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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Squidward Community College (SCC) - with a clarinet scholarship! Vanderbilt (RD) - Chancellor's Scholarship! FSU (RD) - Honors/Presidential Scholars UF (RD) - Honors/Research Program Yale (RD) Stanford (RD) Harvard (REA)!!!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: South Income Bracket: \$100-130K Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): Environmental Science, Molecular/Evolutionary Biology, International Relations Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.00/4.85 Rank (or percentile): 3/~600 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: 10 honors, 11 APs, 15 IB (full diploma), 10 DEs (online) Senior Year Course Load: Chemistry HL, Biology HL, English HL, History HL, Enviro SL, Physics SL, Theory of Knowledge, AP Calculus BC (online), DE Stats (online), AP CSP (online) Standardized Testing SAT I: 1540 (740RW, 800M) ACT: 32 (did not report) AP: reported 7/9 scores; mix of 4s and 5s submitted IB: French B SL (7), Math SL (6), Biology SL (6) Extracurriculars/Activities Environmental Activism (redacted org name) - chapter founder/national director team that uplifts network of ~70K activists; climate ed resource creation (9, 10, 11, 12) Students for Enviro Action and Environmental Competition (same as Honor #1) - co-led 100+ students at meetings and coastal cleanups; co-coordinated 21 competitors (9, 10, 11, 12) SSP Biochemistry - applied TO even though it wasn't TO at the time! (woooooops); honestly feels like a fever dream (12) Foreign Language Organization - as Founder, led team of ~18; tutored in French and created extensive lesson materials (10, 11, 12) Key Club International - member of District Board; directed 12 clubs; co-designed a few graphics for 22K youth (9, 10, 11, 12) District National Honor Society - president of 10-15 HS chapters; led community-wide environmental and educational projects (11, 12) Environmental Research @ local college - explored MATLAB in context of seagrass health (11, 12) Local Environmental Nonprofit - Front Desk Staff and Microplastic Citizen Scientist (9, 10, 11, 12) Boy Scouts - Eagle Scout, held many many positions, earned 70+ merit badges (21 needed for Eagle) Wind Ensemble and Marching Band - multiple distinctions on 3 instruments; self-explanatory; uhh I had to leave after 3 years because my directors were remarkably toxic (9, 10, 11) Awards/Honors 4th Place - team-based environmental competition (international) ISEF Finalist in Plant Sciences (international) Service Project Award - sorry for being vague - top 0.045% (national and regional) Statewide recognition in STEM - designated top STEM student in district by school board (state) Recognition for work in service organization - approx. 400 hours in this position (international) Letters of Recommendation Environmental Science Teacher: 100/10, he told me that it was glowing and I knew I would ask him for a LOR since sophomore year.

I've known him for all four years of high school, taken 2 classes with him, gave him science fair guidance (for his son), and have continuously shared personal climate activism updates with him; he also coaches my Activity #2 (co-captain and senior officer) Honor #1. IB English/AP Lit Teacher: 9/10, she and I would have heart-to-heart discussions (and sometimes rants about some ppl's oops) regarding politics and literature. I loved connecting our texts in class, such as one by Toni Morrison, to systemic issues (unfortunately no one else really cared). We also share a wicked love for the outdoors and exploring uncharted places! The only reason I say 9/10 is because I got a 4 on the exam and had a decent amount of absences in her class, however, she fully understood my personal circumstances. School Library Specialist/Aide: 9/10, she is undoubtedly my school "grandma" who I share all of my updates and personal adventures with. I sometimes help her sort books, organize equipment in the library, and tutor students from time to time. I read her rec and it said "[my name] ranks among the most compassionate, driven, motivated, and dedicated volunteers I've encountered in my years at [my high school]". Interviews Harvard: 10/10, it was amazing and I clicked immediately with my interviewer. It honestly felt like a casual conversation where I also detailed various projects/initiatives; it was nice hearing him talk abt different traditions and house pride at Harvard. The first question asked by him was "do you think we can save the world?" Yale: 8/10, I didn't prep much, but I loved talking with my interviewer about his experiences at Yale, my interests in science and government, and how multidisciplinary Yale is. He sent me the sweetest message after getting in, which honestly made my day. \*Note: Both interviewers were in their 60s/70s and my virtual interviews were requested by the alumni very last minute with a 1 to 2-day turnaround time.\* Essays Personal Statement: 9/10, connecting personal growth with scientific exploration - an estuary near my house inspired me to conduct my ISEF project alongside other pursuits - tried to also keep it light-hearted Supplemental Essays: Harvard - 9/10 (honestly, I'm super proud of them :)), Yale - 8/10, Stanford - 8/10 (wrote in 1 day..shhhhh) Additional Information: 10/10, really helped highlight/reinforce parts of my application - mentioned semifinalist/finalist for programs like Coke Scholars and Senate Youth; elaborated on international recognition for work on the climate (e.g. travelling to DC for a funded event); discussed my burning love for languages (from a Chinese program to my Venezuelan friend helping me learn Spanish). In a parallel universe, I would undoubtedly major in linguistics and help indigenous language preservation efforts (sorry, ling is so fcking cool but bio/enviro currently has my heart). Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Squidward Community College (SCC) - with a clarinet scholarship! Vanderbilt (RD) - Chancellor's Scholarship! FSU (RD) - Honors/Presidential Scholars UF (RD) - Honors/Research Program Yale (RD) Stanford (RD) Harvard (REA)!!! Waitlists: Touching Grass State University (TGSU) Rejections: N/A :) Additional Information: Initially, I wasn't going to make this post but a friend suggested I do so I feel like

the past four years have been a wild ride\u2014filled with exhilaration, frenzy, stress, love, and growth (as an activist, student, researcher, and human being). There are a bunch of things that I would change, if I could go back, but\u2014as many people say\u2014EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT IN THE END. I have listed a few brief (p.s. you should study for your AP and IB exams...lol) pieces of advice: Do what genuinely interests you! This is a clich\u00e9 statement, but it couldn't be closer to the truth. Want to make a language in your own script? Want to develop a CS model to identify plastic wastes? Want to pour your heart out into playing the guitar? Want to write a blog analyzing your favorite Laufey song? Want to create a mural in your community made with recycled materials? Please do not take a quadrillion classes indiscriminately. I was obsessed with class rank in 10th and 11th grade, so I would naturally take online AP and DE classes on top of a full IB Diploma courseload. Uhhhh it was also crazy taking 4 sciences my senior year. Please. Do. Not. Do. This. Try not to compare your personal circumstances with others! Everyone is on their own path coming from different socioeconomic backgrounds, medical histories, etc. Be the best YOU. Appreciate your teachers. Yes, it's hard to reflect on your teachers when you have 6 others equally piling on assignments\u2014as you also try to balance ECs. However, they have helped shape who you are and are (for the most part...yes some just suck) really interesting individuals."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Pitt (EA/Film Studies, Rejected Honors) Penn State (EA/Film Production, Waitlisted Honors) Rutgers NB (EA/Film Production, Honors College + Mason Gross Merit Scholarship) Tulane (EA/Film Studies, Merit Scholarship) Berkeley (RD/Film Studies) UCSC (RD/Film Studies + Dean's Award) USC (RD/Media Arts + Practice) Hamilton (RD/Film Studies/Spring Admit) NYU (RD/Film Production) St. Andrews (EA/Film Studies) St. Andrews/W&M Joint (RD/Film Studies)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White non Hispanic Residence: U.S. Income Bracket: 200k+ Type of School: Public vocational arts school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Legacy at Yale Intended Major(s) : Filmmaking, Film Studies, Film Production Academics QPA (GPA equivalent): 93.7218 Rank (or percentile): N/A of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Senior year fully dual enrolled, 13 DE courses in total: 4 theatre, 1 math, 1 earth science, 2 english, 1 phys ed, 1 health, 1 dance, 1 communication. High school only offers Honors courses for Freshman-Juniors. Senior Year Course Load: 1st semester - Performance, Scene Analysis, Statistics, Geology, College Composition 2nd semester - Showcase Seminar, Theatre Writing, Issues in Health, Yoga I, Literary Writing, Dance

for Theatre, Digital Video Production Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1410 (E 740/M 670) SAT II: 1380 (E 710/M 670) SAT III: 1470 (E 770/M 700) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc.

Banned Book Club \u2014 Founder and President. 9 hrs/week, 40 weeks/year. Gay Straight Alliance \u2014 Discussion Leader (11). 1 hrs/week for 40 weeks. District Reading Challenge \u2014 School Ambassador, 1st place (11), 2nd place (10). 6 hrs/week, 40 weeks/year. Girl Scouts of America \u2014 Silver Award (8), Gold Award (TBA 12). 2 hrs/week, 12 weeks/year. Library Volunteer Work \u2014 Student Advisor, Volunteer. 1 hrs/week, 8 weeks/year. National Honor Society \u2014 Member. 1 hrs/week, 20 weeks/year. Rock Band \u2014 Lead Singer. 2 hrs/week, 40 weeks/year. Vocal Lessons \u2014 Soprano. 3 hrs/week, 40 weeks/year. Guitar Lessons \u2014 Guitarist. 3 hrs/week, 40 weeks/year. University of Southern California Creative Writing Workshop (11) Syracuse University Summer Filmmaking Program (11) Summer Screenwriting Course (10) Loyola Marymount University Summer Communications Course (10) Work Experience \u2014 Tennis Instructor. 20 hrs/week, 8 weeks/year. Book Reviews \u2014 Online Book Reviewer, Read 816 books During High School National Novel Writing Month \u2014 Successfully Completed Twice (11/12) Letters of Recommendation Sophomore/Junior History teacher \u2014 I am generally a very active student in class, especially so in humanities class and especially in History as I was pretty much the only person who talked. I also asked her for LOR for several summer programs and applied to and interned with her (school requirement for graduation) during my senior year. She's the teacher I'm closest to buuuuutttt she can't really speak to my filmmaking, probably an 8 Freshman/Junior English teacher \u2014 Again, very active participant. I excelled in writing essays for her classes, which is major relevant I would say. We're pretty close and she's known me for a while. Probably also an 8 Imao Guidance Counselor \u2014 Unless my GC is a bold faced liar Imao she's told me she has a very high opinion of me explicitly so I assume she wrote me a positive letter. I've spoken to her often about my filmmaking/artistic ambitions, she also wrote me LOR previously. We've also talked a lot about my school and rock band experiences, which are unique aspects of my application. I'm going to be bold and say this one is a 10 Interviews Penn State Schreyers Honors College \u2014 This one was technically just \"a discussion with an alumni\" but my interviewer called it an interview during so lol illusion shattered. I felt that I seemed pretty nervous, I got to talk about a lot of important parts of my app but I tripped up pretty often. Interviewer told me I left a very positive impression on her. W&M/St. Andrews Joint Degree \u2014 I was a little awkward but this one went better. I was nervous because I knew one interviewer would be from Scotland and I didn't want to seem like an American airhead but it was fine. I was proud of how I did but I wasn't certain how the interviewers felt about me. Essays Personal Statement \u2014 This one was about my experiences as a queer person. I

had a lot of people read this one, worked very hard, imo it was more or less perfect, 10 Pitt Honors \u2014 first one I wrote, 7 Penn State \u2014 I worked really hard and had a lot of fun with them, gave very creative answers, 9.5 Rutgers NB \u2014 The prompts really confused/frustrated me, but that made me work harder so and ultimately perfect them more so, 7.5 LMU \u2014 I reused this essay constantly, 9.5/10 UT Austin \u2014 I went a bit off the rails on these, I think they were good but I did start talking about Glee at one point, 8/10 Tulane \u2014 I didn't feel awesome about this one but I hit on the right points, 6.5 Trinity College Dublin \u2014 not my best, 6 UCs \u2014 I ran out of ideas...tried my best..., 7.5 USC \u2014 I went ham on those short answers, also put my neck back and \*\*\*\*\* into those major essays, 10 Wesleyan \u2014 this one I loved, 9 Yale \u2014 I thought my essays were my only shot so

\ud83e\udee1\ud83e\udee1\ud83e\udee1\ud83e\udee1\ud83e\udee1, 8.5 Hamilton \u2014 I really liked them and their essay prompts, 9.5 NYU \u2014 Some were good, I didn't love my creative writing, 9 St. Andrews \u2014 eh, 7.5 UMich \u2014 Pretty good, 8.5 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Pitt (EA/Film Studies, Rejected Honors) Penn State (EA/Film Production, Waitlisted Honors) Rutgers NB (EA/Film Production, Honors College + Mason Gross Merit Scholarship) Tulane (EA/Film Studies, Merit Scholarship) Berkeley (RD/Film Studies) UCSC (RD/Film Studies + Dean's Award) USC (RD/Media Arts + Practice) Hamilton (RD/Film Studies/Spring Admit) NYU (RD/Film Production) St. Andrews (EA/Film Studies) St. Andrews/W&M Joint (RD/Film Studies) Waitlists: LMU (deferred EA, waitlisted RD/Film Production) Rejections: UT Austin (EA/Film Production) Trinity College Dublin (EA/Film Studies) UCLA (RD/Film Production) UCSB (RD/Film Studies) Wesleyan (deferred ED2, rejected RD/Film Production) UMich (RD/Film Production) Comments: I'm committing to USC and am hyped to be a trojan (Fight on). I am simultaneously amazed at all my acceptances and furious about my rejections lol. I didn't expect to go to until about my Sophomore year of HS and I didn't dedicate my life to college apps, which was the right move. I only applied to places I really loved because I'd rather take a gap year and reapply then go somewhere I hated. I decided to apply for filmmaking last summer and had little help with my portfolio, so I am very very proud to have gotten into both SCA & Tisch."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: San Jose State (RD) UC Riverside (RD) UC Santa Cruz (RD) UC Santa Barbara (RD) (undeclared) UC San Diego (RD) (math-cs)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian, Chinese Residence: California Income Bracket: Medium Type of School: Small, Not Competitive

Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen, small town Intended Major(s) : Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.98 uw / 4.35 W / 4.5 UC W Rank (or percentile): 1/400 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9/13 APs: APWH, APUSH, AP Lang, AP Psych, APES, AP Calc AB, AP Calc BC, AP Bio, AP Lit, AP CSA (took online), 2/2 Honors: English Honors I, English Honors II I scored 4s and 5s on all the AP tests I did take Standardized Testing SAT: (Didn't take) ACT: 33

Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Leadership role in a local branch of a larger military org, also the head of STEM education and representative for the state committee. Earned a pretty high rank and a few achievements Built machine learning models for hospice services Developed a custom programming language and an online IDE that I used to teach beginners programming, created a full documentation, tutorial series, and offered practice problems that developed problem solving skills Co-founded a STEM club due to the lack of STEM resources at my school where I taught programming and built projects as well as collaborating with local elementary schools to do STEAM nights in which we promoted stem education through fun hands-on projects Started a small local energy drink business where I sold custom made pre-workout (not that crazy, earned around \$200/month-ish) Interned for a local congressman that later got elected and tackled issues in a nearby city such as homelessness, healthcare, and crime Organized a group of 20+ people for a branch of a global nonprofit org that cleaned up over 300lbs of trash in my local area, featured on their website JROTC for 4 yrs - platoon sgt, raider team captain, etc. Track and Field - 3 years Swimming - 1 year

Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Congress Gold Medal STEM award from Congress Scholar Athlete Award (4x) Some awards from the military org AP Scholar with Distinction Letters of Recommendation Calc Teacher (6/10) - A bit generic, she was the advisor for my STEM Club and I had her for 2 years, one being in her calc class and one being her TA. Overall she knows a lot about my passion for programming because I showed her some cool projects throughout the year that I've worked on. English Honors Teacher (6/10) - Amazing letter, was an advisor for my award program so she knew about my ECs a lot and I took her class in sophomore year so she was able to see my growth. But she didn't know how to upload/submit a LOR and communication with submission was extremely inconsistent even though I informed her way before the school year started so LORs were submitted past most deadlines so it could've caused some auto-rejects at some places. Interviews No interviews Essays My main essay discussed about programming and tied it into how algorithms had impacted my life and how my perception on the world through an algorithmic perspective allowed me to succeed. I also discussed about making the most of opportunity given my parents' sacrifices and how I hope to share that opportunity with others and each opportunity represents a different perspective that I will hope to accumulate throughout my college experience. I talked about a leadership experience

on dealing with kids who came from a struggling background compared to their peers around them and how I learned important qualities of a good leader and understanding how each person requires different materials for success. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: San Jose State (RD) UC Riverside (RD) UC Santa Cruz (RD) UC Santa Barbara (RD) (undeclared) UC San Diego (RD) (math-cs) Waitlists: UC Los Angeles (RD) UC Davis (RD) Carnegie Mellon (RD) Cornell (RD) Purdue (RD) Rejections: UC Irvine (RD) UC Berkeley (RD) CalTech (RD) Georgia Tech (RD) USC (deferred EA -> rejected RD) Cal Poly SLO (RD) University of Pennsylvania (RD) Duke (RD) Additional Information: I think my essay didn't really stand out as much and I should've incorporated a more personal aspect. I think it was a bit too generic. The admissions process has been pretty demotivating for me and it definitely sucks seeing those around me getting into their dream schools but I guess I shouldn't really compare myself given that I was going into such a cutthroat and competitive major. I really wouldn't have been mad if I got into UCSD for CS but I didn't lol though it probably was for the best as pure CS might lose its value in the near future"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: George Mason + Honors College (legacy) Hollins (\$25k merit scholarship) Mount Holyoke (rejected in HS) University of Virginia William & Mary (rejected in HS)",

