**Q6. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom. (250-350 words)**

I remember vividly listening to my mom as she read me a Dr Seuss book, Inside your Outside, as a bedtime story. It was about the human body. I would always resist sleep to listen to just a few more pages. Little did I know, this would stem into my love for biology.

Studying biology is taking a look into the inner workings of living things. Everything from organ systems, cell division and diversity were taught to me this past 4 years, and I devoured it all up. I loved learning about the small details on how our body functioned. Protein synthesis, how different amino acids bind to different tRNA and also the circulatory system, how the heart maintains blood pressure and how it connects to the lymphatic system. I remembered staying after class just to learn more about lymph nodes. It amazed me how these small details are significant to keeping us alive.

To indulge my curiosity, I decided to attend summer school at Cambridge University. Without hesitation, I picked the Medical and Life sciences course. There I grabbed the opportunity to dive deeper into how our body worked. I took the change to work in their laboratory, comparing each other’s DNA compositions and even dissected a goat’s lungs. The course introduced me to new topics, such as how different viruses affect our bodies and more about the women reproductive system – briefly mention a little bit how this was exciting to you.

From everything I learned, I realized how I could also apply my knowledge to my daily life. After learning about aerobic respiration, instead of eliminating carbs, I decided to eat more slow digesting carbohydrates (such as?) to maintain better physical performance. After learning about immunity, I was more disciplined into taking my antibiotics to reduce the chances of antibiotic resistance. After learning how different diseases are transferred, I became more cautious of my hygiene. Biology slowly changed my life for the better and for that I became more motivated to learn more.

Hi Shana!

I could really tell from this prompt that you are very interested in Biology!

I think this is good and it answers the prompt – but I think we should be careful and limit the amount of things we list out. Instead, focus on describing how the things you’ve pursued further excites you, and what it means to you.

I have a few suggestions that I think could help make this better:

1. I would suggest to cut a few things you’ve listed out in the second paragraph (highlighted green), and maybe keep it to 2-3 things maximum (maybe choose the ones that really means a lot to you).
2. I like how you described your summer school experience, and I think it would be better if you can include a little bit on how the things you’ve mentioned there excites you, or what you learned from the laboratory work. I think this would be good to let people know why that matters to you.

Overall, I think it’s great!

All the best! ☺