6. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom?

“Where does this go?” I asked my sister, pointing to the single bill I held in my hands.

“It’s going around the economy.” my sister said. I was 10, so the word economy was like a foreign language.

Five years later when I was introduced to economics. I learned how money goes around the income model, but I also learned how past and future concepts, like Keynesian and Monetarist schools of thought, might clash with one another since Keynesian holds that wages don’t fall easily. It made me understand how uncertain and always evolving economics is. How the subject, like science, is never bound by a textbook.

I noticed how far economics goes through my investing club. By staying up to date with both macro and micro events and how they affect companies in different business cycles, I could forecast their future cash flows and hence compare their stocks’ intrinsic values. My use of economics showed me that the study is truly applicable to almost everything in our lives.

Interested to understand how much economics actually affects our lives, I pursued an internship with a local business called caroline.id - an online car marketplace. There, I worked closely with the CEO, where I analyzed how exchange rates would impact the demand and supply of cars and how behavioural economics theory helped the marketing team sell their cars. My experiences with the world of economics fueled me to share knowledge with my peers.

I applied to become the co-economic subject leader for IBlieve - an international organisation of IB students. I lead group discussions where we discussed concepts and evaluated real-life economic events and policies. But I didn’t just share knowledge, I found how important having an open mind and collaboration is in economics for a balanced evaluation, assessing different outcomes.

In the UCs, I hope to continue my interest in economics and expand my knowledge  beyond textbooks as an economics major and with my studies, I hope to potentially aid in solving current issues, like education inequality.