are Oral Communication in Context, Komunikasyon at Pananaliksik sa Wikang Filipino at Kulturang Pilipino, General Mathematics, Earth and Life Science, Personal Development, Empowerment Technologies, and Physical Education & Health and for the second semester are Reading and Writing, Pagbasa at Pagsusuri ng Iba't-Ibang Teksto tungo sa Pananaliksik, Statistics and Probability, Understanding Culture, Society ad Politics, Physical Science, Physical Education and Health, Practical Research I. For Grade 12, the Core and Applied subjects of only Animation and Media and Visual Arts Strand for the First semester are Media and Information Literacy, Contemporary Philippine Arts from the Regions, Introduction to Philosophy of the Human Person, Physical Education and Health, Filipino sa Piling Larangan, 21st Century Literature from the Philippines and the World, Entrepreneurship. For the second semester, the Core subjects of Animation and Media &Visual Arts strand is Physical Education while the Applied track subjects are English for Academic and Professional Purposes, Practical Research II, and Elective I – CIIT Values. The second semester of the Programming Strand has Core and Applied subjects which are Physical Education, English for Academic and Professional Purposes, Practical Research II, and Elective I – CIIT Values.

The Media and Visual Art Strand of CIIT can be your foundation if you are dreaming to have a career in the media and creative industry. The CIIT SHS school offers a unique and specialized

curriculum focusing on skill-building and industry-standard learning. The specialized subjects that this strand of CIIT offers are Introduction to MMA, History of Graphic Design, Elements of Graphic Design, Digital Photography, Writing for New Media, Fundamentals of Film and Video Production, and Multimedia Publishing. The courses that you can be accredited in for the specialization subjects are Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Multimedia Arts. The available internships are Videographer, Photographer, Production Designer, Graphic Designer, Illustrator, and Digital Artist.

The Tech-Voc Animation Strand may suit you if you wanted to become the next animator, concept artist, or designer by learning the best and finest techniques in animation from veteran animators themselves. The specialized curriculum in this strand is designed to equip the student with both the traditional and modern approaches in creating 2D and 3D Animation. Acquire the best foundation for designing and even become a pro at doing it before going to college. The specialized subjects that this strand offers are Photography, Sketching, Drawing and Design, Painting, Web Design, Video Editing, 2D or 3D Animation, Online and Social Media Applications, and Digital Platforms. The college course that you can be credited to is the Bachelor of Multimedia Arts which can be used for many jobs related to that course. The available internships for this course are "Dynamic or Animated Web Designer, Storyboard Artist, 2D 3D Layout Artist, 3D Animator, and 3D Architectural Designer".

The Programming Strand is where you can experience real-world programming problems while still in Senior High School. The specialized subjects for this strand includes "Introduction to Computing, Computer Programming 1 & 2, Data Structure and Algorithm, Information Management, Object-Oriented Programming, Introduction to Game Design and Development, and Game Programming." The college courses that you can be credited to when you complete the programming strand are BS Computer Science and BS Entertainment Multimedia Computing. The available jobs are as follows: System Programmer, System Analyst, Software Application Developer/Engineer, Graphics Programmer, Game Designer, and Senior Interactive Software Developer.

Media Visual Arts Strand vs. Animation Strand

Subjects (Media Visual Arts Strand vs. Animation Strand)

In all of the strands, the students will be taking basic subjects as their Core and Applied subjects such as Practical Research, General Mathematics, Reading and Writing, Physical Education, Physical Science, and Entrepreneurship. Their specialization subjects however will be mostly different for every strand but still has something in common. The Media Visual Arts strand and the Animation strand have some specialization subjects in common. The Media Visual Arts strand has a specialization subjects like Introduction to Multimedia Arts and Typography and Layout" which the Animation strand also has. Both of the strands also have "Work Immersion" as one of their specialization subject.

However, the Media & Visual Arts strand and the Animation strand though seem similar because both of the strands progresses from creativity, they also have different specialization subjects. For the Media & Visual Arts strand they have specialization subjects such as News Writing, Magazine and Illustration while the Animation Strand has History of Graphic design, Digital Animation, Digital Storyboarding, Color theory, 2D Animation and 3D modeling specialization subjects.

College Course Crediting (Media Visual Arts Strand vs. Animation Strand)

Each strand has unique feature that can be credited to some college courses. The Media & Visual Arts strand and Animation strand offers subjects that can be credited to the course of "Bachelor of Multimedia Arts. The difference is that while the Media & Visual Arts strand offers subjects that can be credited to achieve either the Bachelor of Fine Arts & Bachelor of Multimedia Arts, the Animation Strand offers a course they can be credited to achieve only Bachelor of Multimedia Arts. While students in the Media Visual Arts strand may able to get into both the degrees of Bachelor of Fine Arts & Bachelor of Multimedia Arts in College, students from the Animation strand will be able to apply their acquired designed skill to build up their portfolio or resume in applying future jobs as an option.

Job Internship (Media Visual Arts Strand vs. Animation Strand)

In terms of career options between the Media & Visual Arts strand and the Animation strand, again they are both unique from each other. The career options for the Visual & Media Arts strand mostly focuses on Photography and Illustrations while the Animation strand focuses on 3D modeling, 2D 3D Animation, and Illustrations. The Animation students will most likely to focus on the 3D animation because of the demand and fulfillment to create and achieve realistic animated work of art.