"answer": "A: Title isn't clickbait but keep in mind I am a transfer student/non-traditional. I will also list the schools I applied to in high school. Keep in mind I used to visit A2C in HS because I knew I was smart but my grades were not reflective because of the mental health crises and not knowing how to study. In HS I was only accepted to one school, wrote a trauma/sob story essay, and had a 2.4 WEIGHTED GPA lol. I dropped out of college after THREE semesters, failed a semester of community college, and went back in 2023. Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Black Residence: VA Income Bracket: \$90kish, when I'm considered independent it's like <\$15k Imao Type of School: Public Title 1 High School > T300 Uni > Community College Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM, Legacy at one school but I don't think it mattered Intended Major(s) : English w/ concentration in Creative Writing, Minor in Black/Africana/African-American Studies. On a pre-law track and plan to go to law school/ Academics GPA (UW/W): HS GPA: 2.4 W. University GPA: 1.24. CC GPA (with retakes): 3.89 (will go down after the Spring semester :/) Rank (or percentile): None of my schools ranked Number of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Honestly don't remember much of HS but I took a few Honors courses and a couple IB SL courses. Just finished an Honors class at my CC. Senior Year Course Load: Had to be reduced or I wouldn't graduate because I did

not show up to school or I was always tardy. Have about 60+ transferable college credits. Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT (2017): 1160 (600RW, 550M) (I think?, this was my highest, first attempt was 1150 Imfao) ACT (2017): 30 (34E, 27M, 34R, 24S) (Highest attempt, first attempt was 28) AP/IB: Tbh I don't remember my IB test scores I think a 3 and 4?? Just remember getting credit for them at my first uni but not my community college Imao Extracurriculars/Activities (Currently) Retail job for 4 years Food service job for 6 months that was done concurrently with my retail job Freelance makeup artist, did paid makeup occasionally on others Caretaker for mother who was in the hospital from late 2023 to present Volunteered at an elementary school library for a month Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Dean's List for 3 semesters (Idk if I'll get Dean's list this semester) Phi Theta Kappa Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) LOR from English 1 prof - had a great presentation and she was always very supportive of me. Didn't read it but I hope it was glowing. LOR from English 2 prof - she was a great professor with an amazing personality and I think she enjoyed my essays. She understood some of my struggles. Didn't read it. LOR from Science prof - took both sections of a class with him and hoped it'd be glowing since I explained Science was not my background. I got to read it because I was going to use it for an internship. Was generic. LOR from my retail manager - who I've grown close to and known all these four years. Consider her like a mom/older sister to me. It made me cry because she explained how much I've matured and grown. Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Mount Holyoke - 9/10: I rambled sometimes and had to ask what the question was for a couple questions. Answered a question and she told me that as many times as she's done an interview like this she's never heard my answer before (was a good thing). Smith - 8/10: Mentioned my desire for community service and she got me in touch with the community service center (Jandon). Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) I thought I did well on my essays. I tried to explain how I initially wanted to be an author/screenwriter but changed my path to pre-law while still being an English major because I want to help disadvantaged backgrounds who are effected by sex trafficking. Mentioned Law & Order: SVU. Also, discussed my desire to join/create community service initiatives and join whichever Black affinity group was on campus. I also gave a timeline of my post high school career to explain my gaps in education and low grades. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: George Mason + Honors College (legacy) Hollins (\$25k merit scholarship) Mount Holyoke (rejected in HS) University of Virginia William & Mary (rejected in HS) Waitlists: Smith (Ada Comstock Scholar) - was pleasantly surprised but ultimately did not accept the waitlist. (rejected in HS) Wellesley (Davis Degree) - one of my top schools and I was shocked. At first I thought I was rejected but then I read on. Definitely accepting the waitlist and hoping to



write the best LOCI possible Rejections: Amherst (rejected in HS) Bates (rejected in HS) University of Richmond Wesleyan Williams (rejected in HS) Additional Information: I still have 4 schools left (Barnard, Brown, Howard, and Vassar). I'm not holding my breath for them because Barnard, Brown, and Vassar are need-aware while I do not plan to go to Howard because I would commute and they did not have the courses I wanted. However, this goes to show you can fuck up high school and some of college and still come back! A lot happened in my gap years incl. a couple of [redacted] attempts. I'm still amazed with how far I've come as I was the kid in high school who would never show up or show up halfway through the day. It got so bad for me senior year that they told me I could have my schedule reduced or go to the alternative high school. I reduced my schedule but even then I BARELY graduated high school due to one class I almost failed (I think I got a 65 or 66). My first uni wasn't any better and was a terrible experience for me. I am so grateful to have worked at my retail job and met an amazing group of women who believed in me no matter what. I've been able to grow and mature as a person tremendously. I don't know where I'll commit but I have 10 days to decide. ;\_; It's between UVA and Mount Holyoke but it's a super hard decision for me as I've always wanted to go to an LAC in New England but because of personal reasons I may stay in VA. I'll update later."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): Rutgers EA UW Madison EA Wake Forest RD Vanderbilt RD waitlist ==> accept (committed)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: white Residence: nj Hooks: 2x legacy northwestern, legacy duke Intended Major(s) : Biophysics, Neuroscience Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 3.95/4.81 SAT/ACT: 1500 - 710 RW + 790 M Extracurriculars/Activities: (list here) summer research internship 9-5 volunteer and certified emt historian, then VP for a microbiology club varsity vball club vball worked at a farm picking produce (summer) worked at BSA camp teaching ecology (summer) Awards/Honors: (list here) eagle scout, nhs Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) rec letter 1: hopefully good, from physics teacher rec letter 2: prolly mid common app: middish. wrote about how my hanger (hunger anger) in a big family has shaped me supps: wrote in a couple days but imo not bad. good topics but maybe not perfect execution due to procrastination Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (list here): Rutgers EA UW Madison EA Wake Forest RD Vanderbilt RD waitlist ==> accept (committed) Waitlists: (list here) Vanderbilt RD Northwestern RD Rejections: (list here) Dartmouth ED Duke RD Emory RD Rice RD UNC Chapel Hill RD U Mich RD Conclusion: There is hope for everyone so don't worry. Even if I went

to wake it is a great school and you just have to trust the process. Advice: I recommend not doing extracurriculars you don't fully enjoy. Only regret was giving up my sleep on school nights for EMT, loved doing everything else including course work. Also, actually study for SAT even if it's boring and begin common app essay asap over summer."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Michigan State University (EA) Northeastern Illinois University (EA) University of Maine (EA) University of New Haven (EA) University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (EA) University of Massachusetts Lowell (EA) University of Massachusetts Boston (EA) University of New Hampshire (EA) Saint Michael's College (EA) University of Connecticut (EA) (COMMITTED!!) (Storrs, \$29k/yr) University of Massachusetts Amherst (EA) (waitlisted then accepted)",

"answer": "A: she's also trying to escape her family by running to the east coast! Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Black/African American Residence: Chicago suburb on the lake shore. Income Bracket: around 44k for 4 people including me Type of School: in the top 25 public schools in the state \u2014competitive?? 4k students Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen Intended Major(s): Psychological Sciences on Pre-Med track. Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.29 UW 3.51 W Rank (or percentile): n/a of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 3 AP\u2019s. 9 Honors. Senior Year Course Load: 1 AP, 3 Honors. AP Psychology, Forensic Science H, Data Science H, and Advanced Writing H. Standardized Testing SAT I: n/a ACT: n/a Extracurriculars/Activities Community Service (15+ hrs??) \u2014 School newspaper (interviewed the mayor at some point for a feature article I was independently writing). Sexual Health Resource Education group: advocate for normalizing sexual health within our society. We also speak up about sexual harassment/assault. During summits, we present our initiative and create a space for students to gain healthier self-awareness and self-power. I specialize in the \u2014neurobiology\u2019 role, where I research the effects of trauma regarding sexual assault/harassment. I present these facts to students to help them become more aware of their systems + create a space where they can feel human. Awards/Honors Freshman of the Year (school-wise) Achievement Awards in Writing (NCTE) Principal Student of the Month (2x) (don't judge pls) High Honors by Black Caucus Letters of Recommendation AP Lang (8-9/10): He witnessed my struggles and then saw my \u2014redemption\u2019 Chemistry (7/10): Probably the only other teacher who didn't see my flop. \u2014 I was relatively quiet in class considering I switched in second semester from Chem honors. Interviews Tufts Interview: It just wasn't it.

My interviewer was dead inside and I couldn't vibe with her. I also didn't prepare. Essays To be honest, my essay was the STRONGEST part of my application. I wrote it after I experienced my first genuine panic attack and that's the experience I started with. I never imagined a moment in my life when I would be on the kitchen floor gasping for air and pressing a cold water bottle on my face. I never imagined experiencing a panic attack. I wrote the whole essay within an hour (did edits/revisions after, a few people read it over) because my hyperfocus kicked in. That may seem unrealistic, but I swear that's how it went. I was really zoned in and didn't stop writing until I finished. The flow was nice. The topic was mental health along with finding my control/independence from my family. So, yeah: basically, I wrote about my struggles and how they defined me as a person and how they created barriers to my desires and actual wants in life. how I managed to push through and create a path for myself instead of everyone creating it for me which made me struggle and stuff because trying to walk a path created by others will not make you very happy. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Michigan State University (EA) Northeastern Illinois University (EA) University of Maine (EA) University of New Haven (EA) University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (EA) University of Massachusetts Lowell (EA) University of Massachusetts Boston (EA) University of New Hampshire (EA) Saint Michael's College (EA) University of Connecticut (EA) (COMMITTED!!) (Storrs, \$29k/yr) University of Massachusetts Amherst (EA) (waitlisted then accepted) Waitlists: University of Vermont (RD) Rejections: Tufts (ED 1) - this one was real bad guys. Northeastern (ED 2) - this was also bad. Wellesley (RD) Bowdoin (RD) Amherst (RD) Additional Information: had mental health stuff that impacted my junior year. late diagnosis for ADHD (happened junior year also). family responsibilities were mainly my extracurriculars."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Clemson University RD (deferred) - Major: Electrical Engineering University of South Carolina EA - Major: Electrical Engineering Furman University RD - Major: Dual Degree Applied Physics",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Rural-ish South Carolina Income Bracket: around 150k Type of School: Midsize moderately competitive public high school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen Intended Major(s) : Electrical Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.324/4.387 (My district uses a different system with AP classes weighted as 6.0) Rank (or percentile): 170/588 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 APs, 19 Honors Senior Year Course Load: 4 APs (Calculus AB,

Calculus BC, Physics C: Mech, CSA), Government Honors, Economics Honors  
 Standardized Testing SAT I: 1440 (710 R&W 730 M) ACT: N/A AP/IB: 5s: Psych, CSP  
 4s: Human Geography Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities  
 NHS, Math tutor, High commitment food service job w/ leadership role, Guitar (4 years)  
 Awards/Honors NHS, AP Scholar Letters of Recommendation Physics teacher (8/10):  
 Took two physics classes with him. He thought highly of me. Decisions (indicate  
 ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Clemson University RD (deferred) - Major:  
 Electrical Engineering University of South Carolina EA - Major: Electrical Engineering  
 Furman University RD - Major: Dual Degree Applied Physics Waitlists: Virginia Tech RD  
 - Major: Electrical Engineering (Accepted) Rejections: Georgia Tech EA - Major:  
 Electrical Engineering University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign EA - Major: Nuclear  
 Engineering UC Berkeley RD - Major: Nuclear Engineering UC Los Angeles RD - Major:  
 Electrical Engineering Purdue EA (deferred) - Major: Electrical Engineering Additional  
 Notes/Reflections I am currently deciding between Clemson and Virginia Tech. Clemson  
 is an in-state school that is very close to home. I also get the South Carolina Palmetto  
 Fellows scholarship there, which is around \$10,000/year, but only applies to South  
 Carolina schools. Virginia Tech has a better engineering program. I also just like the  
 school better. However, the cost is around \$35,000 more/year than Clemson.  
 Additionally, I am paying for my entire college tuition without my parents. Any advice  
 would be appreciated. Thank you for your time."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 Arizona (full ride) Alabama (full ride) Auburn (full ride) Georgia Tech (double legacy, in-  
 state full scholarship, attending) Obviously my cycle didn't go the way I wanted it  
 to, but I still got into a great school and honestly wouldn't want to be anywhere  
 else now. Don't be discouraged if you're like me and get rejected from all of  
 the schools your friends apply to, you will end up where you need to be.",

"answer": "A: I see a lot of crazy success stories on here, so I figured I'd  
 share my experience from 2022 and how college has gone for me. Demographics Race:  
 White Gender: Male Income Bracket: Middle Class Anxiety and ADHD diagnoses  
 disclosed Academics GPA: 4.0 UW/5.0 W Rank: 3/97 (weird ik) 36 ACT  
 (submitted)/1560 SAT (not submitted) APs: Human Geography (5), Chemistry (4), World  
 History (5), Calculus BC (5), Computer Science A (5), Physics 1 (5), Physics C (5  
 Mechanics, 4 EMAG), US History (5), European History (5) Took multivariable calculus  
 and linear algebra at Georgia Tech my senior year (As in both) Published at the Junior  
 Science and Humanities Symposium in my state (won poster prize which was basically  
 fourth place) National Merit Scholarship Finalist (didn't get it) Extracurriculars

Football: Varsity all four years, starter Sophomore-Senior Year, all-region first team Junior and Senior Year, All-State Second Team Junior Year, Captain and All-State First Team Senior Year (only recruited at MIT because of size) Lacrosse: Varsity Junior and Senior year, Captain and school record for most saves in a game, All-Region first team and All-State Honorable Mention Senior Year LGBTQ+ and Allies Club: Founder and President all four years, set up a bunch of outreach things and did over 200 hours of volunteer work Engineering Internship: had an internship at a local aerospace engineering company between my Junior and Senior year which was unfortunately online because of Covid Student Mentor: was a student mentor to a homeroom of freshman my first semester senior year, basically was their homeroom teacher and helped them adjust to high school Job: had a part time food service job that I worked 20/30 hours a week from Sophomore summer to the end of high school Letters of Recommendation Physics Teacher/Research Project Mentor (8/10): nothing super special just generic LOR, but talked about some of the more technical things I did Computer Science Teacher (9/10): This guy was literally me but older, wrote about all of my CS pursuits, might have come off as a little generic History Teacher/Club Sponsor (10/10): Baller essay all I have to say Essays I definitely shit the bed on common app essays not gonna lie, but I still feel like I'm a decent writer so I'd give myself a 5/10 on those. I spent a lot of time on supplementals though so I'd say those were about a 8/10 Interviews Didn't get any Decisions I applied to all of these schools as CS Rejections: MIT (deferred->rejected) Stanford Brown Princeton Cornell Carnegie Mellon CalTech Duke UNC Chapel Hill Air Force Academy (Medically Disqualified) UIUC UT-Austin UC Berkeley Purdue Dartmouth Waitlists: UMich (withdrew) Acceptances: Arizona (full ride) Alabama (full ride) Auburn (full ride) Georgia Tech (double legacy, in-state full scholarship, attending) Obviously my cycle didn't go the way I wanted it to, but I still got into a great school and honestly wouldn't want to be anywhere else now. Don't be discouraged if you're like me and get rejected from all of the schools your friends apply to, you will end up where you need to be."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UT Austin (early), duke, upenn (CAS)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: african american Residence: texas Income: 300K+ (no way of getting fin aid but i still asked for financial aid anyways LMAO) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): urm, private school??? (idk some people called this a hook but i honestly don't think so) Intended Major(s) : applied to most schools as a biology major or

human bio Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 1/25 , 4.3 W GPA # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: took all honors classes whenever possible in HS, took all AP classes available. my school doesn't allow freshman and sophomores to take AP courses so i only have taken 2 AP exams. i made a 3 on the AP Chemistry exam (and submitted it) and i made a 5 on the AP Literature exam (also submitted it). Senior Year Course Load: ap bio, ap psychology, ap calc bc, ap language, spiritual leadership Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 1220 \ud83d\udc80\ud83d\udc80 went test optional obviously. i only took it once and it was under horrible conditions like i should've reported my testing center because they ended it 10 mins early on the math calculator section because their clock broke + teachers kept coming in and out of the classroom and talking mid test. horrible testing environment but ig no excuse SAT II: AP/IB: 3 on AP chem, 5 on AP Literature Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities: (slightly vague so i don't get doxxed cause i'm easily findable) personal business of braiding hair since 9th grade, made revenue of \$10,000+ and have an instagram account with 5000 followers account that i linked chapter president for (insert national org here) very involved in this and i created in person workshops to educate the youth on african american culture in our community. i also led various fundraisers including a community thanksgiving fundraiser. we collected over 3000+ canned goods and gave them in person to economically disadvantaged communities (featured on the local news for these and linked news article in additional info section of common app). intern for local sickle cell anemia org, we planned the first awareness campaign through hosting a fashion show (i created this idea lmao). we raised over \$5000 in one night and we were able to get the national sickle cell director to help us award sickle cell victims. this was super fun and we were once again put on a news article. bed builder for an organization. once every month we build beds and then deliver them to families in their homes, i've built and delivered around 60+ beds. been doing this since sophomore year. independent tutor at my school, taught 9 kids ranging from middle school to high school. nothing too important here volunteered at local neurosurgeon clinic. i was able to observe super cool surgeries and volunteered for around like 15 hours total. would 100% do again! student council vice president. nothing too big here but i advocated for the student body and got a couple of things changed in the handbook, my principal said that she was able to mention this in her LOR. varsity tennis all 4 years, captain of my team. i've won over 25+ tournaments in my bracket (boys A doubles), competed in district all for years (got 3rd in my bracket junior year and senior year), and competed in state for sophomore, junior, and senior year (don't ask how that went). ANYWHOO it was fun and i had a lot of great memories ! oh also i mentioned that i was the first african american player on the team lmao \ud83d\ude4f\ud83d\ude2d, life was rough out here . rotary interact club president. hosted 5 blood drives with a local blood center (honestly only like 10 people

donated blood in total). i also partnered with the bed building org that i mentioned to raise funds for them and we raised around \$500!! this was a super chill and laid back club none Awards/Honors: got a leadership award due to service in my community (can't name the specific award obv or i'm doxxed) but it was because of the thanksgiving fundraiser. the mayor awarded it to me :OOOO RYLA camp award (only the interact clubbers know this one) college board african american recognition program (super confused how i got this because i thought you had to take 3 ap exams or more to qualify but wtv) national honor society secretary & national thespian society honor thespian academic champion x4 yrs (i was desperate) Essays/LORs/Interviews: uhh honestly i hated my personal statement and didn't let anyone read it except a stupid AI that scores it (please don't do this). but basically for my personal statement i talked about how i hated hearing my dad hum traditional igbo hymns (all my igbos rise up) initially, and then i reconciled with that and ended up developing a love for my african heritage, leading me to create a hair braiding business specifically geared to braid african hairstyles. it sounds boring but i think i wrote it very well and mentioned my difficulties being a first generation american, got emotional at the end. obv colleges liked it!! my supplementals talked about various ECs and i was silly in a lot of them (humor is key in your essays, but don't be cringe!!) i think my favorite supplemental essay topic was how i was told frequently by my grandmother that i shouldn't act 'black' and how through the workshops mentioned in EC #1 i worked to break that stigma of how we as african americans are told to repress our identity. through the workshops i was able to show the african american youth the beauty of black culture. (it sounds sloppy here cause im writing this at 1 am but i promise it was good) my why major was around interning with a sickle cell anemia nonprofit. i mentioned how while my time advocating for research and spreading awareness acts a foundational way to support a cause, actions speak louder than words. i mentioned how i wanted to be able to be on the front lines of sickle cell anemia research and help my community through the university's research programs and opportunities. i had 4 LORs. one from my principal, ap bio + ap chem teacher, ap lang + ap lit teacher, and one from the mayor of my city ( :OOO ). most schools only let me put 2 so i mainly used my science and english teacher. the optional LOR i used was the mayor's LOR (she showed me the LOR and yall she was actually gassing me up i actually cried she's so sweet and i had so much fun working with her in a lot of my orgs) received interview from duke harvard yale princeton, upenn, and stanford. they all went amazing imo Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UT Austin (early), duke, upenn (CAS) Waitlists: princeton, stanford Rejections: harvard, yale Additional Information: this was a crazy ride and i wouldn't do it again. honestly i did not have a proper college list going into this so my only safety was UT (i was auto admission and didn't care about being put in a liberal arts major). i should've applied to more colleges, especially ones that have full rides. also

going test optional definitely hurt my chances for harvard and yale. but i'm so grateful for my acceptances and it's literally a miracle. i recently committed to duke and im so happy to be a blue devil! i'm still on the waitlist for princeton and stanny. i wasn't rly a perfect applicant. i had a C on my transcript in junior year (but ngl that was my grade below an A). i also got suspended sophomore year for being in a fight (self defense but that's how it goes ig). my advice to any juniors out there is just do what u love. i never had any research done or had super cracked ECs and i was still able to get into really good schools. my upenn AO emailed me and said how she cried because of my common app essay and really helped her understand me as an applicant, so make sure you use your essays as a way to be vulnerable. good luck to everyone, keep trusting God!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Texas A&M",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: TX / Intl high school Income Bracket: Middle class Type of School: Private boarding Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Engineering (Applied for Mech/Aero/CS) Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.97 / 4.11 Rank (or percentile): Unranked of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 APs Senior Year Course Load: AP Bio, AP Calc BC, AP CSA Standardized Testing SAT I: 1490 (730RW, 760M) [1480 w/o super score] AP/IB: AP Chem (5), AP Stats (5), AP Lang (4) [Some schools didn't get my scores because I don't know how to use common app lmao] Extracurriculars/Activities Varsity tennis 11/12 JV/Varsity Rugby 10/11 Work at non profit Managed a clean up team Led worship for a small group Calisthenics work in free time AP self study VBS volunteer \"Big brother\" for younger student Work for prom Awards/Honors National merit commended Academic award for AP stats (highest grade) Academic award for French III (highest grade) Writing award for English 10 AP scholar Letters of Recommendation AP Chem Teacher: Great rec letter English 10 Teacher: Decent rec letter. I got a writing award in his class. Counselor rec letter: Great rec letter. Used to be my dorm mom. Interviews None Essays Wrote about my experience of moving to another country, the impact that it had on me, and what I learned from it. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Texas A&M Waitlists: U Chicago Virginia Tech Rejections: USC Vanderbilt Northwestern UT Austin Northeastern Additional Information: Excited to go to A&M. Having a year to pick your engineering major is a huge plus."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Colorado, Boulder (EA) - \$7,000/year University of Massachusetts, Amherst (EA) - \$16,000/year University of Maryland, College Park (EA) University of California, Santa Barbara University of Washington University of California, San Diego University of Toronto McGill University - (committed!)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic White (middle eastern) Residence: Colorado Income Bracket: \$150k-200k Type of School: Large (~4000) very competitive public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s): Linguistics Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.84/4.43 Rank (or percentile): n/a of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 APs, lots of honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Enviro, AP Stat, AP Comp Gov, AP Music Theory, bands and fun English classes Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1480, did not submit lol ACT: 33 (33E, 30M, 35R, 32S) AP/IB: APUSH (5), AP World (5), AP Lang (5), AP Calc AB (5), AP Human Geo (5), AP US Gov (4) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): n/a Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. I think I overemphasized music a little, but I like music so deal with it i guess First chair oboe at school's orchestra Marching band Bassist in jazz program President of LGBTQ+ student advocacy group Founder of school's linguistics club Member of Jewish student group Summer semester abroad affiliated w/ NYU Volunteer at Hebrew school Hispanic Student Union Minimum wage job Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. I still dk what tf to put for this AP scholar w/ distinction 4 varsity Academic letters High Honor roll Music thing Finalist for another state music competition Letters of Recommendation Feels weird to rate them: LOR 1: AP Human Geo teacher, I finished with a 115% in that class and got a perfect score on a practice exam, so I thought he would be a good choice to show the academic side of things. LOR 2: AP Lang teacher who I had a pretty personal relationship with. I actually got to read her letter, and it made me tear up a little. LOR 3 (for some scholarship stuff): The sponsor of Linguistics Club. We are pretty close so I hope it turned out good. Interviews Stanford: The guy who interviewed me did it while boarding a plane, and I could barely hear him. But I ended up having a nice conversation and he gave me some recommendations of things to do while I visited Stanford. 7/10 Essays I thought writing was definitely a strong suit. I was told that I had a really good college essay, but my two months of revisions made me despise it immensely. My personal statement was rushed and talked about a dip in my grades in sophomore year after a grandparent's death, some mental health issues, and the start of in-person high school. Otherwise, I actually really enjoyed the Stanford writings, and also the McGill scholarship self-letter of recommendation (even though it was never

