

Elizabeth Gonzalez

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Fields Report- Letter to grandma

Dear Lala,

How are you? I hope your back has been feeling better in the past few weeks. I am writing this letter because mom told me you were confused as to what I'm doing in college and what I'll be doing once I get my degree.

I am studying Software Engineering right now which is the study of building and designing software. I know you think that means I will be sitting in a dark room all day playing with computer parts, but I will be interacting with groups of software developers to create software, like the messenger app on your phone, that everyone can use. It's different than the other fields you've probably heard of like computer science and information technology.

Computer science is more in depth in the how computers function. It's more about the why and how computers and software work and how to make it work even faster and it involves a lot of math.

Information technology is more about maintaining computer systems and setting up networks for businesses like Tio Carlo's shop. A job in IT is more about installing, fixing, and sometimes programming all with the end goal of benefiting others.

I had mentioned earlier that computer science is mostly about the how and why computers work and how we can make them work faster and better but computer science is also technically the term we use to describe a lot of other computer fields and job titles including Software Developer which is the job title I hope to get once I finish school.

Computer science can describe a lot of different fields like Software Methodology and Engineering which is all about producing user friendly, dependable software, Artificial Intelligence which are machines that copy human behavior and seem to think for themselves, and Database and Information Retrieval which is how information is best used for speedy access and how to protect all the information we use everyday like our banking passwords.

I think I like Software Methodology and Engineering the best because you're able to create something that people can use every day. I think it would be a lot of fun to work with other people to create something that maybe some day everyone has on their phone or computer and use everyday without thinking about it. Like how you use messenger and email every day. You don't think about using them but when they're suddenly gone you realize how much you rely on those programs. I just think that's a cool thing to be a part of.

I hope this clears up some of the confusion you were having about what I'm studying and spending my time doing!

Love you,

Liz

Word Count: 461