Programming Strand vs. Animation Strand

Subjects (Programming Strand vs. Animation Strand)

In terms of the Core, Applied Specialization subjects, the similarities between the Programming Strand and the Animation Strand is that they both have the same core applied Subjects. The Core and Applied subjects are considered important for every strand, because it teaches the students the foundation to develop their knowledge and skills not for college but also for future careers. The difference between their Core, Applied Specialization subjects of the Programming Strand and the Animation Strand, is that both have different specialization subjects that the strand focuses on. For the Programming strand, their specialization subjects focus on Programming apps, games, or softwares, while the Animation strand focuses on animating objects, scenes, or backgrounds.

College Course Crediting (Programming Strand vs. Animation Strand)

In terms of College Course crediting, the Programming strand can get you into a degree in BS Computer Science and BS Entertainment Multimedia Computing while the Animation Strand can get you a degree on Bachelor of Multimedia Arts, the Degrees that you can get in the Programming strand can get you a job related in making computer programs or handling data. There are several jobs in the Philippines that are hiring workers to do these jobs, for example, a job in Cebu that's hiring Computer Scientist to be a Data Entry Clerk in Cebu or there's a job in PHILCAMP in Rizal (Antipolo) that's hiring a Computer Scientist to be a Data Entry Specialist (According to new research… (*Data Handling - JobStreet, n.d.).*); while a degree in Bachelor of Multimedia Arts from the Animation strand can get you a job in multiple Animation companies worldwide such as Disney or in Animation Studios in the Philippines like Toei Animation Philippines Inc.

Job Internship (Programming Strand vs. Animation Strand)

There are some differences between the Programming Strand and the Animation Strand in terms of job internship. In the Programming Strand, you will have an opportunity to get broader scope of jobs related to software engineering, game development, and data handling. In the Animation strand, it leads you to get jobs concentrating in Animation. In the Philippines, there are currently 100+ jobs related to computer programming while there are 87 jobs for animators. Even though there are a lot of job opportunities in the Programming Strand than in the Animation Strand, a person's passion must be considered when they are choosing a dream job. It is really a matter of choice in all strands and course you will take, you just have to have the passion and the drive to be successful.

Programming Strand vs. Media Visual Arts Strand

Subjects (Core, Applied, Specialization)

In terms of the Core, Applied and the Specialization subjects in the Programming Strand and the Media Visual Arts strand, they both have similar core & applied subjects. Both of these strands have to go through these subjects, because this helps the students to become industry ready when they are about to apply for college of their choice. They both have working immersions as their specialization subjects, this gives the students in both of these strands to have a first hand mini-interview experience with one of the partnered companies of CIIT. These companies focus on variations of the digital medium like Logos, websites, softwares, etc. The immersion will give the students a guided view on what to expect in the aspect of their chosen careers.

The Programming Strand and the Media Visual Arts Strand have a different specialization subject that focuses on educating and practicing their skills to the professional level. The Programming strand has subjects that focus on Web design and development, software engineering, data handling, and game development while the Media Visual Arts Strand focuses on Illustrations, still images, and design. The Media Visual arts strand seems to focus more on the creative side while the Programming strand focuses more on the technical side.

College Course Crediting (Programming vs. Media Visual Arts Strand)

In terms of College Course crediting in the strand, they do not have anything similar but they have a lot of differences. In the Programming Strand, the students here can achieve a BS Computer Science and BS Entertainment Multimedia Computing while the Media Visual Arts Strand; the student here can achieve a Bachelor of Fine Arts. The jobs related to Computer Programming may need a BS in Computer Science and BS Entertainment Multimedia Computing to qualify while the jobs related to being a 2D/3D Animator may only require a degree in Bachelor of Fine Arts.

Job Internship (Programming vs Media Visual Arts Strand)

In terms of Job Internship, the Programming strand can probably take jobs for and the Media Visual Arts Strand is that the career options for the Programming Strand are focused on Web design and development, software engineering, data handling, and game development while the Media Visual Arts Strand focuses on Illustrations, Logos, Photography, and Design. The career options related to the Media Visual arts strand seem to focus more on the creative side. That's all for the similarities and differences of the subjects included in each strand, College Course they can be credited to, and Job Internships they can apply in their strand.

Conclusion

Each strand in CIIT is unique from each other, having their own subjects and requirements that the students would need to finish their strands, and even though one strand may seem to give better job options from the other, they are all equally important, because each of the strands contributes different skills and open the doors to develop a foundation to establish career choices. While the Programmers can make things easier, Artists and Animators express creativity to nourish our imagination. To summarize, all of the strands have different specialized subjects that helps the students acquire knowledge and develop skills in their chosen strands. Each strand also allows the student to see different career options, like when studying in the programming strand, can mold you to become a game developer. Lastly, each of the strands will lead you to a specific course in college to get a degree, which can be very beneficial for you to have a career related to your strand in the future. So even though some strands offer more career options than others, that does not mean the other strands will not be able to lead to a successful future. It will be up to the student's passion and choices on which strand they're very interested in. We should aim to make learning interesting and fun, so our choices are very important to develop passion and skills exciting.

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