used by my GPA was too low :P). Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD)  
Acceptances: University of Colorado, Boulder (EA) - \$7,000/year University of  
Massachusetts, Amherst (EA) - \$16,000/year University of Maryland, College Park (EA)  
University of California, Santa Barbara University of Washington University of California,  
San Diego University of Toronto McGill University - (committed!) Waitlists: NYU (RD)  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (EA -> postponed -> WL) Rejections: Columbia  
University (RD) UCLA UC Berkeley Stanford University (RD) Additional Information:  
Even knowing how it turned out, I would have probably dropped the 4 safeties I also  
applied too (that I didn't even include) and put my effort into maybe Harvard and UPenn,  
knowing I wouldn't have gotten in."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
UC Irvine CS and Engineering (UC) (Committed!!) UMD CS (EA) Case Western  
Reserve CS (Deferred EA -> Accepted RD) ASU CS (in like August LOL) UIUC LAS  
Statistics (EA) UT Dallas CS (RD) UC Santa Cruz Applied Mathematics (UC) San Jose  
State CS San Diego State CS",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Indian Residence: CA  
Income Bracket: 300k+ Type of School: hypercompetitive Bay Area public \ud83d\ude2d  
Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Dad and Uncle  
MBA at SCU \ud83d\ude80 Intended Major(s): CSE/EECS to UC's, CS+Math to UIUC,  
CS everywhere else Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.95/4.26 for EA's, 3.9/4.28 for RD's  
Rank (or percentile): school doesn't rank of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 AP  
classes, took Multivar and a Data Comm/Networking class at CC Senior Year Course  
Load: AP Stats, AP Physics C Mech, AP Lit, AP Spanish Lang and Culture, US Gov,  
Econ Standardized Testing SAT I: 1550 (760RW, 790M) ACT: 33 (idrc ab the subscores  
i didnt submit ts anywhere) AP/IB: 5 on CS A, English Lang/Comp, Calc BC; 4 on  
Physics 1 Extracurriculars/Activities 1 Small internship at this tech startup - my dad  
knew a colleague from a long time ago that started his own company so I reached out  
and got to work with his company, I had to write a Chrome extension for their engineers;  
learned and used JS HTML CSS (11th summer) 2 Varsity Athlete - cross country and  
track & field; I was pretty mid (top 7 but not top 3 type); our cross country team got an  
athletic scholars award after placing 11th out of like 20 schools at regionals  
\ud83d\ude80 (10-12) 3 Math Tutor Job - at a local tutoring center, was pretty on and off  
because of sports; worked more over summer and in the off season, taught kids  
anywhere from addition/subtraction to calc bc (10-12) 4 Spanish Honor Society - got  
nominated as a junior, became an intern halfway through the year, and became  
president for senior year (11-12) 5 Founded/Restarted Rubiks Cube Club - applied

through 11th grade cycle, got approved for 12th grade year; president position (11-12) 6  
Held two free online programming workshops over the summer - me and my friends put  
together some workshops where we taught kids python the first year and java the  
second (9-10) 7 Link Crew (11-12) - was really involved junior year but lowkey fell off in  
senior year 8 Cultural School Volunteer (9-12) - lowkey made this seem  
like a lot more than it was but I've helped set up events like plays and stuff and helped  
teach language classes over the weekends, but seriously pretty trivial 9 NHS (11) -  
tutored some kids junior year but I wouldn't be able to go to the afterschool homework  
help thing because of sports practice so I kinda just didn't do it senior year 10 School  
Spirit Stuff (10-12) - participated in choreographed dance numbers for rallies and helped  
paint and make cardboard decorations, prepared for months in advance Awards/Honors  
1 AP Scholar with Honor 2 Athlete Scholar Award in junior year t/f 3  
Commended National Merit Genuinely didn't have a 4th or a 5th award so I left it blank  
Letters of Recommendation Calc; I really liked the teacher and his class,  
but me and my friends trolled a lot in his class (11th) but he's also just generally not the  
type of guy to be super expressive about anyone AP Lang; I really liked the teacher  
even though he gave me a B first semester (11th), we talked a lot about random things  
in and out of class, and even though I was in his class his last year of teaching, we still  
stayed in touch and I met with him a few times online to talk about my essays and catch  
up overall Interviews Princeton: I really liked this interview; I met up with the guy at his  
office in person for the interview, he really let me speak and I felt pretty comfortable  
sharing all the things that I came into the interview wanting to share, and he shared a lot  
about his experiences at Princeton MIT: horrible interview; it was online, the lady's kids  
were screaming in the background and she had to mute in the middle to tell them to  
stfu, she kept cutting me off to ask the next completely unrelated question on her list,  
and she didn't really seem to understand anything I was trying to say Essays Common  
App: I honestly didn't really like this essay but don't really have an idea in mind that  
could have been better. I talked about overcoming the mental barrier presented by  
physical pain in my running journey and its effects on improving my and my family's  
stance on staying healthy. Just felt kinda cliché and I don't think it really got across the  
significance of convincing yourself it doesn't hurt when it does in order to achieve  
success. Supps: random yap yap mostly; honestly the only ones that stood out were  
UMD because I didn't mention my major even once in my essays; talked about running,  
cycling, Rubik's Cube, school spirit, etc Acceptances: UC Irvine CS and Engineering  
(UC) (Committed!!) UMD CS (EA) Case Western Reserve CS (Deferred EA -> Accepted  
RD) ASU CS (in like August LOL) UIUC LAS Statistics (EA) UT Dallas CS (RD) UC  
Santa Cruz Applied Mathematics (UC) San Jose State CS San Diego State CS  
Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon CS (Defer -> Waitlist) Udub CS Santa Clara University CS  
UW Madison CS UC Davis CS Rejections: UCLA EE UC Berkeley EECS UC Santa  
Barbara CS UC San Diego CS UT Austin CS (EA) Calpoly SLO CS Georgia Tech CS

(RD) MIT (RD) Princeton CS (RD) Purdue CS (deferred EA -> rejected) Additional Information: My parents hired a very expensive counselor from a rather large college counseling company to help me through this process, and while I am very grateful that they were willing to drop this insane sum of money on a counselor to help me, I very much found that his help was near useless. My essays were reviewed with crazy slow turnaround times by some random person in their company that didn't know me and all the suggestions they gave were syntax and grammar that I could've gotten from ChatGPT or Grammarly. All of my valuable help was from the free counselors that my school offered; they gave me really insightful feedback regarding what content I should flush out/rethink, and they really helped me knock my essays into shape. I just want this to be a PSA that there is free help out there, and it's very likely that it's better if not near the help you can get from the money pit that is college admissions counseling. Feel free to PM me if you want any advice/help from my experience!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UIUC (EA, CS + Economics) San Jose State UW Madison U Minnesota Twin Cities U Washington (Pre-Sciences tho, not CS) Georgia Tech UC Irvine, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, San Diego, Davis UCLA!!! Cornell!!!",

"answer": "A: Sorry to be so reductive in the title, it's just that \"Asian Male CS\" is a headline-grabber nowadays Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Korean-American Residence: Southern California Hooks: None Intended Major(s) : Computer Science and Economics (applied CS + Econ to schools that offered it as a singular major and CS to those that didn't. Planning on double majoring) Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.0 UW, 4.63 W (1st decile, school doesn't rank) of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 15 APs, 4 DE Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics C (both), AP Economics (both), APES, Korean 4, English 12, Band, Computer Science 3, Calculus 3 (DE), German 1 (DE) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 1590 (790 RW, 800 M) AP/IB: All 5s except for one 4 in CSA Extracurriculars/Activities: (Not too extraordinary, at least compared to the calibre of what I've seen here) Marching Band/Wind Ensemble: Section Leader President of school's cybersecurity competition club Worked at fast food place for a year (8-16 hrs/wk depending on time of year) Academic Decathlon (won a few medals but our school isn't exactly a powerhouse) Internship/volunteering where I designed a web design summer course for a middle school Meme YouTube channel with 800k+ views (stopped after 9th grade) Awards/Honors: National Merit Semifinalist Local Chemistry Award National Rural and Small Town Recognition (my city's very urban, it's just that a small enough number of people live within its city limits that it counts as a \"small town\"

lol) Essays/LORs/Interviews: Essays: I can't really give an objective rating to my own essays, but I tried making each one showcase a different aspect of my personality/life through my own lens. My English teacher, my cousin in college, and a few other people I sent them to liked them for the most part though. I wrote my Common App essay about how I only ever wear shorts (I grew up with colder weather in Idaho) LORs: Never read them but I asked for one from my Physics, US History, Computer Science, and Calc teachers Interviews: Cornell: I thought it went decently well with me getting to explain a lot of my passions and interests, but I also know this interview doesn't count for anything and is really just a way for alumni to feel relevant Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) I only applied EA to UIUC, all others are RD Acceptances: UIUC (EA, CS + Economics) San Jose State UW Madison U Minnesota Twin Cities U Washington (Pre-Sciences tho, not CS) Georgia Tech UC Irvine, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, San Diego, Davis UCLA!!! Cornell!!! Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon Boston University Northeastern Northwestern UMich Rejections: Cal Poly SLO USC Stanford Berkeley Columbia Yale Brown Vanderbilt I got into almost every public school I applied to and was not accepted into every private school save for Cornell, hence the title of this post Reflection: In hindsight, it probably wasn't necessary to apply to so many schools; I think I was just scared about how competitive CS admissions had become after watching so many kids at my school from previous years getting flat-out rejected from every UC. I'm also very surprised by my acceptances at CS powerhouses like GATech, UIUC, Cornell, and even UCLA. I know I had very strong academics, but I think my activities and awards were fairly "normal" by this sub's standard, and I definitely know people who did more than me and didn't get in. I'd like to think it was my essays that made me shine through, but I also know I wrote my Cornell essays the night of while spending weeks crafting some of the essays for schools I didn't get into. I guess that goes to show how random admissions can be \u00af\\_(\u30c4)\u00af. At this point, I'll probably be attending UCLA due to in-state cost (which, in hindsight, makes me wonder why I even bothered applying anywhere on Common App). If anyone wants application or essay help, please feel free to reach out!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: columbia dartmouth UNC university of miami university of kentucky university of oregon ohio state caltech (COMMITTED!!! \ud83e\uddab\ud83e\uddde1) I am so grateful to be in the situation that I am in today. I took a massive risk postponing going to university in my own country to pursue my dream of attending a school in the United States. I wanted to share my results to show other international students that they can too and in no way is this me trying to brag. I know I have been very blessed throughout this process and am so excited to be starting my next chapter in california!!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: white/pacific islander Residence: international Income Bracket: require full scholarship Type of School: rural coed public Intended Major(s) : neuroscience/global health/biomedical engineering Academics GPA (UW): 3.98/4.0 Rank (or percentile): quintile (top 20%) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: NA Senior Year Course Load: english, chemistry, calculus, physics, biology, advanced chemistry, advanced biology, advanced english & advanced physics (international curriculum so not ap courses, but the highest course level available to me) Standardized Testing SAT: 1550 (1580 superscore) Extracurriculars/Activities head girl (highest school leadership role) special olympics basketball coach (4 years) conservation initiative & community outreach (created a device that has helped a native species restore its population) basketball (2x varsity captain, 3x school mvp, state representative team, top point scorer in state, selected to trial for national team) volleyball (varsity captain, team mvp) organiser of cancer society fundraiser (raised 10k usd) reader/writer for students with disabilities (assessment helper) athletics (varsity captain, 1st in school discus, javelin & shot put, 2nd place state discus, 3rd place state shot put) published creative writing piece printed and sold nationwide organiser of cultural sporting event with 600 student participants Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. selected as one of the top 160 science students in the country to attend the national science and technology forum top academic award (national 1 of 100 awarded) academic and leadership potential award (national 1 of 60 awarded) selected as one of the top 40 science females in the state all round excellence in school life award (1 awarded) Rejections: stanford harvard nyu northwestern case western vanderbilt drake tulane Waitlists: yale colgate duke Acceptances: columbia dartmouth UNC university of miami university of kentucky university of oregon ohio state caltech (COMMITTED!!! \ud83e\uddab\ud83e\uddde1) I am so grateful to be in the situation that I am in today. I took a massive risk postponing going to university in my own country to pursue my dream of attending a school in the United States. I wanted to share my results to show other international students that they can too and in no way is this me trying to brag. I know I have been very blessed throughout this process and am so excited to be starting my next chapter in california!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Mom's alma mater and local safety school, which feels disrespectful because it's actually really good Pitt RD Localish safety school that TBH I had zero interest in attending for sports rivalry reasons Penn State RD Dad's alma mater and dream school...or is it? Carnegie Mellon RD A new challenger approaches! Stanford RD Hmm,

not the best CS department but got great vibes from their coach/team on a visit Duke RD",

"answer": "A: Note: this is a throwaway account and this post is probably moderately doxxable. Anyone whose opinions in real life I care about knows 90% of this already so there's nothing to gain from doing it but don't be a dick. Demographics  
Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: PA Income Bracket: Long story -- will explain more below Type of School: Large, very well-regarded suburban public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Recruited Athlete, Legacy, LGBTQ+ Intended Major(s) : Computer Science (or equivalent -- Information Systems, Human-Computer Interaction, Logic and Computation, etc) with a business or finance focus or minor Dream Job: Early-stage tech venture capitalist Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.81/4.13 Rank (or percentile): 35/617 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: AP 5s: Biology, Calculus AB, CS Principles, CS A, Economics, Statistics, World History AP 4s: Calculus BC, Physics 1 Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1580 (780RW, 800M) AP/IB: See above Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. JV (9, 10) and Varsity Soccer (11, 12) JV (9) and Varsity Volleyball (10, 11, 12) State champion (2021) Team Captain (12) Varsity Track and Field (9, 10, 11, 12) Two school records Four-time all section, two-time all-state Team Captain (11, 12) Volunteering giving sports instruction at local park and YMCA (9, 10, 11, 12) Side hustle making websites for local people (a realtor my family knows, a local sports card shop, etc.) earning ~\$10k over the past few years Academic Decathlon (11, 12) Carnegie Mellon Pre-College (2020), Leap@CMU (2017) Robotics Club (10, 11, 12) ESports Club (mostly FIFA) (11, 12) Student Council (9, 10, 11, 12) Student Body Vice President (11) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. National Honor Society See above for Sports-related stuff AP Scholar with Distinction Expert-level on Kaggle Various minor awards through school/sports (team MVP, etc) Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) AP CS Teacher (10/10) - he's my guy, I loved his class and was basically the equivalent of a TA for him, I think he was able to articulate my passion for technology Track Head Coach (7/10) - I can't say he's the most well-spoken (or written, in this case) person ever but I think he was able to communicate my leadership abilities Youth Activities Program Director at local park (8/10 - not specifically academic, but I did a ton of really fun volunteer work with his program for a bunch of great kids who really just needed a place to go and something to do Interviews Carnegie Mellon (in-person, 9/10) - mostly talked about how CMU has been my dream school forever and my enthusiasm for wanting to study there (hence pre-college and LEAP) Stanford (Zoom, 8/10) - talked about my interest in technology and wanting to eventually get into early-stage tech as a founder and then as a venture capitalist, turns out the interviewer is exactly that Essays I hate to say it because it feels

a little bit opportunistic when I type it out, but a majority of my essays revolved around my coming out as a gay as a sophomore. I filtered the essay through the lens of me being sure for awhile but not mentioning it due to the huge acrimony in my family and not wanting to add more drama, and my anxiety on how it could cause problems within the various sports teams I was on. I ended with my surprise and gratitude at how accepting everyone was of it. Lessons learned: value of being yourself, value of being accepting of oneself, value of asking for help and support, a great reaffirmation in the kindness of people, etc I also tried to subtly highlight how much time all of these sports took up as a backdoor reason for why my GPA is good, but not great. Two asides: my family situation and sports stuff Family, as it relates to finances: So, getting super personal here -- my parents are currently going through a super contested divorce. Long story short, they've hated each other as long as I can remember and quite obviously tried to hold on until the youngest (me) was on a good path. My Mom was injured at her job before I was born -- oh, btw, I'm also adopted, I've got a lot going on here -- and her sole income is from disability and from a legal settlement forever ago, structured as an annuity. Because of the divorce, my Dad is shielding income and obfuscating the numbers and it's basically really difficult and unclear to schools what our real financial situation is and how much my family is able to pay. Sports stuff -- I'm not getting any full-ride scholarships at the D1 level, but I'm good enough to receive inbound interest from coaches, be a priority walk-on most places and get a leg up in admission. Hard to quantify what that advantage is; I'd characterize it as a coach at each of these schools putting in good words on my behalf. If it's not clear, my sport in college will be track and field . Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Mom's alma mater and local safety school, which feels disrespectful because it's actually really good Pitt RD Localish safety school that TBH I had zero interest in attending for sports rivalry reasons Penn State RD Dad's alma mater and dream school...or is it? Carnegie Mellon RD A new challenger approaches! Stanford RD Hmm, not the best CS department but got great vibes from their coach/team on a visit Duke RD Waitlists: Princeton RD UPenn RD Rejections: Harvard RD Yale RD MIT RD UC-Berkeley RD Yeah, yeah, where you going? ---> Stanford! <--- Additional Information: I'm incredibly blessed -- I thought my GPA would disqualify me. I do think, for what it's worth, that all of the sports and ECs are a legitimate explanation but given some of the profiles that get turned down at some of these places, I felt like it was an uphill battle despite my SAT score. Ultimately my decision came down to whether or not I'd go to what was my dream school forever and a campus I'd already been on countless times or try to forge a new path for myself. Honestly, I think all of the bullshit with my family pushed me to get the hell out of the state and go do my thing. (Financially, Stanford and CMU ended up about equal once various grants, scholarship, and aid got factored in.) It's going to be hard leaving my Mom given her health but for so many reasons it's the right choice and frankly, I think she knows it's best for me on a personal level as well. I



get to compete for a world-class team, I get to prepare for my career in the absolute center of the technology world, and, to be blunt, I get to experience my identity in a place a little more culturally open than suburban Pennsylvania. That was a lot -- thanks for reading!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University College London Univ of Toronto Purdue Univ of British Columbia Northeastern (London) Univ of Maryland McGill Texas A&M Ohio State Univ of Minnesota UC Merced Univ of Manchester Penn State CP Pomona Rutgers SUNY (Stony Brook) Michigan State Rochester Inst. Tech. Univ of Pittsburgh Indiana Univ Arizona Sate Univ Oregon State Univ of Central Florida",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: SoCal Income Bracket: 200K+ Type of School: Competitive Suburban Public Hooks: none Intended Major(s): Computer Science/Data Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.5/3.7 Rank (or percentile): school doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 APs Senior Year Course Load: Fall: AP Physics 1, Machine Learning, English 12, AP Gov/Econ Spring: AP CSA, Orchestra, AP Physics 2, AP Stats Standardized Testing: SAT 1550 ACT: 33 AP/IB: Calc AB 5, Chem 3, Calc BC 5, Psych 5, CSP 5 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Independent research on environmental impact from climate change #2 Volunteer at a local soup kitchen #3 Violinist at my school orchestra for 2 years #4 Volunteer at a computer recycling center #5 Coached elementary school students in Science Olympiad competition #6 CyberPatriot cyber security competition semifinalist #7 Big Data online bootcamp with UC Berkeley Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 Presidential Volunteer Service Award Bronze #2 Seal of Biliteracy #3 CM level 10 (Violin) #4 NM Commended #5 AP scholar with distinction Letters of Recommendation Physics teacher: 5/10, not very close w/ this teacher and she didn't really like me AP CSP teacher: 6/10, very nice guy, but not very close w/ this teacher as well Research Advisor: 8/10: very close relationship, cool guy, had lots of good things to say about me Interviews Waterloo: 5/10, interview required me to record myself answering some questions but answered pretty badly and ran out of time for some questions Essays 7/10, I'm not a good writer Decisions Acceptances: University College London Univ of Toronto Purdue Univ of British Columbia Northeastern (London) Univ of Maryland McGill Texas A&M Ohio State Univ of Minnesota UC Merced Univ of Manchester Penn State CP Pomona Rutgers SUNY (Stony Brook) Michigan State Rochester Inst. Tech. Univ of Pittsburgh Indiana Univ Arizona Sate Univ Oregon State Univ of Central Florida

