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

I always say to myself that life could be much worse whenever I was in a state of depression, thus I often recover from sadness quickly. Every time I was depressed because I can’t find the bug that caused my program to stop, I often cool myself down and cheer myself up, eventually finding the root of that error. Additionally, this “Superpower” allows me to bring optimism to the people around me. I often cheer my classmates up when they face academic pressures and tell my teachers to look forward when they have career obstacles.

As a fanatic film creator, I have also made videos with my “Superpower” embed. I have once posted a video of me experiencing birth simulation onto a Chinese video site called Bilibili. After the release of this video, many of my friends who saw it have told me that

they have all gave moms a big hug to thank them. I even started a Birth Simulation Challenge, tagging some of my friends and asking them to do this simulation. Together with the video, this challenge has gone viral among my friends.

Sometimes life could be hard, and things might not go well as you wish, but there is always something else to look ahead. I never look down on myself or deny my past decisions, because I can’t really change the past, but yes, I can change the future. I hope to continue my path of exploring the unknown while encouraging the world beside me. I was never alone, so do the people around me.

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)

My journey of exploring computer science has started since I played the game Pokémon at seven. Fascinated by the battles and Pokemons inside that game, I learned the phrase “Computer Science” from my software engineer uncle when I was talking to him about Pokémon. I was amazed by this subject and decided to self-learn computer science at sixth grade. I hope that one day I could make a video game like Pokémon, winning peoples’ smiles.

Moving on to high school, I joined an Artificial Intelligence course offered by a professor from a local university where I could learn machine learning algorithms and discover how they could be applied in the video game field. During my internship as a software engineer, I have gained valuable field experiences on game engines and frontend technology, these experiences have helped me to solve problems I have met on my own video game project, an artistic adventure game called Dream.

In the future, I believe that USC is a perfect place for me to proceed my academic interest in Computer Science relating to video game and use the knowledge I learned to continue my current project. It offers a specific Computer Science (Game) major, and I could learn how to build my own game engine by taking Programming Game Engines course. Furthermore, USC has a leading Cinematic Arts college where I could get insights and take courses under that college to advance my pursuit in video game on an artistic perspective, reexamining the aesthetics of art in video games. Sitting inside Los Angeles, where the most influential video game con, E3, takes place every year, USC has an enormous geographical advantage for me to pursue my interest in video game. I could go to all these video game conferences and talk with some of the top game developers in the world there.

Video game to me is a key for the others to open my heart, and I wish everyone will happily smile when they saw what’s inside my heart.