Briefly **(approximately one-half page, single-spaced)**discuss the significance to you of the school or summer activity in which you have been most involved.

Throughout my life, I’ve been surrounded by doctors – my parents and nearly all my extended family members. I grew up in hospital environment, listening to meetings among surgeons about the best approach to treat kidney complications, seeing people crying over their loved ones’ death. I saw delighted parents looking over their newborn babies in the chamber. Admitted and discharged patients passed by so often that I became numb to these hospital scenes.

To me, becoming a doctor is just a family legacy I have to continue until I found a medical NGO named DoctorShare early this year. As an aspiring doctor, I took part in some of their medical outreach in Jakarta. And in the summer, I flew 2000km away to Kei Island, Maluku, with DoctorShare’s medical team to serve the local village there.

Once I got there, I was really sad to see how people suffer in all aspects, mostly healthcare. There was no hospital. Only a small health center lacking in medical facilities stood the ground against the illnesses that often ravaged the locals. Pak Andi, who suffered from hernia disease, came in pain and asked for help from the DoctorShare team. I approached him and took care of all his registration, screening, and scheduling for his operation. I also had the opportunity to assist the doctor who performed the surgery for him. After the operation was completed, he came to me with a drastic change on his face. The painful expression he had changed into a happy face. He brought me a bunch of traditional food to share with the team. I was really touched by his action, especially when he said, “thank you”. Not being able to help myself, I smiled too.

That night, I kept thinking about Pak Andi while enjoying the snake fruit he gave us. His wife must be relieved. He should be able to sit at the dinner table without feeling any pain. He can play soccer again with his kids. Feeling ecstatic is an understatement. Speaking to the senior doctors from the team, I understood that those faces have been their driving force to work relentlessly, even in the most inaccessible areas and most inconvenient times. That summer opened my eyes to what it truly means to become a doctor.

My perspective changed. I used to think that becoming a doctor requires intelligence. But, in fact, more than anything, it requires a sincere heart that does not expect anything in return. This summer, I learned about making sacrifices for the good of others. This summer, becoming a doctor is no longer an occupation, it’s a calling for me.

Hi Carina!

Great job! This is a strong draft and it shines a positive light on you.

On the first paragraph where you said that you were “numb of the hospital scenes”, maybe you could emphasize on that a little more. Does being exposed to the hospital scenes made you numb or was it because you were “forced” into being a doctor that made you unexcited? How did the perspective change after the summer? Make sure that it’s clear about where your perspective stand before and after the trip. You can also talk about how helping Pak Andi benefited him, but also caused a ripple effect (his wife and kids are happy, you came to a realization).

Please find additional comments and suggestions that I have for you on the right side of the document. Looking forward to reading your next draft.

Matahari Kinanti

All-in Essay Editor