

Primary Challenges

1. From Scribbles to Elegance: A Calligraphy Odyssey (2006-2007)

In elementary school, a unique family competition emerged - we challenged each other to write as small as possible. Surprisingly, this playful rivalry instilled in me a penchant for precision, which extended beyond the competition to other tasks, including my homework.

However, there was a significant drawback – my handwriting was atrocious. Often, I couldn't even decipher my own writing, leading to frustration among my teachers when they tried to assess my assignments. This frustration prompted them to contact my parents, expressing their concerns.

In response, my parents took a proactive step and enrolled me in a calligraphy class. This marked the beginning of a transformative journey. With unwavering dedication, I diligently practiced calligraphy each day. Within a year, my efforts bore fruit as I not only improved my handwriting but also claimed the coveted first place in a calligraphy competition in my hometown, a milestone that filled me with a sense of accomplishment.

2. Checkmate Challenges: My Journey to Chess Excellence (2007-2013)

My early foray into chess was guided by family members, but more often than not, I found myself on the losing side of the board. This persistent pattern left me pondering a profound question: when both players face the same board and possess identical pieces, what sets the victor apart from the vanquished?

Intrigued by this enigma, I delved deeper into the world of chess and discovered that there were classes specifically dedicated to this age-old game. Eager to unravel the secrets of chess mastery, I wasted no time in enrolling in one of these classes. What followed was a rigorous commitment, with chess becoming an integral part of my daily routine. I dedicated a minimum of four hours each day for six consecutive years to honing my skills.

Challenges were plentiful, and the most formidable among them was the scarcity of resources in my locality. To overcome these constraints, I embraced an unwavering work ethic as my primary weapon. During this intensive period, I had the honor of representing the Iranian national chess team, a testament to my dedication and resilience. Along the way, I clinched numerous national and international accolades, a testament to the transformative power of determination and perseverance.

3. Resilience Amidst Adversity: A Journey to Academic Triumph (2013-2014)

My transition from being a dedicated chess player to a student in 2013 was driven by a deep fascination with the accomplishments of science and scientists. However, this shift in direction came with its own set of challenges, as it coincided with some significant life events.

During this time, I faced the heartbreaking loss of two beloved grandparents to illness. It was the first time I experienced such a profound sense of loss within my close family circle. My father, deeply devoted to my grandmother, struggled to accept the doctors' prognosis and spared no effort or expense in seeking a remedy. My parents dedicated most of their time to caring for her, which in turn led to tensions among family members who often gathered at our home.

Simultaneously, I grappled with my own emotional and mental turmoil in the face of these hardships. Adding to the complexity, some of my closest chess friends did not respect my decision to shift my focus and treated me disrespectfully. Complicating matters further, my mother discouraged the use of nerve pills, leaving me to cope with these challenges without medical intervention.

Another hurdle was my prior commitment to chess competitions, which typically took me away from school for about three months per year. This resulted in a significant gap in my educational background.

Determined to overcome these obstacles, I embarked on a journey to rebuild my academic foundation, one step at a time. At the end of that challenging year, I sat for the entrance exam and achieved a remarkable ranking of 4,998 out of 222,507 students, placing me in the top 2%. This accomplishment earned me admission to Babol Noshirvani University of Technology, an institution ranked among the top 6 universities in Iran by the Ministry of Science and Technology at the time.

4. Charting a Course in Computer Science: Overcoming Educational Challenges (2014-2019)

In 2014, I embarked on my BSc journey as a computer science student at Babol Noshirvani University of Technology. While I had managed to build some foundational knowledge in the preceding year, I remained significantly behind many of my peers who had been immersed in the subject for years. This disparity compelled me to develop innovative methods and strategies to bridge the gap, allowing me to progress in my education while diligently working to bolster my lacking background.

Recognizing the potential value of my experiences, I recently undertook the task of organizing and generalizing the methods I had employed. I distilled these insights into a comprehensive guide, titled "Navigating the Challenges of Studying Computer Science: A Guide for Students at Babol Noshirvani University of Technology." This guide aims to provide valuable assistance to fellow students who may find themselves in a similar educational journey, offering practical strategies to navigate the intricacies of computer science studies.

5. A Journey of Words: From Reading to Fluent Expression (2014-*)

When I commenced my BSc in computer science, a significant challenge loomed before me. The majority of the study materials essential for my coursework were in English. The catch was, I had little to no knowledge of the English language, and time constraints left me with no option to first master English before diving into the required course materials. Instead, I had to embark on a parallel journey of learning both English and the course content simultaneously.

In the early stages of this journey, I immersed myself in English passages. Every unfamiliar word became a quest for meaning. With each word I discovered, my vocabulary slowly expanded, and I learned an invaluable lesson – not every word deserved equal attention + To speed up the process, for 6 months, I also dedicated 45 minutes every morning to expanding my vocabulary through a standard book before heading to the university.