Waitlists: Virginia Tech Univ of Mass (Amherst) Rose-Hulman UCSC UC Riverside  
Rejections: Oxford Carnegie Mellon, ED2 Berkeley Cornell Imperial Univ of Illinois  
(Urbana) Georgia Tech UCLA Univ of Texas (Austin) Johns Hopkins, ED1 UCSD Univ of  
Southern California NYU WashU Univ of North Carolina UCI Univ of Wisconsin  
(Madison) UCSB Case Western UC Davis CP SLO SDSU SJSU Not heard from:  
Waterloo King's College London Additional Information: At first I was worried at my  
chances for top colleges b/c of my (relatively) low gpa, so I applied to a bunch of  
schools, US and international, and it was pretty interesting to experience the application  
process for schools in other countries for example uk schools don't care too much about  
gpa and instead have admissions tests that are much harder than the sat canadian  
schools only care about mainly 11-12 grade gpa in the end it all worked out for me so  
don't worry if your gpa is too low b/c you still have options as long as you are flexible w/  
where you want to study"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
UVA (committed)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: VA  
Income Bracket: Full Pay Type of School: Normal suburban public school Hooks  
(Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s)  
: idk Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.51 W/3.98 UW (A- in AP English  
Language/Composition) Rank (or percentile): N/A of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.:  
14 APs, 1 DE Senior Year Course Load: Too lazy to fill out Standardized Testing List the  
highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1570 (780RW, 790M)  
AP/IB: AP Statistics (4), AP World History (5), AP Macro/Microeconomics (5/5), AP  
Physics 1 (4), AP US History (5), AP Calculus BC (4), AP Biology (5), AP English  
Language/Composition (5) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular  
involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc.  
Science Olympiad State Team, Captain (9 10 11 12) Research at a T5 School of Public  
Health (11) Independent Research Project (11 12) USABO Club Leader (10 11 12)  
Swim Lessons & Lifeguarding (9 10) Volunteering (9 10 11 12) Random Programming  
Projects (11) Science National Honor Society (10 11 12) Math Honors Society (11 12)  
Spanish National Honor Society (11 12) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors  
submitted on your application. USABO Semifinalist Science Olympiad Medals Random  
International Biology Competition Medal (was kind of a scam competition from Brazil but  
whatever) National Merit Commended AP Scholar with Distinction Letters of  
Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and  
estimated rating.) AP Biology Teacher - I was basically the only person who participated

in his class, so I'm fairly sure that he gave me a good recommendation. AP Macro/Microeconomics Teacher - I think he gave me a good recommendation even though I fucked around in his class a lot. Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) None Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) I wrote about how I was isolated from the rest of the people in my school district, which had an impact on my interests and interactions with others. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UVA (committed) Waitlists: None Rejections: None Additional Information: I'm pretty happy with this outcome, especially because UVA provides the best value for money. In 10th grade I was a prestige whore, likely due to being on a super competitive middle school Science Olympiad. Everybody around me would obsess over the prospect of attending an Ivy-league school, and many of them actually will next year. I thought that it would be the ultimate display of intelligence and grit to be accepted to one of these schools. However, I eventually realized that dropping 350 bands on a private university wasn't feasible. Any underclassmen lurking on this page should reconsider meatriding colleges with fake 501(c)(3)s and instead try to do something meaningful. Focus on improving yourself and admission officers will appreciate your efforts as an added benefit. If not, you at least gained something in the process. I realized this later than I would've liked, but earlier than many people."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UMD CS Rutgers UNC UMich CS UCLA CS NYU Stern UT Austin CS (Turing Scholars) Princeton (Committed!)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: East Asian Residence: Northeast (competitive area, being vague here so no dox) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): Math, CS Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 3.93 UW / 4.81 W (school doesn't rank) Standardized Testing: ACT - 36; 11 AP's taken (mostly 5's and some 4's) Extracurriculars/Activities: (being vague here again) -Attended 2/3 of Ross Mathematics Program, PROMYS, SUMAC -Studied analysis and combinatorics with professor at flagship state school -Worked with local large NPO extensively to develop mobile app helping them -Boy Scouts: Eagle, Senior Patrol Leader -3 years varsity and club volleyball -math tutoring -volunteer at mentioned large NPO Awards/Honors: -2x USA(J)MO Qualifier -USACO Gold Division -5x AIME Qualifier (Top Score: 12+) -2x AMC Distinguished Honor Roll (Top Score: 140+) Essays/LORs/Interviews: Essays: CA - 7/10. My CA wasn't really special but I got it reviewed by a lot of students at T10s so it certainly wasn't terrible. Supps - 7.5-8/10. I definitely spent a lot more time on these

(and submitted most of them 5 minutes before the deadline) so they were marginally better than my CA. LORs: 6/10. These were definitely the worst part of my application. I goofed off a good amount in class. Interviews: 8.5/10 on average. I prepped a lot for the interviews I received (YPSM) and did pretty well on most of them. Decisions: Acceptances: UMD CS Rutgers UNC UMich CS UCLA CS NYU Stern UT Austin CS (Turing Scholars) Princeton (Committed!) Waitlists: GTech CS UIUC CS CMU CS Dartmouth Duke Harvard Rejections: Stanford (REA) UC Berkeley EECS USC Brown Yale MIT"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Ohio State RD + 0 Baylor EA + 20k ASU EA + 15k Iowa EA + 12k Indiana EA + 8k UIUC (EA, Instate) (no scholarship to the school I\u2019m probably going to bruhhhh) UF EA + 4k American RD + 20k George Washington RD + 25k Fordham RD + 25k",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Caucasian/Jewish Residence: Illinois Income Bracket: 150-200k Type of School: Large Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : International Business/Business Undecided Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/4.87 (4.87/5.33) Rank (or percentile): Not Calculated at School # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: All honors + 10 high honors/AP (both are considered equally difficult at my school) Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc AB, AP Lit and Comp, AP Micro/Macro, Honors Chinese 5, Business Leadership, Cooking Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1500 (720RW, 780M) ACT: 34 (35E, 35M, 32R, 34S) AP/IB: AP Human Geo (5) (I can only take APs starting junior year and didn\u2019t take any last year :( because I was dumb\u201309 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 UNICEF club Senior Outreach Chair at my school (made social media posts and got people to join club) #2 Senior Service Leadership Board (One of 8 members of board (in class of 1000) picked to lead grade-wide senior service project, spoke in front of school to introduce project) #3 HS/Club Baseball (spent most of my time Fr-Jr year playing club baseball in hopes of playing in college only to realize last summer I didn\u2019t want to play in college \u201380 and quit before senior year) #4 English/History tutor at school (picked by sophomore and junior English teachers to tutor peers) #5 Travel Baseball coach (coached 2 summer travel baseball teams soph/jr years while still playing full time) #6 Youth Basketball Coach (coach youth basketball classes 3-4 hours a week) #7 Baseball academy senior coach (run offseason/summer programs for little kids) #8 Poetry writing (I have written more than 85 poems and am trying to get some published. I swear they

are actually good \ud83d\udc80 I just need to try harder to get them published cuz I only sent them to one place) #9 Student council board (kind of like a step below real student council, we just met with student council once a month to tell them things everyday students wanted changed) #10 Co-president of ping pong club (lol) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 School Chinese Award (given to top 2 juniors taking Chinese) #2 Junior School Character Award #3 National Chinese Honor Society #4 Senior School Character Award #2 #5 Illinois State Scholar (basically means nothing lol just sounds good) Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) College Counselor: 9/10 knew her well and she liked me a lot English Teacher: 9/10 see above Chinese Teacher: 10/10 had her for 3 years and built a great relationship with her (she also nominated me for my #1 award) Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Georgetown: 8/10, over zoom but got along pretty well and interviewer shared good insights with me WashU: 9/10, in person, had a fun time with interviewer and he even gave me some book recommendations and sent a personal thank you email to me afterwards Essays Spent a looong time on my personal statement and it turned out pretty well, 9.5/10, talked about how I love finding unique restaurants which is ironic since I used to have a peanut allergy that I had to overcome through daily immunotherapy over 8 years and used that idea to illustrate that consistency is at the heart of who I am and I have a unique way of finding the best in every person and every situation (maybe a little corny but every professional I showed it to said it was great). Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Ohio State RD + 0 Baylor EA + 20k ASU EA + 15k Iowa EA + 12k Indiana EA + 8k UIUC (EA, Instate) (no scholarship to the school \u2019m probably going to bruhhhh) UF EA + 4k American RD + 20k George Washington RD + 25k Fordham RD + 25k Waitlists: WashU (ED2, pleaaaaase let me iiiinnnnnn brooooo) Tulane (EA) Grinnell (RD) Colby (RD) Rejections: Georgetown (REA deferred to denied) (RIP this was dream school) Vanderbilt (RD) (expected) NYU (RD) (kind of expected) Additional Information: I should have applied to more reach schools. Idk if I would have been able to afford any of them (gotta love how fin aid works) but I wish I did. I am probably gonna commit to UIUC for bus+ds, just making sure that\u2019s what I really wanna do. My school also only lets people take AP classes in their junior year but my parents did not want me to be too stressed out and forced me to take none (very unusual I know) which I think made my application less strong to the top schools I wanted to get into. However, it did make my junior year wayyy less stressful so I guess I cannot complain too much. My ECs are also underwhelming because I literally played baseball 6-7 days a week from freshman year-end of last summer. I don\u2019t regret it at all but it certainly limited me in that respect."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Fordham Santa Clara CWRU UCSB UCSD UCI UCD UCLA USC UCB",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: CA, LA Area Income Bracket: Full pay Type of School: Competitive Public Intended Major(s): Econ/Business Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, 4.6 W, 4.8 UC GPA No Rank @ School Honors/AP/Dual Enrollment: (including senior yr courses) 15 APs, 2 Honors (AP Calc AB, BC, AP Stats, APWH, APUSH, AP Comp Gov, AP US Gov, AP Macro, AP Micro, AP Psych, AP Spanish, AP Lang, AP Lit, AP CSP, AP Physics 2, Honors Physics, Honors Spanish IV), 2 DE courses, Sociology and MVC Sr Yr Courses: AP Comp/US Gov (1 sem each), AP Micro/Macro (1 sem each), AP Lit, AP Psych, AP Spanish, Elective Standardized Testing SAT: 1570 (800M, 770 EBRW) PSAT: 1500 (760M, 740 EBRW) APs: all 5s except for a 4 on Macro and CSP Extracurriculars/Activities (Vague and details changed for privacy) Independent Research Study: Presented as one of the only high schoolers ever at statewide conference, published in decent journal - 5hr/30wk (11, 12) International Nonprofit: President, VP Led & expanded org to 600+ tutors & tutees; managed a team of 25+ leaders; raised \$10k+ for schools in Africa & Asia - 5hr/42wk (9, 10, 11, 12) Athletics: Competed nationally in tournaments; reached top 90 in US, top 10 in CA; won Regional Championships throughout high school; organized practices & coached players as team leader for regional club teams - 8hr/50wk (9, 10, 11, 12) Street Musician/Busking: (this was by far my favorite EC and helped me write so many supplementals) Founded and organized an octet to play music on the street; donated proceedings of \$4k+ to school band; led combo performances & composed arrangements - 4hr/35wk (11, 12) Work - Starbucks Barista: (my second favorite EC, helped me write lots of essays too) Pretty self explanatory - 11hr/35wk (11) Student Leader @ Local Church: Longest serving leader in youth group; organized Bible study for 30+ K-6th graders - 2hr/34wk (9, 10, 11, 12) VP of Business Club: Hosted weekly meetings & trainings; created curriculums for econ competitions; ranked 5th & 9th in CA - 2hr/30wk (9, 10, 11, 12) Founder & President of Statistics Club Recruited & managed 70+ members; hosted 2x/m lectures on game theory - 2hr/30wk (12) Music - Instrumental: Section Leader Accepted into a couple competitive regional bands and combos as first chair, won soloist awards at 2 large festivals - 2hr/40wk (10, 11, 12) VP of Local Branch of International Art NPO Organized monthly videos, educated 100+ youth on music history; collaborated w/ other branches to host meetups; edited videos to post on social media - 1hr/40wk (10, 11, 12) Awards/Honors Placed first place/50 teams in international stock trading competition, Team Leader, won \$500 (International, 9) 4th in Regional Science Fair, Qualified for CSEF, Won most innovative project (\$100) (Regional, 11) Accepted to Competitive Regional Band (State, 12) Special Service Award within church for 4 & 6 years of service (National, 9,11) PVSA

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Rutgers New Brunswick SAS (B.S. CS) & SOE (Electrical and Computer Engineering)  
UMD with invitation to Carillon Communities LLP Northeastern Honors with 27k/yr  
honors scholarship (Boston campus) Purdue UIUC - COMMITTED!!!!  
\\ud83e\\udd73\\ud83e\\udd73",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: NJ  
Income Bracket: Full pay Type of School: Competitive public Intended Major(s) :  
Computer science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, top 10% weighted \\# of  
Honors/AP/Dual Enrollment: (including senior yr courses) 10 APs (WHAP, APUSH,  
Euro, Lit, Lang, Physics 1, Chem, CS A, Stats, Calc BC), 2 DE electives, everything  
else honors (almost the highest course rigor) Standardized Testing SAT: 1550 (800 M,  
750 EBRW) APs: all 5s Extracurriculars/Activities (I put continue for all & names  
changed for privacy obviously) I found it rly helpful to see examples of real people's  
activity descriptions (shoutout to Jerry Wei & Anna's Universe on YT!) as I was writing  
mine so this is my way of paying it forward. Please don't dox me <3 Work (Paid):  
Software Developer @ XXX: An Environmental Sustainability Nonprofit \\u2014  
Developed internal database search engine. Created Flask dashboard & analyzed sales  
data. Deliver scalable apps to 6+ clients, conduct code reviews. (11, 12)  
Computer/Technology: Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer @ ABC \\u2014  
Develop text customization web app for dyslexic & visually impaired users to maximize  
readability of digital text/multimedia. Design accessible UI/UX. (11, 12) Community  
Service (Volunteer): Advanced Javascript and Advanced Python Teacher @ JKL and  
XXX \\u2014 Taught and mentored 73 girls & international students over 7 6-week class  
sessions. Tailored lessons to students\\u2019 unique learning styles/backgrounds. (11,  
12) Computer/Technology: Web Dev Scholar (11), Data Science Scholar (12) @ Kode  
With Klossy \\u2014 Collaborated w/ team of 3 to create ABC & pitch its minimum viable  
product; surveyed 150+ users for feedback (11). Cleaned & analyzed datasets(12) (11,  
12) Community Service (Volunteer): People Operations Lead @ JKL: A Nonprofit  
Making CS Education More Accessible \\u2014 Oversee 106 volunteers, doubled  
volunteer retention by hosting biweekly webinars/training workshops, recruit volunteers,  
implement internal reforms. (11, 12) Cultural: Volunteer @ XXX \\u2014 Coordinate  
homemade dumpling production, design Chinese lanterns, perform lion dance at 5  
festivals, present about Chinese culture at 4 AAPI fairs. (10, 11, 12)  
Computer/Technology: Director of Logistics @ XXX Hackathon \\u2014 Organized and  
directed a 3-day hackathon with 14 workshops, budgeted \$200 in sponsorships,  
garnered \$700 for prizes, and managed public relations. (11) Other Club/Activity: Senior  
Administrator @ XXX Minecraft Network \\u2014 Managed Minecraft server for 25k  
players, developed server features & tested bugs, resolved 200+ support tickets,  
fostered community for LGBTQ+ youth. (9) Science/Math: Member of Chem  
Competition Team @ Chemistry Club \\u2014 Performed analytical labs to determine  
fiber composition; competed w/ collegiate teams. Engaged 30+ kids in hands-on STEM



activities and experiments. (10, 11, 12) Community Service (Volunteer): Member @ Honor Societies: Science, Math, French, National \u2014 Helped distribute laptops to 600 students, test lab equipment, set up classrooms & facilitate events for back-to-school. Tutor for French 5H & Bio-H (11, 12) Awards/Honors Gold President's Volunteer Service Award for 310 Hours of Volunteer Service at JKL (National, 12) 2nd Place at XXX Hackathon for Creating AI-Powered \u201cAkinator\u201d for Travel Destination Ideas (International, 11) Excellence in AP Calc BC Award for being Top Student w/ Highest AP Calc BC Grade out of 140 Students (School, 11) AP Scholar with Distinction (National, 12) National Merit Commended Student (National, 12) Letters of Recommendation Counselor & 10th grade bio teacher: Probably pretty average. I had to fill out a questionnaire for both so I had input on what info I wanted them to include but I was never a standout student or anything bc I \u2019m an introvert lol Essays Common App: I wrote about my distant relationship with my dad and how I fixed it by connecting with him through shared interests (food lol) & consciously making an effort to open up to him / becoming a more open/candid/vulnerable person in general. I came up with this essay topic after extensive brainstorming in the summer but I was hesitant to write it bc I still have very complicated feelings about my dad/our relationship, but hey college essays are all about self reflection and all that. I ended up actually writing the essay in mid Sept in 1 week bc I needed to submit a Common App essay for a school assignment. I then revised it for 2-3 weeks afterwards and my English teacher reviewed it and she said it was really solid. Decisions (all EA) Acceptances: University of Pittsburgh Penn State NJIT with 3k/yr merit scholarship Virginia Tech Rutgers New Brunswick SAS (B.S. CS) & SOE (Electrical and Computer Engineering) UMD with invitation to Carillon Communities LLP Northeastern Honors with 27k/yr honors scholarship (Boston campus) Purdue UIUC - COMMITTED!!!! \ud83e\udd73 Waitlists: Georgia Tech (EA deferred) - Declined waitlist spot Rejections: NONE!!! Additional Information: I was planning to shotgun and apply to a ton of schools (all EA) but I procrastinated and didn't start my supp until late September lol. The time constraint really helped me narrow down my choices bc I HATE writing supp and if I thought the prompt was too time consuming or annoying I would just move the school to RD and eventually I just didn't apply. This made me realize that I wasn't actually interested in attending any of those schools even though they were good for CS; I was just trying to shotgun prestigious schools bc that's what everyone with successful results seemed to do. I embraced the \"go big or go home\" mindset and I encourage other people to do so too (esp if you hate writing supp)! I concentrated on writing solid supp for the 4 schools that I actually wanted to attend, and I accepted that \u201d go to Rutgers if I didn't get into my top choices.\"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: in-state schools: csumb, csu fresno, uc merced. (this hurt a lot as i was banking on going to one of my state schools \ud83d\ude4e) common app: uiuc, purdue, stony brook, st olaf, rpi, lewis & clark, clarkson, denison (surprisingly tbh)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Mixed Hispanic / Asian Residence: CA Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s) : Biology, Bioengineering, Biochemistry (depending on school) Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 3.5 UW 3.8 W # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 honors, 2 AP, 6 dual enrollment Senior Year Course Load: 2 dual enrollment, 3 APs Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 1350 (690 Math 660 English) AP/IB: 4 APUSH, 3 AP Lang Extracurriculars/Activities: camp counselor volunteer (3 years) small business owner, 5k in total sales neurology research at local csu string ensemble (4 years) future teachers program at local elementary school speech and debate math club vita volunteer / certified 350ish more volunteering hours Awards/Honors: deans list various speech and debate awards local scholar distinction Essays/LORs/Interviews: had 3 letters of recommendation. AP lit teacher: felt like this one was strong as he saw me grow through speech and debate (he coached) history teacher: also strong as i attended ALL of his apush study sessions and ended up passing the test without taking the class. was active in his class and participated often. counselor: honestly only started speaking to her once college season started. probably not strong as she wrote this in a day. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: in-state schools: csumb, csu fresno, uc merced. (this hurt a lot as i was banking on going to one of my state schools \ud83d\ude4e) common app: uiuc, purdue, stony brook, st olaf, rpi, lewis & clark, clarkson, denison (surprisingly tbh) Waitlists: ucr, ucsc, ucsd, upitt, reed, kenyon Rejections: colorado school of mines, rose hulman (???), hamilton, cmc, case, boston u, occidental, william & mary, oberlin, ucsb, ucb, ucla, uci, ucd, cal poly Additional Information: ended up committing to purdue for FYE (aiming to do biomedical or biological \ud83d\ude3c) guys PLEASE don't be delusional like me. i regret so much not applying to less selective schools. shotgunning only works out if you have the stats!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): ASU Barret, Purdue (EA), Lehigh (half scholarship, RD) Harvey Mudd (RD), SDSU (RD), UCSC, UCR (chancellors), UCSB (regents), UCI (honors), UCSD (regents), UCLA",

