I am an Indian American student who was born in Jaipur, India. Although I moved to the United States when I was only a year old, my heritage and my experiences growing up as an Indian American have shaped my life in drastic ways that have made me the person I am today.

Growing up as an Indian in America is an entirely unique and challenging experience. Balancing the vastly different culture my family brought with them to the United States from India with the cultural normal in America often brings a feeling of alienation along with it. Everything from core family values to eating and speaking customs differ tremendously between the two cultures and finding a middle ground between the two becomes one of the greatest challenges facing immigrants and their children. However, overcoming these difficulties proves to be an incredibly rewarding feat itself. Learning how to assimilate into a society that is vastly different from my own left me with a great respect for the struggles that immigrants endure in order to build a better life for themselves and their future generations. Struggling with these issues early in my life along with the inherently strong emphasis put by my family on bettering yourself through education gave me the drive to succeed in all my endeavors throughout my life.

As a child of immigrants, I take nothing for granted. My parents drove into me the idea that the world does not owe you anything; everything you have must be earned through hard work and unyielding diligence. Embarking on this new journey with the Coding Dojo is daunting but also exciting. Understanding how fortunate I have been to have grown up in the United States has always motivated me to excel and eventually leave the world better than it was.