**School**: Stanford

**Prompt**: Reflect on your experiences and personal development since your last application.

**Word limit**: 50 to 250 words

# Ideas

* I have a bigger perspective.
* I was really passionate about the problems, about technology, but I didn’t really understand the ways in which one could make sure solutions have long term impact.
* One of the ways I learned a lot about that was startups: how to tell good ideas from bad ones, how to position them so that they are more likely to succeed, and what types of people they need on their teams to grow quickly and sustainably.
* Something that I took a while to realize is that problems are more important than technologies. I used to focus too much on how software was implemented, on what technologies to use, and that guided my thinking of how to solve a problem.
* It should always be the other way around. The focus is on the problem, and the simpler and more straight forward the solution is, the better.
* If something can be solved without computers, or with old technology, then that is better than trying to cram innovation into something that doesn’t really need it.
* I’ve developed a greater appreciation for my country. I used to not really identify with it. Living in the US has made me recognize the good things Argentina has, and everything it has given and inculcated in me.

# Version 1

Two years ago, when I first applied, I was really passionate about problem-solving and technology, but I didn’t really understand the ways in which one could have real long-term impact. I was still thinking in terms of “projects” or of applying the latest technology to solve an issue.

Working at a VC firm showed me, however, that the best solutions don’t require the greatest and latest technology. It is, indeed, sometimes leveraged, but most often the best solutions consist of using the simplest, and likely older, technology in the appropriate way for a specific industry and for a specific purpose.

This realization struck me while looking at the impact that construction tech startups have recently had on the industry. Doubling productivity was not at all rare, and the “miraculous” software at work were chat apps using decades-old technology adapted correctly to the requirements of a construction site.

Working on a healthcare and a veteran startup reinforced this idea. These startups were greatly impacting people’s lives, but the technology that supported them was not new.

Many entrepreneurs fall into the trap of joining the hype surrounding a new technology and immediately go look for funding to apply that technology to a new industry. These two years have shown me that the best companies are formed by people with extensive industry experience and a clear understanding of the problems the industry has, as well as all the stakeholders involved.

# Deleted

After coming to the US, I also came to realize all the great things Argentina has that I had taken for granted. I used to not really identify with Argentina, especially its culture. Living in the US has made me recognize all the unique and great things Argentina has, and how the environment I grew up in defined my work ethic and my goals.

**NEW VERSION: Previously Advice to Yourself + Appreciate Argentina**

I have come to appreciate the importance of people. It is not that 2 or 3 years ago I didn’t think people were important, but I didn’t realize how much impact any single individual can have on my life.

People devote their lives to their interests, activities, and friends. When I meet someone new, I have the possibility to absorb so much of the information they’ve acquired throughout their life in such a short span of time. This is especially true when I meet someone whose background is diverse from mine, for the simple reason that our knowledge and interests intersect less, meaning that the rate of learning and understanding of the different situations around the world rises exponentially.

Meeting new people has already had a clear impact on my career decisions. I used to want to be a programmer, perhaps a business owner, but the most interesting people I’ve met so far have pushed me to think beyond that. They did not adhere to any career in particular and did not follow a traditional path but rather have moved between different positions in management, technology, finance, and government.

Since coming to the US, I have also come to realize all the positive aspects about Argentina that I had taken for granted. I did not really identify with Argentina, especially its culture. Living in the US has made me recognize all Argentina’s unique qualities, and how the environment I grew up in has defined my work ethic and goals.