"answer": "A: TEMPLATE #2: Brief Template Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: white Residence: middle class (don't know specific bracket) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none Intended Major(s) : computer science for all Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 1/400 for public CA highschool, GPA 4.65 weighted, 4.0 unweighted # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 AP 3 dual enrollment Senior Year Course Load: 4 AP one dual enrollment Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 36 ACT (submitted to all) SAT II: na AP/IB: all 5's aside from one 4 in CSP (got a 5 in CSA tho) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.):none Extracurriculars/Activities: (list here) Varsity swim captain and high ranked competitive swimmer in state, model UN secretary general, participated in many math competitions such as AIME and founded a math club at my school. Helped restart my schools chess club and get some completions running, and did some volunteering (won't disclose were as very specific) Awards/Honors: National Merit finalist Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) Essays were all good, but not amazing. Re read them all a plethora of times but didn't have any that were particularly special. I don't know how good the LORs were but would say they were about average. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (list here): ASU Barret, Purdue (EA), Lehigh (half scholarship, RD) Harvey Mudd (RD), SDSU (RD), UCSC, UCR (chancellors), UCSB (regents), UCI (honors), UCSD (regents), UCLA Waitlists: CMU Rejections: MIT, Stanford, Cal poly slo, UIUC, University of Washington, Cal tech, Duke, UT Austin, Berkeley Additional Information: I committed to UCLA a week ago and thought my desicion was done, but just got notified of UCSD regents. (Pure cs for both) Any help deciding between the two programs would be greatly appreciated"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): EA: Oregon State CS EA: Rutgers University New Brunswick CS EA: Indiana University CS RD: Purdue University West Lafayette (Robotics Engineering Technology. I chose this major because it was more aligned with what I want to do in the future) <- COMMITTED!! BOILER UP!! RD: University of Toronto pre-science :(",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: WA Hooks: None that I know of Intended Major(s): Programming related STEMs Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 3.67 UW Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: AP HUG, AP Lang, AP Lit, AP Stats, AP Gov, some Running Start (dual enrollment) Classes Senior Year Course Load: Decently high (2 APs, continued learning Japanese, continued English & Calculus @ local college) Standardized Testing SAT: 1420 (740 Reading 680 Math) Extracurriculars/Activities: FRC Robotics (Asst. Programming Lead, Graphic

Design Lead. We went to world championships both years I was on the team). Clarinet Section Leader, Honor Band first seat Clarinet, Piano lessons for 10 yrs Karate, 10 yrs. Recently won a National Championship Artworks selected for student art gallery 100+ Volunteering hours mentoring middle school robotics, tutoring algebra 1, karate refereeing Attended summer programs in game design & AI Ski Instructor for 2 seasons, weekly Traditional Chinese Student for 12 yrs Awards/Honors: Lettered in Robotics & Band, RCM Piano Lvl 5 First Class Honors (honestly isn't that great)

Essays/LORs/Interviews: For my essays, I wrote about a Minecraft project that I did with my friends which required me to learn Java code from scratch and also the community impact that it had during COVID. I also wrote about how Karate has helped me to gain discipline and leadership abilities and how that ties into mentoring FTC robotics teams. I also bragged a bit about how in my robotics team, I took on a programming complex project as a rookie, and eventually gained the skills to train others. LORs: Math teacher that I TA/Tutor students for: Likely pretty good Programming Mentor: 8/10, I read it and it was what it needed to be, he's not the most verbose guy but really got down to the point and talked about my achievements. Japanese Teacher: 6/10, it was probably mostly a copy+paste but I trust him Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (list here): EA: Oregon State CS EA: Rutgers University New Brunswick CS EA: Indiana University CS RD: Purdue University West Lafayette (Robotics Engineering Technology. I chose this major because it was more aligned with what I want to do in the future) <- COMMITTED!! BOILER UP!! RD: University of Toronto pre-science :( Waitlists: University of Washington - Accepted pre-science :( Rejections: UC Berkeley, UCI, UCSD, UCSB, UC Davis, Cornell Additional Information: Overall, I'm very happy that I got the schools I did and I definitely got pretty decent results for someone with my GPA and SAT. I definitely think that my extracurriculars and the amount of time that I spent on essays (2+ weeks) helped me a lot. For University of Washington, I was very lucky to get letter of rec from the band director over there after I was waitlisted. Unfortunately, pre-science isn't the best route, so I will be going out of state to Purdue! Feel free to let me know your thoughts, whether I made the right decision or not, etc!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Fordham University of Connecticut Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Johnson & Wales Uni Binghamton Uni The other 20 safety schools I applied to Cornell University !! (College of Arts & Sciences)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: non-binary Sex: female Race/Ethnicity: white/hispanic Residence: NYC Income Bracket: 100k-150k Type of School: public Hooks: immigrant (from Spain), Intended Major(s): Computer Science and Mathematics

Academics GPA (W): 4.7 (my school doesn't do unweighted) Rank (or percentile): 13/900 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: 8 APs, everything else in Honors Senior Year Course Load: honors econ/gov, AP Calc BC, AP CS P, art, AP lit Standardized Testing SAT/ACT: test optional AP/IB: AP Spanish (5), AP CS A (5), AP Physics C: Mech (4), AP Psych (5) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. FTC robotics: head programmer, junior+senior Work: Page for public library, senior Community Service: Chess instructor for kids chess club (approx. 50 hrs), junior+senior Pet sitter: freelance around neighborhood, every year America on Tech - TECH 360 program, senior CS internship (CS4ALL pathfinders internship) junior Club volleyball, sophomore Awards/Honors Design award (ftc) AP Scholar w Honor National Honor Society Queens Championships (volleyball) Seal of Bi-literacy Letters of Recommendation Psychology teacher: had her for one year but I heard she was good at writing LOCs and she really liked me: 8/10 Computer science teacher: had her for 3 years and she loved me but idk if she is the best writer and a lot of other kids asked her for LOCs so I think she might of rushed: 7/10 CORNELL ONLY: My AP Calc BC teacher attended Cornell so I asked her to write me a cornell specific LOC: 10/10, I think the alumni rec went a long way Interviews Middlebury: I didn't get to prepare much for my interview because I was really busy around that time but I think the interview went fine, it was pretty casual and the woman I talked to was nice Essays I think I did really well on all my essays and supplements. For my personal statement, I told the story of my life while relating it to the food I was eating (ex. When I lived in Spain I ate a lot of seafood and mediterranean food but when I was poor and lived in Louisiana I ate hotdogs and kraft mac and cheese) I thought it was pretty good and I was able to tell my story and hopefully stand out a little bit For my writing supplements I focused a lot on my gender and sexual identity and the struggles I've gone through and overcome from that and then specified what I would bring to the college because of those experiences if that makes sense. Decisions Acceptances: Fordham University of Connecticut Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Johnson & Wales Uni Binghamton Uni The other 20 safety schools I applied to Cornell University !! (College of Arts & Sciences) Waitlists: Boston University Middlebury Carnegie Mellon Rejections: NYU Northeastern: deferred (EA) '12 rejected Columbia deferred (ED) '12 rejected Overall anything 40% or below I got into and anything 15% or above I got waitlisted or rejected I didn't apply to any schools with acceptance rates between 40-15% I know that initially Columbia was my top choice and I applied ED because I wanted to increase my chances of getting in but ultimately (and I'm not just saying this because I didn't get in) I think Cornell is the perfect school for me and I am soooo happy I got in and didn't get in Columbia ED. Remember that everything happens for a reason !!

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Rochester (RD, merit money) Syracuse University (RD, half-ride) Lehigh University (RD, merit money) University of Tulsa (EA, full ride) Dickinson College (RD, merit money) University of Vermont (EA, merit money) McGill University (RD) Wesleyan University (RD) Bowdoin College (RD) Amherst College (RD) Dartmouth College (RD). I actually screamed when I saw this one, and it was my number one until I saw\u2026 Brown University (ED Deferral -> RD accept)",

"answer": "A: I'm writing this because there are so many people from my school with asymptotic levels of stress about college applications. Yeah, I can probably get doxxed from this, but there's not much on this account. Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: East Asian Residence: Southern US, Urban Income Bracket: 150k-200k Type of School: Private Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Political Science and if I could declare a second, English Academics: GPA (UW/W): 100.5/100 on my school\u2019s scale, which translates to a 4.0 on a scale of 4. Rank (or percentile): School doesn\u2019t believe in rank, but I believe I\u2019m in the top quarter of my miniscule class. of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 AP, the rest Honors + 1 summer Advanced Anatomy course with my school Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Bio, AP English Lit, Honors Government, Honors International Relations, Honors Film Studies. Took 6 classes a year, and the hardest possible course load every year, except both AP physics, I loathe physics. Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1510: 770 RW, 740M) AP/IB: 5 on Euro, APUSH, English Comp, and Stats, 4 on Chem, 3 on APCSA and Spanish Language and Culture. Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. 1.) Music (Guitar). Composing and playing for my band. 2.) School Newspaper and school literary publication, second-in-command and editor in chief respectively. I also got published in a very small publication for creative writing. 3.) Law Internship. Few details for privacy, but not anywhere super prestigious. 4.) Music (Vocal). I had to separate this from #1, but it\u2019s basically the same thing. 5.) A lot of volunteering. I couldn\u2019t tell you how many hours I\u2019ve done, but it\u2019s more than 250. I entered it as such. 6.) Theater (done for a long time). Didn\u2019t submit acting portfolios. 7.) Varsity Soccer and Track. Former track school record-holder but fairly mediocre in regionals. During fall season and spring season respectively. 8.) Student Government. Student Council rep since sophomore year, secretary since junior, a meeting every week. 9.) Family Responsibilities, 4 hrs/week, all year. 10.) Normal Part-Time Job, 8 hrs/week, most of the year (especially summertime.) See? Nothing interesting besides maybe the internship. All of these I started because I actually liked the activity. I didn\u2019t start planning college apps

until second semester junior year. Awards/Honors Nothing remarkable here. National Merit Semifinalist -> Finalist Scholastic Silver Key (3x) National Spanish Exam Bronze Scholastic Honorable Mention (x2) AP Scholar With Distinction Letters of Recommendation This is where it gets good. English Teacher: 10/10. I've known him all of high school and taken two of his classes, both of which changed my life. Even before I asked officially, he'd offered to write me one in tenth grade. We're chill and talk a lot and he probably knows me almost as well as my best friend. History Teacher 1: 10/10. Same amount of connection as the English teacher, but he doesn't know me quite at that level (pretty close though.) I ask an absurd amount of questions in class and have taken all his electives possible. We are able to talk about politics, life, and philosophy for like 2 hours straight. History Teacher 2: 9/10. Lord, I yapped so much in her class, to her and to my friends, but she likes me. That may be why no one else in our class really talked. Counselor: 8/10. Fairly standard. She respects me as a person and did believe in me from the beginning, even though no one's ever gotten into my top choice (Brown) from my school, ever. Best Friend/Ex-Girlfriend: 11/10. My peer rec. Our history and how this rec came to be is a long story. I have no doubt the rec is funny, sweet, personal, absurd, honest, and open-ended in a way you don't get from teacher recommendations. It is also an implicit statement that even though my school didn't offer AP Persuasion or AP Rizz, I would have passed both with flying colors. I sent this to Dartmouth, Brown, and Bowdoin. Interviews I interviewed at Bowdoin, Dickinson, Syracuse, and Rochester the same day I visited. I was offered a Dartmouth interview online. Besides Dartmouth's, I did very little preparation for questions. I'm a fairly sociable person who has no trouble talking to people I don't know, and I'm much more open about myself when I'm natural and don't have a script. Bowdoin (9/10). They didn't take notes. Dickinson (10/10). The actual interview we got along really well. I got an individual(!) tour around campus after, and when I got back to the main office, I happened to meet the Dickinson Vice President. She revealed her identity after we'd talked a bit and she'd asked me about my road trip. Trippy. Syracuse: (8/10) Rochester (7/10) Dartmouth: 10/10. Spectacular. My interviewer was totally like me when he was my age (he even joked about this.) We were laughing hard by the end, and he asked me some philosophical questions which I had answers to. Essays This is undoubtedly my strong suit. Buckle up because this section's gonna be long. I am and have always been a writer. I'm a head editor in both my school publications, and have written fiction all my life. Among a pool of academically equivalent students, I believe that essays are the main differentiator between rejection and acceptance. I spent an exorbitant amount of time on my essays. I genuinely think all these essays are 10/10s. Call me narcissistic about these and I'd agree. I probably spent 20 hours in total on my main essay, and I can't count how much time on my other supplements. I love my creative essays. I tried to

make the writing conversational\u2013I write how I\u2019d talk if I was more eloquent\u2013and my prose style (for informal stuff at least) constantly has humor and sharp turns of phrase woven in often as punctuation. One of my favorite compliments I\u2019ve ever received is that I write like Hunter S Thompson. In junior year, when I visited Brown, fell in love with Brown, and realized I needed to lock in, I looked up \u201cgood examples of college essays.\u201d I loathed the Costco essay so much that I decided never to write in that style. I purposely don\u2019t use a thesaurus or a particularly dense syntax\u2014a 12-year-old can perfectly understand what I write\u2014and with minimal fluff it\u2019s easier to make sure every word counts. There isn\u2019t much trauma dumping\u2014I don\u2019t want the AO to pity me\u2014but the essays are not without their punch and visceral imagery. I wrote \u201cmain\u201d ones for eight topics I am passionate about, and sometimes cut them apart and combined sections of multiple topics to best fit each university\u2019s specific question. Topics I wrote about: \u2014Playing extreme metal music and it acting as a positive societal and personal force in my life. (Common App Essay. Unique topic, generic essay theme of transformation, very unconventional syntax and storytelling style.) \u2014Views on government, power, and lawmaking/the philosophy around how I govern my life. James Madison core. \u2013What I do in my internship and what I hope to do with a law career. \u2014Creative writing and the role of literature in my life/upbringing/society/human history, why I write about horror and about redemption. \u2014Why I adore objectively horrible movies and how my \u201cbad movie club\u201d came into existence. \u2014Loyalty and friendship, being dear friends with people who are my opposites on paper. The obligatory \u201cempathy and navigating differences\u201d essay, but I tried to make it have as few cliches as possible. \u2014How to process grief and the incomprehensible (I did not milk this one. It would be disrespectful. It\u2019s touched on in other essays topics, it\u2019s shaped my life, but it doesn\u2019t trauma dump and was never a main essay topic.) \u2014My crazy grandmother and complicated family politics. Talks about my family in what I think is a humorous, eloquent way that analyzes different and competing \u201cwants,\u201d so to speak. All of these are differing vignettes\u2014small snapshots of a life to form a kid from the South who exists as more than a statistic and a number column. They implicitly build emotional investment and make me harder to reject. I also submitted a metric ton of supplemental materials, especially to the places who don\u2019t care about demonstrated interest. Basically every supplemental material backs up an extracurricular I wrote about in the activities section: \u2014If I could link a personal website in the app, I would link my profile on my school newspaper website where I have written about fifteen articles. \u2014Submitted an original rock song written by myself. I also played every instrument but drums, sang, wrote the lyrics, and shot a music video while driving through NY. It\u2019s very high-energy, a la Smashing Pumpkins, and demonstrates a high level of technical skill. It\u2019s also just a freaking



awesome song. \u2014Submitted 3 research papers that I wrote for my law internship. \u2014Submitted a classical guitar cover of a flamenco piece. \u2014Submitted a horror science fiction story I wrote that got published and won a Scholastic Award. Also submitted an outrageous political satire novella to only some schools (that would appreciate it.) The other extracurriculars (theater, house responsibilities, working a job, volunteering, sports) were undoubtedly backed up by my recommendation letters. In short, I filled out every single optional supplemental essay and supplemental material box possible on every application except for Williams, because I didn\u2019t see the box. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Rochester (RD, merit money) Syracuse University (RD, half-ride) Lehigh University (RD, merit money) University of Tulsa (EA, full ride) Dickinson College (RD, merit money) University of Vermont (EA, merit money) McGill University (RD) Wesleyan University (RD) Bowdoin College (RD) Amherst College (RD) Dartmouth College (RD). I actually screamed when I saw this one, and it was my number one until I saw\u2026 Brown University (ED Deferral -> RD accept) Waitlists: None Rejections: UNC Chapel Hill (EA). Was nominated by my school, but I didn\u2019t get the Morehead Cain Scholarship. Williams College (RD) Cornell University (RD) Expected. I also started this on the last week of apps. Yale University (RD). Expected. I also started this on the last day of apps. Attending: Brown University! Additional Information: To say I was surprised at my results would be an understatement. There are a number of obvious imperfections in my application. I have very common awards, a 25th percentile SAT for the Ivies I applied to, unremarkable ECs without national recognition, and 2 Bs (one of which I got up to an A by second semester.) But, somehow, I got into two Ivies and four colleges with a sub-10% acceptance rate. I think the essays indicate the opposite of a paint by numbers application, and that may have been refreshing. They indicate passion twenty times over. I made sure to make a profile that jumped off the page. I got no waitlists despite everything but my softs being about average for a T20 applicant. I think that might be owed in no small part to much of the writing screaming \u201clove me or hate me, \u2019m speaking my truth and this is ME. Have no illusions and take me for what I am.\u201d Care about your essays. They might just save you."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: DePauw (+176k) Drake (+136k) University of Houston (+28k) Rutgers Newark/New Brunswick (+20k) UNL (+118k) RIT (+100k) Rhodes (+144k) Kenyon (+100k) Trinity University (+132k) UT Austin (rejected from deans and turing tho) CMU SCS Grinnell (+152k) McGill SFU UofT (second choice mathematics) UBC Carleton College Tulane (from Waitlist)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: black Residence: texas w/ canadian citizenship Income Bracket: 250-300k ish Type of School: large, non-competitive public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM (zimbabwean) Intended Major(s) : computer science Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/4.0 UW, 6.7/7.0 W Rank (or percentile): 65/840 Senior Year Course Load: ap macroeconomics ap english lit ap physics c mech ap physics c electricity and magnetism ap calc bc computer science 4 honors ap government debate 3

Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1520 (740RW, 780M) ACT: didnt take SAT II: didnt take AP/IB: ap human geo (5), ap cs a (5), ap english lang (4), ap us history (4), ap physics I (4), ap european hist (4) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. in no particular order (because im lazy), also the descriptions are mad boring so im just winging it cs club prez - taught competitive computer science and went to competitions and stuff work - worked at like a kumon and a panera bread tsa treasurer (did jack shit) founded an aviation club (all we really do is play flight sims and its was pretty mid, barely anyone wanted to show up after like 4 meetings) did \"research\" (didnt publish, barely even got to see the lab, psuedo virtual grunt work for like 3 months) speech and debate (never again) team captain of math modeling team (did nothing until actual competition) quiz bowl ?? science national honor society (dropped out) making random cs projects outside school (like a minecraft plugin that got like 2 downloads and that was it) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. college board national african american recognition tfa quarterfinalist nsda degree of superior distinction miscellaneous tsa region/state medals in super niche events (think \"3rd place\" out of 3 entries type deal) 32/776 on a uil virtual challenge lmao Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) cs teacher/cs club sponsor - 6/10 ?? idk he alright aviation sponsor/euro teacher - 7/10 (lmao i read this one, it was solid glazing but felt chatgpted lmao) debate teacher - 6/10?? (bro literally missed several deadlines before submitting so its probably not allat) counselor - 3/10 (its like 1 counselor to 300 students at my school, ofc its mid) Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) no admissions interviews, just 1 full ride interview with drake that was pretty mid Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) spent a stupid long time on them, and its probably a huge chunk on why i got in places. basically, i tried to model my personal statement around my personal reasons for wanting to become a professor/go into research based on why my relationship with my father got me into cs, why my familial relationship with education makes me interested in pursuing higher education (parents on both sides got out the trenches via university), and how my equal love for teaching and learning across all of my experiences in my time throughout life shows how much i love pursuing and sharing

knowledge (teaching at kumon/cs club, contributing to FOSS stuff, working on research, the likes). Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: DePauw (+176k) Drake (+136k) University of Houston (+28k) Rutgers Newark/New Brunswick (+20k) UNL (+118k) RIT (+100k) Rhodes (+144k) Kenyon (+100k) Trinity University (+132k) UT Austin (rejected from deans and turing tho) CMU SCS Grinnell (+152k) McGill SFU UofT (second choice mathematics) UBC Carleton College Tulane (from Waitlist) Waitlists: Denison Rice Rejections: Harvard Cornell Stanford Penn UofT CS Committed to: UBC Additional Information: why i committed to ubc: inb4: \"why not cmu\" -> cmu scs was the dream for a really long time, as full pay with slim to none hope of getting aid, they would want half a million dollars after interest from me. for an undergrad degree. no. with UT, i love it and all (visited friends on campus like twice), but the dorms are section 8 as hell and its significantly more expensive for little actual benefit for me. i can get all of my same goals achieved basically anywhere else as UT (equally so at somewhere like UBC or McGill), but UT would just be like 30 or 40k more expensive for no reason i also nearly committed to UH bc money, but UBC kind of serves as the best middleground between all of these options, plus I am from vancouver and a legacy of the university (i used to live there when i was like 1 year old and my mom went to nursing school there) my ending advice, as a really bitter senior, on college applications: looking back, at the end of these four years of straight ass, the only feeling i feel isnt some immense feeling of accomplishment, its just fear and regret tbh. doing all of this has allowed me to meet some of the most interesting, motivated people i'll probably ever meet and to have the most incredible experiences of my life, but a lot of it really is just a straight grind. i really just regret how much i focused my high school time on just building a resume rather than just doing stuff i thought was really interesting and just going hard in the paint in that shit, because now, as a senior on the verge of graduation, i realize that kanye basically said it best in good morning: \"look at the valedictorians scared of the future.\" i've spent so much time focused on just looking good for college that now that i'm actually headed off, i realize that i'm almost mentally unable to live in the present moment rather than looking countless years into the future and that i'm absolutely terrified about the immense amount of changes my life is about to go through. i think my best piece of advice for anyone younger, really, is to stay away from forums like this. only use the wiki of a2c, avoid this sub in particular, and just block collegeconfidential from your router lmao. the reason why the college admissions process is so awful is that its become so gamey, when in reality, the more naturally you take the process, the higher likelihood that you will just naturally end up where you are probably best suited for. if you grind out just trying to make it to a top uni, you'll just feel miserable while you're there because you've spent so much time being someone you arent, and this college will admit you on the basis that this person that you arent is a good match for them, so you'll find actually fitting in pretty difficult. just think of it like this: take college applications seriously, but understand that you don't simply live to

write things down and brag about them. rather, live for the sake of having amazing memories, as that authenticity is the secret sauce that makes the amazing essays that people are constantly wishing for. additionally, remember that this whole process isnt meritocratic based on any easily measurable characteristics like gpa or extracurriculars. its based on trying to determine how much you as a whole person fit the school's interests."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: American University (RD): 20k Merit Scholarship w/ Cornerstone Program Invitation Marymount University (Virginia) (RD): 27k Merit Scholarship University of North Carolina at Charlotte (RD) University of North Carolina at Greensboro (RD): Blue and Gold Merit Scholar Recipient (2,200/yr over 4 years)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race: Black Residence: NC (Meck) Income Bracket: 130-140k Type of School: Small Magnet Hooks: None Intended Majors: Finance, Business Administration Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.8/4.37 Rank: 9/43 # of Honors/AP/IB/DE: Honors (17) AP (2) DE (17) Senior Year Course load: DE Art Apprec, DE English 101, DE Micro Econ, DE Precalc, DE Bio, DE Theatre Apprec, DE English 102, DE American Hist, DE Music Apprec Standardized Testing: Didn't submit any scores Extracurriculars/Activities Owned and operated a video aggregator network on twitter. Managed 2 accounts with 1 million followers combined and earned thousands through monetization and ads. Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy Member Student Council Representative Students Against Violence Everywhere Promise Club Member Was a Senior Moderator on a semi-popular Minecraft server Awards/Honors: Phi Theta Kappa Inductee Community College Dean's List Letters of Recommendation: Counselor: Likes me but I'm not super close with her Leadership Teacher: Generic insert name in document letter of recommendation Physics Teacher: Not super close with her but performed well in her class Interviews: None Essays: Personal statement: Wrote about my love of Google Maps & talked about my personal interest in geography. Pretty average Decisions : Acceptances: American University (RD): 20k Merit Scholarship w/ Cornerstone Program Invitation Marymount University (Virginia) (RD): 27k Merit Scholarship University of North Carolina at Charlotte (RD) University of North Carolina at Greensboro (RD): Blue and Gold Merit Scholar Recipient (2,200/yr over 4 years) Waitlists: North Carolina State University (RD): Genuinely surprised University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (RD) George Washington University (RD) Wake Forest University (RD) Rejections: None Additional Information: My waitlists all shocked me for different reasons. I thought I was getting into state and gw, and getting rejected from wake & unc. Amazing that I overshot at my reaches and underperformed at my

targets. I'm also still deciding where to go because I hate all my acceptances for different reasons lmao"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Cornell University (RD) > accepted Purdue University (RD) > Accepted Washington University (RD) > Accepted Trinity College (RD) > Accepted Washington and Lee University (RD) > accepted Pomona College (RD) > Accepted Case Western Reserve (EA) > Accepted Wesleyan University (RD) > Accepted University of Virginia (EA) > Accepted Macalester College (EA) > Accepted University of Delaware Honors College (EA) > Accepted Swarthmore College (RD) (McCabe Scholarship) \u2192 Accepted UC Irvine (RD) > Accepted Yale University (RD) > Accepted (likely letter/call in february) Johns Hopkins University (RD) \u2192 Accepted Princeton University (RD) > accepted",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Afro-Asian Residence: DMV - East Coast Income Bracket: > 50k (family of four) Type of School: Charter School (Small Town) Demographics: Female, Afro-Asian, 1st gen, Pell grant eligible, Intended Major(s): Undecided but leaning computer science/public Health Academics GPA W: 4.6/4.0 GPA UW: 4.0/4.0 Rank: No Ranking APs: 11 (Maximum at school) Dual Enrollment: 5 Senior Year Course Load: Calc BC, AP Lang, AP Physics 1, AP World, AP CSA \*\*Standardized Testing: \*\* SAT: 1580 Extracurriculars/Activities: TASS MITES Semester Local Medical internship: Published in Newsletter YYGS Future Medical Professionals of America (President) FGS - (President & Director of Communication) Asian advocacy org - several roles(over the years) Local Department of Education internship (Paid) Virtual NSLI-Y: Chinese Tri-M (Treasurer) NTHS (Secretary) Computer Science Honor Society (Senior: President, Junior: Secretary) Orchestra - Violin: All Eastern - 1 out of 3 my small town Statewide Youth Planning Board Princeton AI4ALL UD Health Sciences GripTape Local college classes program Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program Honors/Awards: National Honor Society Principal's list African American Recognition Rural Recognition Hamilton Scholars Horatio alger scholarship NCWIT State 22\u2019 + \u201823 PSAT Letter of Commendation Certification in Mandarin fluency (Bilingual-self study) Top 15 Renew Essay Applicant Bank of America scholarship Amazon future engineer scholarship Ge-reagan scholarship semifinalist Ron brown captain National Community Service Award: Ambassador Level Elks scholarship Burger king scholarship Foundation 649 scholarship Volunteering: Volunteering Club (President, Director of Communications, and Director of Volunteering) Youth leader for church: 2019 - present Volunteer Teacher\u2019s Assistant for local Chinese school - 2 years Empowering youth in business: 1 year Accent Care Hospital Volunteering Nemours Children\u2019s Hospital

Volunteer Teen Science Cafe: Student Leader National Honor Society: some random volunteering activities Letters of Recommendation: 3 recs I haven't read any of my recommendations but I've known my recommenders for 2-4 years, so I think they should be pretty good. College Interviews: Harvard: 5/10 felt like interviewer and i couldn't relate to each other too well :( Yale: 9/10 conversation style interview that flowed really well, loved talking about social science concepts :DD Swarthmore: 7/10 was good but felt could've done better with showing more about myself Duke: 6.5/10 talked about CS at the end of the interview, don't think I showed enough of myself throughout interview Stanford: 7/10 decent enough, chill interviewer, talked about his kids, campus life, career, and politics MIT: 5/10 was decent and pretty surface level. Didn't really connect with the interviewer Colleges Acceptances: Cornell University (RD) > accepted Purdue University (RD) > Accepted Washington University (RD) > Accepted Trinity College (RD) > Accepted Washington and Lee University (RD) > accepted Pomona College (RD) > Accepted Case Western Reserve (EA) > Accepted Wesleyan University (RD) > Accepted University of Virginia (EA) > Accepted Macalester College (EA) > Accepted University of Delaware Honors College (EA) > Accepted Swarthmore College (RD) (McCabe Scholarship) \u2192 Accepted UC Irvine (RD) > Accepted Yale University (RD) > Accepted (likely letter/call in february) Johns Hopkins University (RD) \u2192 Accepted Princeton University (RD) > accepted Waitlists: Columbia (2nd dream) (RD) > waitlisted University of Pennsylvania (RD) > waitlist Duke University (RD) > waitlisted Carnegie Mellon (RD) > waitlisted Colgate University (RD) > waitlisted Northwestern University (RD) > waitlisted Rejections: Boston University (dream school) (ED) \u2192 deferred and rejected Harvard University (RD) > Rejected Brown University (RD) > Rejected Dartmouth College (RD) > rejected University of Michigan (EA) > Deferred ~> rejected UC Berkeley (RD) > Rejected UCLA (RD) > Rejected Stanford (RD) > Rejected Northeastern University (RD) > rejected MIT (RD) > Rejected (lolll) Senior year summer plans: Bank of America program Virtual part time Internship Local hospital volunteering Law internship Global health leaders conference @ Johns Hopkins Note: Keep your head up kids :D Good luck!!! 2028 out!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UCSC bioinformatics + biomolecular engineering UCSB pre-biochemistry UCI pre-chemistry w/ honors UCD biochemistry and molecular biology UCSD biology w/ spec. in bioinformatics UCLA computational and systems biology UCB chemical biology cal poly slo materials engineering (i had a phase) uminnesota biochemistry 104k w/ honors pitt computational biology 60k w/ honors cwru w/ 152k mcgill bioengineering ubc engineering uoft physical sciences uottawa biochemistry/chemE w/ 4k queen's engineering w/ 7k Additional Information: my parents can cover any personal,

transportation, and textbook costs and 20k for my tuition + room and board . however, my sister is only 6 years younger than me and i would prefer to leave more money for her. ALSO, i have both dual citizenship in the usa and canada, so all canadian universities will charge me domestic tuition. Deciding: yeah, i was not expecting this at all. i actually have no idea how i am supposed to come even close to making a decision between these amazing schools in just 6 days time. i think i have narrowed it down to 5 choices, but let me know if i should consider any of my other options before i decline them! mcgill bioengineering because i was born there, tuition is only around 3.5k USD the first year and almost zero the following years + housing/food is way cheaper than california! --> no student loan debt and my parents can breathe a huge sigh of relief allows me to take summer terms, get a way nicer dorm, eat out more, study abroad, stay an extra semester, the possibilities are endless! EDIT: room and board for the first year is around 12k USD due to how expensive the dorms are the first year, but that number quickly falls to around 8k once i get my own apartment --> total cost is 15.5k for first year and 8.5k USD all other years arguably the most prestigious university in canada with an insane medical school and AI/machine learning research --> wet dream for computational structural biology lowkey professional engineering designation, a ton of design and research courses, and no GEs! miniscule medical focus and not pre-med friendly, which means i don't have to breathe the same air as premed pests!! downtown in a major city with an amazing public transit system!! i will lose my mind if i have to depend on cars for another 4 years really bad winters, interesting linguistic war, and extremely far from any friends/family except my grandparents the program takes 5 years to complete which is so long for an undergrad for god sakes it literally is entirely master's level classes the last two years i have no idea how am i going to do this program is really small and new, so it will be a lot easier to get to know my professors for LORs :) will pay me like 20k to get my master's too fighting for its life against the quebec government and is pretty underfunded so i have no idea what the future of mcgill will be it takes so much effort to transfer to literally any other program in case i change my mind (which i have done a quadrillion times) little to no flexibility in electives/minors/double majors because of super rigid curriculum UCLA CaSB 26k --> will need to take federal loans (no private tho) and will likely place a financial strain on my family EDIT: i will likely have to take 20-25k total in federal loans has a much stronger focus on CS, which is way better for both my interest in computational structural biology + potentially becoming a SWE sellout minors and double majors in so many fields i am interested in!! they literally have a minor in structural biology i'm in love <3 will have to fight my way through more GEs. i have 2/3 of them done but i would prefer to never take another again. especially more english classes oh my god weather, food, and guaranteed housing are really nice additional benefits! i hate how isolating the campus can be without a car however PREMED HELL WHY ARE THEY ALL HERE it is nice that there is a really good medical school right there for any biomedical research

can finish in 3 years if i take summer CC classes and pray that my enrollment times don't screw me over can complete my masters in one extra year! my best friend is going here! some of my friends are going here so i won't be completely isolated in case i need social support way less travel costs! UCB ChemBio 31k --> will need to take federal + private loans w/ strain on family BUT i can commute after the first year and cal becomes my cheapest option. i would rather die than spend another 3 years living with my parents and battling my way on the freeway to berkeley, but money is money. there's also bart but its 50 minutes with a transfer :( has a much weaker focus on CS in exchange for a super in-depth education of biochemistry can focus on computational chemistry tho literally one of the best programs in the nation for chemistry?? super heavy on research and has great grad school outcomes literally has its own college for CoC --> smaller college feel i can just casually work with nobel prize winners??? any concerns about safety, weather, and the bay area do not apply to me i literally live here same GE issue that UCLA suffers from, but to a lesser extent due to the CoC being a separate thing nonexistent travel costs and i can stay close to my sister! can easily finish in 3 years even without CC because of how little classes are required for some reason surrounded by biotech companies that love berkeley grads, though chemistry is not really an employable degree in that sense UBC Applied Sciences 7000 USD tuition and way more expensive living than montreal, BUT it is still under 20k USD and the co-op program will likely cover the difference if i was worried about mcgill taking 5 years, ubc w/ co-op is almost 6! the co-op program + the engineering degree will have the best earning potential after a bachelor out of any of my options EDIT: room and board is around 10k USD on campus, and i would prefer to stay on campus due to how bad the housing situation is in vancouver + the campus is isolated with a miniscule housing market slightly more GEs than McGill but still nothing compared to UCs the literal hunger games to get into your preferred engineering major has a top 3 engineering program in canada and a fantastic reputation in the pacific northwest, one of my favorite regions in the world :) i also have no idea if i like any other sort of engineering than biological. maybe chemical? the general first year would help but it might also be a pain in the ass if i discover engineering wasn't my thing oh the campus is also the prettiest campus i have ever seen. surrounded by beach on all three sides with the pacific ocean and a mountain range as its backdrop. search it up, you will not be disappointed! out of all of my options, this option fits my current interests the least the pacific northwest is known for being socially cold + i will have literally no one i know for hundreds of miles --> could be an impending social disaster UCSD Biology w/ Bioinformatics 29k --> similar situation to berkeley right now UCSD's bioinformatics program is the best in the world. full stop. if i want to really dive deep into bioinformatics and pursue it in grad school, ucsd is a no-brainer for opportunities it provides unfortunately, bioinformatics is much more genomics based and has little to no emphasis on structural biology, which is more a mathematical modeling subject, so ucsd is currently my last choice out of the 5 the



campus is gorgeous, likely has the best weather on earth, has a cool residential college system, and surrounded by a ton of biotech companies i honestly have not thought too much about ucsd after getting into ucb and ucla, but i still it deserves consideration so let me know if there's anything else i should keep in mind! Advice program prestige is a much bigger deal than school prestige in most situations! this especially applies to canadian schools. the only reason why ucsd and ubc are still in consideration is solely because of the strength of their programs, not the relative \"prestige\" of the schools! choose the school that offers the best program for your needs, not the program with the fancier name this doesn't apply if the school is nice about transferring majors. almost every large public university is an ass about switching majors, especially in in-demand majors if you are in california, PLEASE DO CC CLASSES! UCs love them, your GPA loves them, and your wallet loves them. they are literally guaranteed to transfer and can get you out of so many classes you don't care about. please stop drooling over random APs and look at CC classes that actually interest you! only apply to schools that are within the realm of financial feasibility. do every single npc you can and use those numbers to decide whats possible and what isn't. i was originally going to apply to the ivy league, but i decided against it after seeing how much more expensive they would be ignore 99% of the advice you hear about ECs online. literally do what makes you happy and do it well! scioly carried my entire application because i love/hate it so much :) Thank you! EDIT: I chose McGill! The bioengineering program is super cool and the financial freedom is unparalleled :) Thanks for all the help!\",

"answer": "A: Demographics~ Gender: male Residence: bay area Type of School: huge public hs Intended Major(s): computational biology, biochemistry, bioengineering, statistics my dream major would be structural biology w/ a minor in stats, but no university on the planet has a program similar to that topic. honestly, most universities barely have phd programs for it. my entire college application process was really a battle to find the perfect major and school to prepare me for a PhD in the field while also providing some semblance of a career in case i quit after a bachelor's. as much as i love scientific research right now, there is no guarantee i will after a couple years of college. Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.28/4.00 w/ a 3.88 GPA at my local CC Rank (or percentile): top decile baby! Grade Boosted Classes: 7 AP / 2 Honors / 8 Dual Enrollment Senior Year Course Load: APES, AP Stats, H Physics, Gov/Econ, Engineering Des&Dev, ERWC + MWH, Astronomy, English @ CC EDIT: I am in-state for all California schools and I have Canadian citizenship Standardized Testing SAT I: 1540 (770RW, 770M) AP: bio (self-study) , chem, calc AB, ush were 5s, spanish lang was a 4 Extracurriculars/Activities: scioly team captain, test writer, coach, competitor (this program chewed me up and spit me out, but i still love it :) volunteer worker at local science museum lab intern @ biotech company and local uni environmental sustainability internship hobbies like my bio club, journaling, cloud-watching (this sounds silly but learning to read the shapes and patterns of cloud formations and using

them to predict what the sky will look like soon is the coolest thing ever) , making silly websites w/ my middling HTML/CSS skills, gardening, etc. Awards/Honors: usabo semifinalist 40+ scioly medals w/ 1 from nats (will come w/ me to college) CC highest honors list national merit finalist Letters of Recommendation AP Calc AB (9/10): she has known me since sophomore year and watched me grow from someone who could barely talk to someone we can both be proud of :) AP Chem (8/10): every week, i would propose an even crazier, messier experiment to try with her already depleted supply cabinet. she agreed to run almost every single one of them. she made me feel like a mad scientist in the best way possible, and has become one of my biggest role models. out of any teacher, she definitely understood my propensity for science the most!

Essays: UC PIQs (1.5 months): I did my best to let each essay convey a completely separate aspect of myself, no matter how much I wanted to yap about SciOly. I felt like these went pretty well, but my leadership PIQ definitely could have used more work.

