**Ravi UC Essay Draft**

**Prompt #2**

***Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.***

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**Version 8**

**A flawless white-colored structure with sail-like roof-shells by day; a bright-colored giant shells of multiple spectrums by night. The exquisite light show reflected upon them has turned this structure into something organic: a story of our relationship with nature. In this cold, 2017 Sydney winter, I talked to myself, “Flash? No Flash? Just take a shot!” I couldn’t decide which!? So, I just Click! Click! And… another Click.**

**The ‘*beauty’* of the Sydney Opera House, the ‘*masterpiece’* produced from my beginner’s luck, and the thrilling sensation from these shots moved me.**

**Ever since that magical moment, I constantly brought “Sony” (short for Sony A6000) with me. I began to care about its features, and started to seriously learn the *three musketeers*: Exposure, ISO, and Focus as I dove deep into the free content of the internet to up my flair.**

**After learning the fundamentals, I would photo-hunt in my metropolitan home capital of Jakarta on my way to and from school. During vacations outside the city, I would take nature shots: beaches, mountains, and forests. An extreme contrast to my usual set of *grey* skies, tall skyscrapers, and heavy traffic, this iterative process of finding my favorite subjects has made me realize a trend.**

**Whenever I attempt to edit city shots, there would always be unwanted details, such as litter on the street or random people on the background. Wanting them to be seamless just like any other shots that I took, I would “heal”unwanted detail and color-contrast subjects. All of this masking may have made me feel accepted by the number of likes and positive comments on my social media pages. Yet deep down, I know that I’ve lost a touch of that magic that made me fall in love with photography in the first place.**

**Overtime, I realized that the journey of creating my *‘perfect’* picture reflected my hardship, tenacity, and patience. Photography has indubitably become a part of who I am. It became clearer to me everyday that every image I take has a meaning unique to my name. That, for me, is my creative side.**