1. USC faculty place an emphasis on interdisciplinary academic opportunities. **Describe something outside of your intended academic focus about which you are interested in learning.** (max. 250 words)

The environment has always piqued my interest, but especially so when I entered high school. Articles and posts made by activists the likes of Greta Thunberg and the Wijsen sisters on social media constantly remind me of deeds I can accomplish to positively contribute to the environment. A common idea in the community was “If not us, then who?” which struck a chord and established a great sense of responsibility. I was implored to contribute, hence I’ve reduced plastic consumption, become vegan, and even formed a public area clean-up crew.

Finding out that my school provided Environmental Systems & Societies as a DP class further amplified this interest; grasping the science behind how the atmosphere contributes to climate change heightened the ever-present trepidation, and studying value systems helped me understand the various perspectives people hold when it comes to environmental conservation. I was bursting with excitement about how the knowledge I obtained in class could be implemented in everyday life.

Though I may not solely direct my focus towards pursuing a career in the environmental industry, it is one of my desires want to learn and participate in the global society as a well-informed citizen, one that holistically understands the consequences of one’s actions on the environment and what one can do to contribute to sustainable change.

Additionally, the filmmaking skills that I would cultivate in USC would allow me to integrate my interests in film and environmental studies through documentary filmmaking, capturing the natural world with a deeper understanding.

Hey! So I briefly noted this in the previous essay, but with the exception of the last sentence, there should be more citations to how you plan to do this **as a Trojan.** For example, you can instead mention how you would do an environmental studies class for a general education requirement for life sciences. I suggest a bit more research in this part, although if you’re planning on submitting the other prompt, this one isn’t necessary if you don’t have anything specific to talk about. Furthermore, this was implied but the prompt is really asking for something you’re interested in **learning more about, in USC.** Is there an organization you’re interested in? A teacher maybe? An inspirational speaker who comes to talk to USC about the environment.

Personally, I don’t think the last sentence should on this prompt, especially because the major mentioned tv series and movies that were more fictive and not documentary like what this part mentioned. It makes the story inconsistent. While interdisciplinary does sound as if they want you to relate this to your major, they’re actually asking for something **outside of your intended major.**