Leadership : solving a dilemma between teams as the captain of my scioly team

Creativity : learning to appreciate mistakes in the creative process with website design

Talent/Skill : the ability to explain difficult topics to a wide variety of audiences

Significant Challenge : overcoming my vocal disorder CommonApp (2 weeks): The best essay I have written. I do not know what drugs I was on when I wrote this, but I definitely will not write a better piece of writing for a long time. The premise combined two themes: growing up without my parent's culture and my discovery, and consequent love, of the messiness of the scientific process.

Acceptances: UCSC bioinformatics + biomolecular engineering UCSB pre-biochemistry UCI pre-chemistry w/ honors UCD biochemistry and molecular biology UCSD biology w/ spec. in bioinformatics UCLA computational and systems biology UCB chemical biology cal poly slo materials engineering (i had a phase) uminnesota biochemistry 104k w/ honors pitt computational biology 60k w/ honors cwru w/ 152k mcgill bioengineering ubc engineering uoft physical sciences uottawa biochemistry/chemE w/ 4k queen's engineering w/ 7k

Additional Information: my parents can cover any personal, transportation, and textbook costs and 20k for my tuition + room and board . however, my sister is only 6 years younger than me and i would prefer to leave more money for her. ALSO, i have both dual citizenship in the usa and canada, so all canadian universities will charge me domestic tuition.

Deciding: yeah, i was not expecting this at all. i actually have no idea how i am supposed to come even close to making a decision between these amazing schools in just 6 days time. i think i have narrowed it down to 5 choices, but let me know if i should consider any of my other options before i decline them! mcgill bioengineering because i was born there, tuition is only around 3.5k USD the first year and almost zero the following years + housing/food is way cheaper than california! --> no student loan debt and my parents can breathe a huge sigh of relief allows me to take summer terms, get a way nicer dorm, eat out more, study abroad, stay an extra semester, the possibilities are endless!

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expensive the dorms are the first year, but that number quickly falls to around 8k once i get my own apartment --> total cost is 15.5k for first year and 8.5k USD all other years arguably the most prestigious university in canada with an insane medical school and AI/machine learning research --> wet dream for computational structural biology lowkey professional engineering designation, a ton of design and research courses, and no GEs! miniscule medical focus and not pre-med friendly, which means i don't have to breathe the same air as premed pests!! downtown in a major city with an amazing public transit system!! i will lose my mind if i have to depend on cars for another 4 years really bad winters, interesting linguistic war, and extremely far from any friends/family except my grandparents the program takes 5 years to complete which is so long for an undergrad for god sakes it literally is entirely master's level classes the last two years i have no idea how am i going to do this program is really small and new, so it will be a lot easier to get to know my professors for LORs :) will pay me like 20k to get my master's too fighting for its life against the quebec government and is pretty underfunded so i have no idea what the future of mcgill will be it takes so much effort to transfer to literally any other program in case i change my mind (which i have done a quadrillion times) little to no flexibility in electives/minors/double majors because of super rigid curriculum UCLA CaSB 26k --> will need to take federal loans (no private tho) and will likely place a financial strain on my family EDIT: i will likely have to take 20-25k total in federal loans has a much stronger focus on CS, which is way better for both my interest in computational structural biology + potentially becoming a SWE sellout minors and double majors in so many fields i am interested in!! they literally have a minor in structural biology i'm in love <3 will have to fight my way through more GEs. i have 2/3 of them done but i would prefer to never take another again. especially more english classes oh my god weather, food, and guaranteed housing are really nice additional benefits! i hate how isolating the campus can be without a car however PREMED HELL WHY ARE THEY ALL HERE it is nice that there is a really good medical school right there for any biomedical research can finish in 3 years if i take summer CC classes and pray that my enrollment times don't screw me over can complete my masters in one extra year! my best friend is going here! some of my friends are going here so i won't be completely isolated in case i need social support way less travel costs! UCB ChemBio 31k --> will need to take federal + private loans w/ strain on family BUT i can commute after the first year and cal becomes my cheapest option. i would rather die than spend another 3 years living with my parents and battling my way on the freeway to berkeley, but money is money. there's also bart but its 50 minutes with a transfer :( has a much weaker focus on CS in exchange for a super in-depth education of biochemistry can focus on computational chemistry tho literally one of the best programs in the nation for chemistry?? super heavy on research and has great grad school outcomes literally has its own college for CoC --> smaller college feel i can just casually work with nobel prize winners??? any concerns about safety, weather, and the bay area do not apply to me i

literally live here same GE issue that UCLA suffers from, but to a lesser extent due to the CoC being a separate thing nonexistent travel costs and i can stay close to my sister! can easily finish in 3 years even without CC because of how little classes are required for some reason surrounded by biotech companies that love berkeley grads, though chemistry is not really an employable degree in that sense UBC Applied Sciences 7000 USD tuition and way more expensive living than montreal, BUT it is still under 20k USD and the co-op program will likely cover the difference if i was worried about mcgill taking 5 years, ubc w/ co-op is almost 6! the co-op program + the engineering degree will have the best earning potential after a bachelor out of any of my options EDIT: room and board is around 10k USD on campus, and i would prefer to stay on campus due to how bad the housing situation is in vancouver + the campus is isolated with a miniscule housing market slightly more GEs than McGill but still nothing compared to UCs the literal hunger games to get into your preferred engineering major has a top 3 engineering program in canada and a fantastic reputation in the pacific northwest, one of my favorite regions in the world :) i also have no idea if i like any other sort of engineering than biological. maybe chemical? the general first year would help but it might also be a pain in the ass if i discover engineering wasn't my thing oh the campus is also the prettiest campus i have ever seen. surrounded by beach on all three sides with the pacific ocean and a mountain range as its backdrop. search it up, you will not be disappointed! out of all of my options, this option fits my current interests the least the pacific northwest is known for being socially cold + i will have literally no one i know for hundreds of miles --> could be an impending social disaster UCSD Biology w/ Bioinformatics 29k --> similar situation to berkeley right now UCSD's bioinformatics program is the best in the world. full stop. if i want to really dive deep into bioinformatics and pursue it in grad school, ucsc is a no-brainer for opportunities it provides unfortunately, bioinformatics is much more genomics based and has little to no emphasis on structural biology, which is more a mathematical modeling subject, so ucsc is currently my last choice out of the 5 the campus is gorgeous, likely has the best weather on earth, has a cool residential college system, and surrounded by a ton of biotech companies i honestly have not thought too much about ucsc after getting into ucb and ucla, but i still it deserves consideration so let me know if there's anything else i should keep in mind! Advice program prestige is a much bigger deal than school prestige in most situations! this especially applies to canadian schools. the only reason why ucsc and ubc are still in consideration is solely because of the strength of their programs, not the relative \"prestige\" of the schools! choose the school that offers the best program for your needs, not the program with the fancier name this doesn't apply if the school is nice about transferring majors. almost every large public university is an ass about switching majors, especially in in-demand majors if you are in california, PLEASE DO CC CLASSES! UCs love them, your GPA loves them, and your wallet loves them. they are literally guaranteed to transfer and can get you out of so many

classes you don't care about. please stop drooling over random APs and look at CC classes that actually interest you! only apply to schools that are within the realm of financial feasibility. do every single npc you can and use those numbers to decide whats possible and what isn't. i was originally going to apply to the ivy league, but i decided against it after seeing how much more expensive they would be ignore 99% of the advice you hear about ECs online. literally do what makes you happy and do it well! scioly carried my entire application because i love/hate it so much :) Thank you! EDIT: I chose McGill! The bioengineering program is super cool and the financial freedom is unparalleled :) Thanks for all the help!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: -Penn State - Florida Atlantic University Waitlists : - University of Miami - University of Florida (to transfer) - New York University Rejections : - Boston University - Brown - Columbia - Cornell - Dartmouth - Duke - Harvard - Northeastern - Princeton - University of Florida (as a freshman) - UNC - Yale Additional Information: Kinda got fucked here. Need to decide paying for Penn state or getting my degree from FAU for free and within 1-2 years.",

"answer": "A: Demographics - Gender: Males - Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic - Residence: Florida - Income Bracket: Upper-Middle / Lower-Upper seeking aid - Type of School: High Ranked Dual-Enrollment (Publicly funded but acceptance rate sub 10%) - Hooks: First-gen / Brown Legacy through sibling Intended Major(s): Finance / Economics / Applied Math Academics - GPA (UW/W): 3.82 / 5.4 - Rank (or percentile): NA - # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: School doesn't offer APs bc its full time uni classes but around 105 uni credits and about 13 honors classes. - Senior Year Course Load: (All are taken at a university % pretty much to fulfil hs requirements) American History, Research, Government, Spanish 3, Geography, Management of Organizational Behaviour, Gender and Climate Change, Public Speaking Standardized Testing - SAT: 1460 Extracurriculars/Activities - Co-Founder, Co-President, and Head of Finance for DECA - Co-Founder, Owner, Director of environmental non-profit - Undergraduate Research - Director of an established city working non-profit - Undergraduate Teaching Assistant & Math Tutoring at the university I took classes at - Fellowship - Team Manager, CAD designer, builder, and wiring for a robotics club - Private tutor - Bookkeeper intern - University sports while in highschool Awards/Honors -1st place DECA Districts Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) - University Dean's List - 1st place PFL roleplay DECA State Career Development Conference - PFL International Career Development Conference competitor - Climate Activist of the Year Letters of Recommendation Guidance Counselor - 9/10 had a good relationship with her Director

of the Chemistry department at the university - 10/10 knew my dreams and aspirations as well as my work ethic Dean of Arts and Letters Department - 5/10 he knew and respected the fellowship I was in but we barely interacted Interviews - Did the video essay for Brown which I thought was incredibly good (so did my sister who attends Brown) - Harvard interviewer(in person at Harvard Law) told me he had a \"sneaking suspicion about me\" - Princeton interviewer(in person at wall street) told me a lot about how to get into banking and morgan stanley but not a lot about Princeton - Cornell interviewer (online) told me to join a frat because she loved the frat parties???? Essays Took about 2.5 weeks and a bottle of Vyvance to get through all 60 sum supplemental essays. Not a single one I used twice and they were all custom made with a unique story. 50% were super good imo and 50% sucked. Decisions Acceptances: -Penn State - Florida Atlantic University Waitlists : - University of Miami - University of Florida (to transfer) - New York University Rejections : - Boston University - Brown - Columbia - Cornell - Dartmouth - Duke - Harvard - Northeastern - Princeton - University of Florida (as a freshman) - UNC - Yale Additional Information: Kinda got fucked here. Need to decide paying for Penn state or getting my degree from FAU for free and within 1-2 years."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Clemson University EA - Major: CS (honors college + scholarship) University of South Carolina EA - Major: CS (honors college + scholarship) Northeastern University EA - Major: CS (London Scholars + scholarship) University of Maryland EA - Major: Letters and Sciences (Rejected from CS, would major in CE) Virginia Tech EA - Major: CS (scholarship) Furman University RD - Major: CS (full ride scholarship) North Carolina State University RD - Major: CS University of Michigan RD - Major: CS (LSA) Waitlists (Remaining on both): UC San Diego RD - Major: CS University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill RD - Major: CS",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Indian) Residence: Rural-ish South Carolina Income Bracket: 300k+ Type of School: Midsize moderately competitive public high school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : CS, CS + Math, CE (if there is the option to focus on software) I want to work in software development and engineering, more specifically artificial intelligence development, which is why I specifically want a program with a stronger focus on math. I am also interested in the areas of fintech and computational finance and am open to pursuing graduate school. Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.815/5.062 (My district uses a different system with AP classes weighted as 6.0) UCGPA: 4.4375 Rank (or percentile): EA Applications: 42/429; RD Applications:

32/411 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 16 APs, 13 Honors Senior Year Course Load: 5 APs (Calculus BC, Physics C: Mech, Research, Physics 2, Macroeconomics), Art History Honors, Government Honors Standardized Testing SAT I: 1540 (740 R&W 800 M) ACT: N/A AP/IB: 5s: CSA 4s: Bio, Psych, Lang, World, Stat, CSP, Seminar 3s: Physics 1, Human Geography Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A

Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Summer Research Internship:

Three-month summer research internship at local flagship university conducting major-

relevant research. President/Founder of High School Programming Club: Self

explanatory, started first programming club at my high-school with around 50 members joining. Independent Programming Work: Listed some of my highlights in programming,

including projects, hackathons, open source contributions, and course/certification

completion. Internship at Local Business: Interned here throughout most of high school,

focused on managing web services and social media as well as multimedia work

through business cards. Guitarist/Lead Vocalist in Band: Rhythm guitarist and primary

vocalist for my small cover band, which consists of me and my friends. Publish covers

on YouTube and SoundCloud, and post content on Instagram. Vice President of School

National Honor Society: Organized multiple school-wide service projects, conducted

monthly meetings, and lead the new member induction. Tutoring: Miscellaneous

voluntary tutoring work on various classes like Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.

Member of a school program where I tutor introductory physics on weekends/after

school. Reoccurring Volunteering with Specific Organization: Highlighted notable

achievements in my time working with the organization. Reoccurring Volunteering with

Specific Organization: Same as above but with a different organization. Member of

School Academic Team: Participated at many different levels of tournaments,

specialized in sciences, geography, and pop culture, participated in the national

tournament. Awards/Honors AP Capstone Award Science Honor Society Mu Alpha

Theta (Math Honor Society) Spanish National Honors Society AP Scholar with

Distinction Letters of Recommendation Calculus BC and CSA Teacher (8/10): I have

taken multiple classes with her and I would think that she liked me. AP Lang and

Seminar Teacher (9.5/10): She appointed me for my NHS position and I have taken

multiple classes with her so I'm sure it was pretty decent. Summer Research

Professor (???/10): I have absolutely no idea what he wrote about me but he was very

willing to write one so I assume it was at least fine. Essays Unsure, but probably at least

decent. I spent a long time on them and got them checked by many other people

including family, peers, and teachers, but didn't feel the most confident on some. I

probably could have budgeted my time better with essays as some of them felt rushed.

Interviews Cornell (10/10): Not really an interview but it went very well and lasted

around 2 hours. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Clemson

University EA - Major: CS (honors college + scholarship) University of South Carolina

EA - Major: CS (honors college + scholarship) Northeastern University EA - Major: CS (London Scholars + scholarship) University of Maryland EA - Major: Letters and Sciences (Rejected from CS, would major in CE) Virginia Tech EA - Major: CS (scholarship) Furman University RD - Major: CS (full ride scholarship) North Carolina State University RD - Major: CS University of Michigan RD - Major: CS (LSA) Waitlists (Remaining on both): UC San Diego RD - Major: CS University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill RD - Major: CS Rejections: Cornell University ED - Major: CS Georgia Tech EA - Major: CS University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign EA - Major: Math + CS UC Berkeley RD - Major: EECS UC Los Angeles RD - Major: CS and Engineering University of Virginia RD - Major: CS Johns Hopkins RD - Major: CS Purdue RD - Major: CS

Additional Notes/Reflections Overall, given my stats (unweighted gpa + class rank) being less than from what I've seen as ideal for my major and demographic, I feel like I did decently. However, as we get closer to decision day, I am still incredibly torn between which school to choose. I've identified the University of Michigan and the Clemson Honors College as my two best options (Michigan being the highest ranked CS program I got into, and Clemson Honors College on a return on investment basis). While cost is not an issue, as even Michigan wouldn't change my family's quality of living, thinking in terms of return on investment, I'm not sure if I would gain the roughly \$45k in tuition difference by going to Michigan. Additionally, I'm not completely sure how applicable Michigan's CS prestige is to me, as my major is housed in the college of Literature, Sciences, and Arts (BS-granting), opposed to the college of engineering (BSE-granting). While I'm currently leaning towards Michigan and my solely-prestige-focused Asian parents are supporting this, seeing the sheer amount of high-achieving peers vying for the Clemson Honors College is making me feel extremely convoluted, and as it gets closer to decision day, increasingly dread picking the wrong option. Update: Not sure how it would affect my decision, but I just got into the LSA honors program at Michigan today."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Sonoma State University (rolling) San Diego State University Cal Poly Pomona Cal Poly SLO Lawrence University UC Santa Cruz Vassar College Bates College (went to their fly-in!) Boston University Emory University UC Berkeley UC Los Angeles",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: asian Residence: california Income Bracket: low income Type of School: title 1, public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s): Neuroscience, cognitive science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.45 at time of submittal (updated to 3.9/4.73) Rank (or percentile): ranked 6/~400 at time of submittal (updated



to 2) of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 8 honors, 2 APs, 10 IB Senior Year Course Load: IB English HL, IB History HL, IB Music HL, IB Math SL, IB Bio SL, IB French SL, Theory of Knowledge, Journalism Standardized Testing SAT/ACT: WENT TEST OPTIONAL LOL. AP/IB: AP Bio (3), APWH (3), IB tests to be taken M24 (wish me luck) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): n/a Extracurriculars/Activities journalism: editing manager, staff writer (4y) community care club: founder, president (2y) school's symphonic & marching band: treasurer, 1st flute, highest ensemble (3y) regional orchestra: 2nd flute, highest ensemble, touring in Europe!! (2y) girl scouts: completed gold/silver/bronze/summit award, 100+ badges (12y) UC neuroscience research internship (1 summer) ib support association: vice president (2y) cbo (2y) tutoring: tutored 4th-11th grade, mentored 7th grade essays (5y) library volunteer & teen council: organizing library community events (3y) Awards/Honors girl scout gold award (national project award) girl scout silver award (community project award) principal's honor roll (GPA based) Letters of Recommendation IB English teacher: 8/10, I've had her for 3 years so I'm confident that she has a good perspective on me and my writing and discussion and such, also recommended me to tutor some of her students yass IB Biology teacher: 8/10, I've had her for 2 years, we weren't very close before she wrote me the letter, but she's definitely seen me grow as a biology student and I've very high performance in her class College Counselor: 7/10 Additional letter from cbo counselor: 7/10 Peer letter of recc (Dartmouth only): dare i say a 10/10, literally sobbed reading it Interviews -- only got 2 interviews: Bowdoin + Dartmouth Bowdoin: 6/10, I was not extremely well-prepared for it, and we didn't exactly click, but i gave some pretty good and genuine answers, he was a really interesting guy to talk to and gave me a lot of perspective on the good we can do for our community Dartmouth: 9/10, SO GOOD, literally said he would write a glowing report for me, we had similar interests that we were able to connect over, really flowy conversation + good vibes Essays common app essay: 7/10, it means a lot to me, but i will admit it was kind of basic... main theme was about how i learned to slow down and not take life for granted as my world began to change, and connected it with folding origami in my sister's hospital room. also wrote it like not even a month before deadlines started popping up so ermmm supps: 8/10, I had some really strong ones in there that mainly extended upon my ecs but I'll admit that many were written like the day of. Decisions (ALL RD) Acceptances: Sonoma State University (rolling) San Diego State University Cal Poly Pomona Cal Poly SLO Lawrence University UC Santa Cruz Vassar College Bates College (went to their fly-in!) Boston University Emory University UC Berkeley UC Los Angeles Waitlists: Dartmouth College (SO HONORED TBH) UC San Diego Boston College Haverford College Rejections: Penn, Brown, Johns Hopkins, Bowdoin, Tufts Closing comments: I am so beyond thankful to have gotten accepted and have some really good options :) I had heard of the word \"college\" all throughout my life and knew that it was expected of me to go to one, but it wasn't really until 11th-12th grade that I really realized that I wanted

to go to a good school. I applied to 21 colleges, shotgunning some (literally submit one at 11:58..oops) without any real expectations, just some hopes and dreams. i wont lie\ud2014 ivy day hit hard, but in retrospect i would definitely not have thrived in that kind of environment \ud83d\udc80 you really do end up exactly where you\ud2019re meant to be! Feel free to dm or reply if you have any questions! For now, I'll be checkin out the schools I got into and making some decisions :P Please lmk if you have any advice on choosing or some cool info abt any of the schools I got into! I hope this offers some transparency in this process and a good reference point to anyone who's looking to apply to college soon :D"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Brown UT BHP + Plan II Brown is around 95k a year, parents said don\ud2019t worry about cost though. Relatively undecided at Brown (intended concentration is cognitive science) but not pre med. ut gives full tuition first year to Val. Where do u guys think I should go \ud83e\udd14",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race/ethnicity: Asian School: Public Major: in title (brown undecided) Academics GPA: 4.0/4.0 and 5.6/5 Rank: 1/510 number of honors and ap: 15 ap some honors - all 5s on aps Senior year course: AP Physics C, AP calc bc, ap lit, ap macro/gov, mobile apps dev, acdec Testing SAT: 1590 ECS: band, mit program, BPA, DECA, volunteering, lot of music related stuff Awards: all state band, BPA nats, ICDC, nat mer finalist, capstone Rejections: Yale USC Waitlist: Vandy Rice Columbia Stanford Acceptances: Brown UT BHP + Plan II Brown is around 95k a year, parents said don\ud2019t worry about cost though. Relatively undecided at Brown (intended concentration is cognitive science) but not pre med. ut gives full tuition first year to Val. Where do u guys think I should go \ud83e\udd14"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UVA (Echols scholar!!!) Michigan Rice (FULL RIDE) Cornell UC Berkeley UCLA CalTech 2 state schools that I have ruled out lol I am so grateful to be in the situation that I am in today. However, I can\ud2019t decide between CalTech and Rice and any advice would be greatly appreciated. For reference CalTech will cost my family about \$30,000 per year. If anyone has any advice please let me know!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Pacific NW Income Bracket: Middle Class (upper middle?) Type of School: Public

