**At Brown, you will learn as much from your peers outside the classroom as in academic spaces. *How will you contribute to the Brown community*? (250 words)**

Eyebrow dancing. Extreme pen spinning. One finger push-ups.

I’ve seen remarkable, unique talents mastered by many, but upon contemplating my own superpowers, I thought of everything from tongue twisters to chess. Yet gradually, I came to realize that my best contributions start with simple observation. To open my mind, I must first open my ears.

Development starts with listening.

I listen to noise, I listen to silence, I listen to all spectrums of thought. From my best friend’s rants on selective empathy to a teacher’s criticism, I try to embrace our hues and breadths of notions, sometimes struggling to comprehend because I simply don’t know it all. When I listened to children without education, I helped design a holistic education program for Indonesia’s rural areas. When I listened to poverty-stricken villagers experiencing water pollution, I raised funds for a new water pump that would improve sanitation.

I also listen to my curious mind. That’s where my best inquiries arise.

At Brown, I will listen to other people, bringing random questions with me to my advisees, DUG fellows and roommates. I will contribute by immersing myself, at the East Asia Colloquium, by painting murals on hospital walls with Art for Service, in the Catalyst Journal, and maybe by starting my own club.

What do I hope to contribute to Brown? Although one may argue that listening primarily helps the listener, I think we empower discovery by invigorating what other people have to say.

I’ll also bring some tongue-twisters.