What is something about yourself that is essential to understanding you? 250 words limit

What is it like to walk alone in the desert for 7 days? If I stand in the middle of the border, what will happen? I often ask questions that no one seems to ask. My curiosity drives me to ponder the strangest questions and to find answers. I went to DunHuang and hiked 70km in the Kumtag deserts for 7 days alone, found determination as the answer to my question. I flew to Manchuria, where the China-Russia border lies. I stood in the middle of the borderline, and it is like standing between two distinct civilizations.

From these experiences, I discover values such as persistence from DunHuang or awe to various cultures from Manchuria in addition to satisfaction of my curiosity, forming me a unique path.

As a fanatic film creator, I started to record the process of me fulfilling my curiosity and make them into videos which I would post on Bilibili, a Chinese video site. During the creation of these videos, I have found my position in leading the opinions in my community. Due to my curiosity on the pain women have from giving birth. I took a Labor Simulation and posted a video of that experience. This video has gone viral among my friends. It has motivated them to understand more about gender issues when many of them followed me to take that simulation.

I wish to continue keep my curiosity flaming like a lighthouse in the dark seas. I hope to ask more absurd questions in USC for the next four years and dedicate myself to find the answers.

Describe how you plan to pursue your academic interests and why you want to explore them at USC specifically. Please feel free to address your first- and second-choice major selections. (Approximately 250 words)

Inspired by my childhood experience playing Pokémon, I’ve always been attracted to CS. Growing up, I became even more fascinated by the subject when I realized that I can use CS to solve real-life problems.

From developing a cafeteria delivery app to save students’ time, to creating a notification app to remind students about college info sessions, I enjoy both the process of learning CS and applying it to bring convenience to others.

Furthermore, I see CS as a tool for expressing ideas. I am passionate for the Computer Science (Games) major because video game’s multi-dimensional interactiveness makes it the prime medium to disseminate ideas. Shocked by China’s lack of sex-education, I made a sex-education game with friends, attempting to use CS to bring social awareness. Although this game has sparked wide social discussion, its development is still limited by my technical repertoire. USC provides courses like “Programming Game Engines” that will enable me to break such limits. Its Advanced Game Project also gives me the opportunity to create world-changing games and showcase them on USC’s Game Expo.

CS projects are often collaborative endeavors. My experience working as a software engineer intern at Axiom Technology led me to see the importance of interdisciplinarity. At USC, I aspire to work with scholars with diverse passions—to collaborate with students from School of Cinematic Arts to create both mechanically innovative and graphically impressive games. As a bonus, USC’s location at southern LA, where the world’s most influential Gamescom holds annually, allows me to witness cutting-edge technology, visioning video game’s future.

Add NGO stuff