I soon realized that articles like "the" and "a" held little significance on their own. Instead, I focused on the base form of words, understanding that it often provided more informative insights. For instance, I considered "check," "checks," and "checked" as variations of the root word "check."

Through these efforts, I unearthed the fascinating intricacies of the English language. I found that words could take on entirely different meanings depending on their context and the words surrounding them. Each word, it seemed, had a unique role to play when paired with others.

This dedicated approach yielded remarkable results. I could now read a wide array of books and passages with confidence and comprehension. However, my journey was far from over.

I delved into the complexities of grammar, observing that words like "checked" often appeared in sentences referring to the past, accompanied by time indicators like "yesterday." This pattern unveiled a crucial rule - the addition of "-ed" transformed verbs into their past tense forms. I began to generalize this rule, applying it to most verbs with the exception of a few rare cases.

The same process unfolded with other linguistic elements, such as the use of "will" and more. Each discovery enriched my understanding of English, piece by piece.

Armed with an expanding vocabulary, a deeper understanding of grammar, and a knack for contextual interpretation, I ventured into the realms of listening and speaking. This marked the transition from a silent reader to an eloquent communicator.

My journey was a testament to the power of dedication and a methodical approach. From reading English passages to mastering its nuances, my path to fluency was a labor of love, a story of growth, and a testament to the endless possibilities of language.

6. Overcoming Adversity: My Journey to MSc (2018-2019)

In the pursuit of my dream to pursue an MSc degree, I encountered numerous obstacles that tested my determination and resilience. It was a year marked by challenges, both academically and personally, that pushed me to my limits.

It all began when I realized there were a few courses I needed to complete my BSc degree. Eager to embark on my MSc journey the following year, I proactively inquired with university administrators about the possibility of taking a specific course in the next semester. Their initial response was promising – they assured me that it could be arranged. Fueled by this assurance, I registered for the semester, determined to complete my final project.

As the semester drew to a close, I was excited about my prospects. However, upon returning after a fulfilling summer internship, I received devastating news. The university administrators had reneged on their promise, leaving me in a state of uncertainty. The ensuing conflicts and psychological turmoil took a toll on my well-being, prompting me to seek professional help and undergo therapy.

During this tumultuous period, my grandfather, who had been unwell, passed away. The emotional weight of his loss compounded the stress I was already experiencing. Adding to my woes, I began to suffer from severe neck and back pain, a consequence of poor posture and the stress I was under.

Amidst this sea of challenges, I persevered. While dealing with physical and emotional pain, I continued to prepare diligently for the MSc entrance exam. It was a test of my mental fortitude, juggling academic pursuits with personal hardships.

The culmination of this challenging year came when I sat for the entrance exam. Against all odds, I achieved a remarkable ranking of 145 out of more than 14,000 students, securing a coveted spot in the top 1%. This accomplishment opened doors to MSc programs across Iranian universities, except one – Sharif.

With determination and resilience, I embarked on a journey of search, consultation, and introspection that ultimately led me to my choice: Tarbiat Modares University. Although the details of this decision are beyond the scope of this text, it marked the beginning of my MSc journey and a testament to my unwavering spirit in the face of adversity.

This is the story of how I overcame adversity and emerged stronger, a testament to my unwavering determination to achieve my dreams.

7. Resilience in Research: Navigating Challenges and Shaping the Future (2019-2022)

In my transformative MSc research journey, I encountered a multitude of challenges, each met with unwavering resilience and determination.

It all began with the excitement of embarking on a research odyssey, but soon, I found myself facing formidable technical obstacles. Confronted with extensive datasets and the constraints of my software tools, I was compelled to explore alternative solutions. Embracing Python and upgrading my system's RAM endowed me with the technical prowess necessary to confront my research head-on.

As I delved deeper into the realms of academia, I confronted a research impasse. Despite my relentless efforts and the application of a myriad of established techniques, I remained unable to surpass the existing approach. This setback spurred me to take matters into my own hands. I embarked on the arduous journey of developing my own methodology, a decision that demanded meticulous time management. Simultaneously, I ventured into multiple research projects, a strategic endeavor that eventually bore the fruits of success.

Yet, my journey was not solely confined to the world of research. The demanding MSc program disrupted the delicate equilibrium between my academic pursuits and personal life. Lost in the throes of academia, I came to appreciate the importance of carving out time for other facets of life.

Upon completing my MSc, a horizon filled with dilemmas stretched before me. Two years of immersive research had irrevocably transformed me. My interests had evolved, and I was faced with pivotal decisions. The choice between pursuing a Ph.D. or entering the workforce, selecting specific research domains, and determining the caliber of the institution for further studies weighed heavily on my mind. The uncertainty of these choices was palpable, yet I found motivation in the understanding that these decisions would profoundly shape my future.

In conclusion, my MSc research journey stands as a testament to the adaptability, acquisition of new skills, effective time management, and rediscovery of importance of life's balance. This narrative encapsulates the unwavering resilience and determination that fueled my relentless pursuit of academic excellence.