Intended Major(s) : Physics + Math Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.88/4.55 Rank (or percentile): school doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: a lot lol Senior Year Course Load: ode/linear algebra, ap comp/us gov, ap English lit, ap physics c (both), ap Spanish lit, ap environmental science, honors robotics, guitar Standardized Testing SAT I: 1510 (710RW, 800M) - not submitted ACT: 36 (34E, 36M, 36R, 36S) Perfect score on AP Calc BC Extracurriculars/Activities /Math Club team captain \\Robotics team captain \\Aerojet Rocketdyne internship \\Envirothon team captain \\Baseball (second team all state, team mvp) \\Research with a college physics professor \\Drafting project that put miniature homes in local communities Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. \\National research competition award winner \\State research competition award winner (separate thing) \\Perfect Score Calc BC \\Perfect Score AutoCAD certification exam \\Rural and Small Town Award from College Board lol Rejections: MIT Stanford Princeton Yale Johns Hopkins CMU Columbia UChicago Waitlists: Brown Dartmouth Duke Harvard UNC UPenn Acceptances: UVA (Echols scholar!!!) Michigan Rice (FULL RIDE) Cornell UC Berkeley UCLA CalTech 2 state schools that I have ruled out lol I am so grateful to be in the situation that I am in today. However, I can't decide between CalTech and Rice and any advice would be greatly appreciated. For reference CalTech will cost my family about \$30,000 per year. If anyone has any advice please let me know!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: cornell university university of illinois urbana-champaign university of miami university of california irvine university of washington florida state university",

"answer": "A: tweaked a bit for security purposes Demographics Gender: F Race/Ethnicity: asian Income Bracket: middle, seeking fin aid Type of School: top ranked, competitive US public hs Hooks: none Intended Major(s) : business or econ or any pre-law track they offer Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/5.1 Rank (or percentile): n/a # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 8 APs, rest are all honors Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1500raw / 1520 ss AP/IB: 5, 3, 3, 4, 4, n/a, n/a, n/a Extracurriculars/Activities student council rep marketing intern international volunteer tutor civic engagement intern community service intern (city-wide) digital passion project dance clubs choreographer varsity sport Letters of Recommendation counselor: 10/10 i talked with them a lot math teacher: 8/10 did well in the class and say hi to them all the time english teacher: 7/10 was sometimes not in class but i was friendly with them Essays did my essays last minute, but were all decent quality and had a story to them edit: i've always been a really good last minute writer so i was never worried about time restraints. i think i wrote worse on the

essays i took time and doubted on. Decisions Acceptances: cornell university university of illinois urbana-champaign university of miami university of california irvine university of washington florida state university Waitlists: university of california santa barbara Rejections: harvard university columbia university university of california los angeles university of california berkeley university of california san diego new york university Additional Information: I committed to cornell for a pre-law track edit/update: for anyone curious, i had a pretty balanced high school life but definitely had my stressful moments. my best advice is to not kill yourself over college. so many people will throw away their social life and happiness for college and end up somewhere they don't want to be. make sure what you do is what you're actually passionate about. also people undermine how much essays are worth. good luck everyone. side note: what is going on w the UC decisions"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UT Austin Villanova College of the Holy Cross Fordham (\$21k scholarship) Emerson (\$15k trailblazer scholarship)",

"answer": "A: Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: North Texas Income Bracket: N/A (money not an issue) Type of School: Public HS Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Texas residents, so a bit easier to get into UT schools. Intended Major(s): Film Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.8 UW, 3.78 W Rank (or percentile): 119 of 768 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9 AP classes throughout 4 years. Senior Year Course Load: 5 AP classes (Gov, Macro, European History, AP Lit, APES), full schedule (no off periods) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1340 (730RW, 610M) AP/IB: WHAP (5), AP Lang (5), AP Spanish Lang (3), APUSH (5) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1. Water Polo (practice 5 days a week, games two days a week when in season.) #2. Swim (practice 5 days a week, meets~ once a week). #3. NHS #4. Green Cord (Service organization that requires 100 hours of service each year.) #5. Boy Scouts (Eagle Scout) #6. Swim Instruction (paid job, 2 days a week for 5hrs/day). #7. Film Crew (paid job, 1 day a week for 6-7hrs/day when football is in season.) Awards/Honors #1. AP Scholar with Honors #2. Eagle Scout #3. President's Volunteer Service Award #4. Green Cord x3 Letters of Recommendation A/V teacher- 10/10 pretty close with her and I was a great student in her class. WHAP/AP Euro teacher- 8/10 definitely in good relations with but sometimes not the most attentive student in her class. Likes me more because I took AP Euro as an elective though. No Interviews Essays Good writing quality and went through several revisions; probably spend 4-ish

hours total on my CommonApp essay and 5-6 hours total on all of the college-specific essays. Wrote a lot about how I got into film and videography, and wrote a few about community service, achieving Eagle Scout, etc. Acceptances: UT Austin Villanova College of the Holy Cross Fordham (\$21k scholarship) Emerson (\$15k trailblazer scholarship) Waitlists: Loyola Marymount Syracuse Rejections: Boston University Additional Information: Was offered guaranteed transfer admission to Boston for fall 2025. I've basically narrowed it down to UT and Villanova; UT probably has the better program for what I want to do but Villanova is a great school that I've visited and really like, and might be better for me in the long run if I decide I want to do something else, as changing majors at UT is difficult from what I've heard. I kind of regret not applying to more/ more prestigious colleges. I don't really think I have a shot at an Ivy or anything but I would have at least liked to know for sure."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Emory (both Atlanta and Oxford Campuses) RD - Major: Quantitative Sciences, which is basically Data Science Rejected from Woodruff Scholarship (Full Ride) at both campuses Not very affordable for my family UNC Chapel Hill RD (Out of state) \u2013 Major: Statistics and Analytics I applied to this mostly because of the Robertson Scholarship, which I didn\u2019t get. University of South Florida (Out of state) \u2013 Major: Biomedical Sciences Full ride for National Merit Scholarship, eligible for 7-year BS/MD program (however, the MCAT requirement is insane). T100 Instate school \u2013 Major: Applied Mathematics Near full ride (based on grades and course rigour) Waitlists (\u2013m going to remain on all of these, in case one of them comes through and ends up being affordable; However, EFC indicates that all of them are going to cost as much as Emory, so I am not too hopeful here): Columbia \u2013 Major: Statistics Vanderbilt \u2013 Major: Math Rice \u2013 Major: Social Policy Analysis (Sociology + Statistics, essentially)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Indian) Residence: Suburban area within low-population Western state (a.k.a. not CA/TX/AZ/WA) Income Bracket: ~300k (no financial aid, but can\u2019t afford 80-90k per year, especially because I have a younger sibling. More on that below.) Type of School: Public, International Baccalaureate (IB). While the broader school is uncompetitive, the IB program is competitive (with around ~20-30% of IB students matriculating to top public and private universities) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Data Science where available; else Sociology/Educational Sociology or Statistics . Leaning towards becoming a doctor in the future, but I only thought about that later into high school. I

don't have the extracurriculars to justify it, so I didn't mention it anywhere in my applications. Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.99 UW; School district doesn't do weighted, so idk Rank (or percentile): Top 5% UW at time on application; again, no Weighted grades of Honors/AP/IB: 8 AP (Calc BC, APUSH, Gov, English Lang, Bio, Chem, Physics 1, Physics C) Full IB Diploma \u2013 6 IB (High Level: Math, English, Physics, History; Standard Level: Biology, Spanish) Dual Enrollment (3.9 Cumulative GPA across 6 classes listed below) Graduate-level/Upper-level Undergraduate Data Science Class; Grade: A Upper-level Undergraduate Statistics Class; Grade: A Upper-level Undergraduate Philosophy Class; Grade A Linear Algebra; Grade: A Multivariable Calculus; Grade: B+ Senior Year Course Load: Full slate of IB courses (High Level: Math, English, Physics, History; Standard Level: Biology, Spanish) + Remaining Graduation Requirements (P.E.) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1560 (760RW, 800M); One-sitting/No Superscore ACT: N/A AP/IB: 5s: Calc BC, APUSH, Gov, English Lang 4s: Bio, Chem, Physics 1, Physics C No IB Exams taken yet Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. VP of Diversity @ Elementary/Middle School Math Education Nonprofit \u2013 Created educational math content, designed to encourage kids to get into competitive math. Worked to expand my nonprofits efforts underprivileged kids in my city by creating a camp specifically for them. Raised 30k+, Worked with 200+ students. Co-Founder of Travel Itinerary App \u2013 Created app allowing users to build travel itineraries customized to their interests by inputting AI-based prompts. Ranked #1 in a computer science event at FBLA Nationals; Recognized by my Rep in U.S. House of Reps for its potential to boost local tourism when submitted to Congressional App Challenge Co-Founder of \u201cUgly\u201d Produce Donation App \u2013 Created app allowing food producers (i.e. farmers) to scan their produce and distinguish between \u201cugly\u201d (good to eat, but won't sell in a store due to irregular physical appearance) and inedible produce. On the flip side, the app also featured a Door Dash for Drivers-style Platform so that volunteers could coordinate efforts to collect and donate the ugly produce to food banks. My team and I were recognized by the UN Global NGO Committee as having a potential solution for some of their Sustainable Development Goals. Data Science Consultant (Not-for-profit) for local aerobics training gym \u2013 Created ~100 reports forecasting various aerobics classes' attendance; Made suggestions to optimize class schedule to boost attendance Founder of Machine Learning Paper Explanation Blog \u2013 Picked 100 important papers from Natural Language Processing and explained them in an easy-to-understand way, with the intention of creating a soft introduction to the field. 165 posts were dedicated to covering the content of the papers; another 100 were dedicated to explaining their significance for the field of Natural Language Processing (265 ~400-word posts total). Founder/Software

Engineering of linguistic corpus (database) for my native language \u2013 Pulled freely available articles/speeches on the internet for my native language into an organized corpus. Speeches were transcribed. Words/Sentences from both the articles and speeches were divided by emotion and age (how old the media in which they were found was). The goal was to track changes in the language over time. Founder of History of Data Science blog \u2013 Made 120 300-word posts on the history of data science (60 on new technologies, 30 on scientists, 30 on societal impacts of data science advances, with a focus on race relations). For instance, one post was about how facial recognition technology could lead to racial profiling. Founder of website providing a real-time, updating report about teenage drug addiction \u2013 The website continuously scrapes social media to collect information about teenage drug use. It uses Natural Language Processing to identify key words within the social media posts, so it can cheaply and quickly detect new trends in drug usage. The purpose is to supplement the NIH survey about teenage drug usage, as it circumvents the issue of underreporting. I presented it as a project at my state\u2019s science fair, where it won 3rd in the Computer Science category. Indian Classical Music Tutor/Performer \u2013 I sang with a few famous Indian Classical Musicians when they came to visit my city. My singing is featured on their YouTube channel with ~50k subscribers. I also tutored a few students in this music form. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Two top-10 finishes at FBLA Nationals (1 was first place and the other was 7th); both were in computer/data science-y events College Hackathons - Ranked 1/~650 in an international college hackathon; Won ~5k prize; Ranked 3rd in a different state-wide college hackathon State Science Fair \u2013 3rd place in Computer Science Category, 4th place in Computer Science Category in different years PennApps Invitation (Was accepted by PennApps, a UPenn Computer Science club, to their on-campus hackathon). As far as I know, my team and I were the only high schoolers there; everyone else seemed to be from colleges. State History Fair \u2013 National Qualifier in my category (awarded to top two entries per category per state) Letters of Recommendation Counselor: 7-8/10 \u2013 He knows and likes me. I\u2019m in his office often and we have a relaxed rapport. His letter of recommendation emphasized that I was interested in the intersection of service and STEM. IB/AP Calc Math Teacher: 8/10 \u2013 He has had me for 3 years now (between AP and IB classes) and knows me well. His letter spent some time discussing concrete ways in which I have helped others in his class (for instance, holding AP Calc review sessions for other students). IB English Teacher: 8/10 \u2013 It\u2019s worth noting that I consistently tend to score in the top 10% of students in her class on all important projects/assessments because this proves that she has found my writing to be of better quality than most other students. Her letter was similar to Math Teacher in that she has had me for multiple years and her letter detailed information about how I helped other students in her classes by clarifying classwork, reviewing essay, etc. Interviews Princeton \u2013 6/10. This was my first

one; It was quick, and the conversation was surface level. Not terrible or anything; just not amazing. Harvard \u2013 8/10. Connected well with interviewer, and she seemed interested in my extracurriculars (especially the Ugly Food Donation App \u2013 the fourth extracurricular) Stanford \u2013 8/10. Chill guy; we spent a lot of time talking about what I would want to do on campus at Stanford if I got in rather than the extracurriculars I had done in the past. Rice \u2013 9/10. I knew the guy\u2019s son because he worked with me at the nonprofit. We spent a lot of time talking about socioeconomic equality in education. Duke \u2013 6/10. By far the most intellectually stimulating conversation. My interviewer\u2019s parents were sociologists, so we had plenty to talk about. However, the guy seemed like he was in a hurry (I think he was working, but idk really). Yale \u2013 No interview; bad sign Penn \u2013 No interview; bad sign Cornell \u2013 No interview; Cornell interviewed nobody from my region, as far as I know. However, I don\u2019t think this was necessarily a bad sign or anything because they stress that their interviews don\u2019t matter and a couple people did get in without interviews. Essays Common App seemed good, from what I can tell. I had a few people (family friends, like professors and other students) look over it. It is about a conversation I had with my little brother about our favorite superpowers when we were little. I used our choices as metaphors for our personalities; mine being timid and his being outgoing. The rest of the essay was centered around how I grew to become more confident and display leader-like qualities. Princeton and Yale supplementals sucked because they were the first few I worked on. Northwestern supplementals also could\u2019ve been better because I added it last minute. Otherwise, essay quality seemed solid. I followed College Essay Guy\u2019s tips on how to write each supplemental. I will note that the time spent working on supplementals and the results had virtually no correlation. Moreover, I only had my mom look over them. Not sure how I could numerically rate essay quality, tbh. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) 20 Schools: 4 Acceptances, 3 Waitlists, 13 Rejections Acceptances: Emory (both Atlanta and Oxford Campuses) RD - Major: Quantitative Sciences, which is basically Data Science Rejected from Woodruff Scholarship (Full Ride) at both campuses Not very affordable for my family UNC Chapel Hill RD (Out of state) \u2013 Major: Statistics and Analytics I applied to this mostly because of the Robertson Scholarship, which I didn\u2019t get. University of South Florida (Out of state) \u2013 Major: Biomedical Sciences Full ride for National Merit Scholarship, eligible for 7-year BS/MD program (however, the MCAT requirement is insane). T100 Instate school \u2013 Major: Applied Mathematics Near full ride (based on grades and course rigour) Waitlists (I\u2019m going to remain on all of these, in case one of them comes through and ends up being affordable; However, EFC indicates that all of them are going to cost as much as Emory, so I am not too hopeful here): Columbia \u2013 Major: Statistics Vanderbilt \u2013 Major: Math Rice \u2013 Major: Social Policy Analysis (Sociology + Statistics, essentially) Rejections: Yale REA UChicago ED2 (This one really hurt; I tried to be as quirky as I could on my



essays here and genuinely had so much fun writing them. EFC was also by far the cheapest of every school, so I could've easily afforded this place had I gotten in.) Brown RD Caltech RD Cornell RD Duke RD Harvard RD Johns Hopkins RD Northwestern RD Princeton RD Stanford RD Swarthmore RD Penn RD (This one also stung; I thought the PennApps attendance would help here. I wanted to ED1 here but concerns over finances stopped me.) Additional Information/Reflections: Not sure what I should've done better really, in terms of building a Curricular/Extracurricular profile. I guess I kinda wish I had done research and published somewhere. While it is by no means a requirement, I feel like a lot of high schoolers (at least in my area) are starting to do it now. Furthermore, I feel like the Emory acceptance and the multiple waitlists proves that my essays were good and taken seriously by the admissions officers reading my application. Finally, I wish I had applied to some slightly lower ranked schools (i.e. Boston University) for the potential of receiving merit aid. Feel free to leave any thoughts below (whether it be on my profile, school list, or anything else)."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: California Baptist University (Committed, Accepted Pre-Med, Trustee's Scholarship - \$17,000) Point Loma Nazarene University (Provost Scholarship - \$14,000) California Lutheran University (Public Price Promise - \$32,500) Vanguard University (Provost Scholarship - \$21,000) UC Merced (Did Not Apply)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: California Income Bracket: \$60K - \$80K Type of School: Small Independent High School (Independent Study/Graduating Class Has 12 Seniors) Hooks: First-Gen Intended Major(s) : Health Science (Pre-Medicine), Biology, Human Biology Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.84/4.33 Rank (or percentile): Either Valedictorian or Salutatorian (Waiting For Announcement) of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Honors=5, AP= 10 Senior Year Course Load: AP US Gov/AP Macroeconomics, AP Literature, AP Spanish, AP Statistics, AP Physics, Leadership (ASB), Adv Theater Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1320 (670RW, 650M) PSAT: 1190 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Associated Student Body - Vice President 2 National Honor Society - President 3 Work - EMS/Boat Patrol On Lake (8-30 Hours A Week) 4 Theater - Lead Roles (Involved For 13 Years) 5 Student Cite Council - President (Work With Pricinpal & Teachers On School Goals And Budget) 6 Volunteer At Church & Library (4 Hours A Week) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 1 Dr. Cindy Kudlik Scholarship For Musical Theater Excellence 2 Excellent Service For The 2023 Season (Work) Letters of

Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) English Teacher (10/10) -Super close with her Essays ( I reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of your main personal statement.) Honestly, the Common App essay was weak; I was so stumped in writing about myself. But I did a great job on the essay for the college I wanted to attend. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: California Baptist University (Committed, Accepted Pre-Med, Trustee's Scholarship - \$17,000) Point Loma Nazarene University (Provost Scholarship - \$14,000) California Lutheran University (Public Price Promise - \$32,500) Vanguard University (Provost Scholarship - \$21,000) UC Merced (Did Not Apply) Rejections: UC Los Angeles University of Southern California UC Irvine Additional Information: So happy. CBU is going to be sick. I was definitely stressed out for nothing. FAFSA sucks though."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): UC Berkeley (Committed) Cornell University of Southern California (Got in EA) Wesleyan University UC Santa Barbara Vanderbilt (deferred ED2 and then accepted) Georgetown University Emory Washington University Saint Louis",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Indian Residence: California Hooks: Not really exceptional at anything Intended Major(s) : History, Rhetoric, and/or Pre-Law Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 3.98 unweighted, 4.6 Weighted of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 8 Honors, 8 APs Senior Year Course Load: Health, Ap Gov+ Ap Macro, Ap Bio, AVID Tutor, Philosophy in Literature, AP Calc AB Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 1560 SAT AP/IB: 4 AP physics, 4 AP comp, 3 AP Euro, 4 US History Extracurriculars/Activities: -Rowing for 5 years 2.5 hours a day every day but Sunday (Not good enough to be recruited, but a lot of my time) -Debate - Treasurer for a couple school clubs -Piano -Volunteer tutor for school -Camp counselor for unhoused children summer camp Awards/Honors: Couple of rowing awards and top ten for a creative writing short story competition Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) HISTORY: Wrote about my love for history 8/10 WATER: Wrote about my love for nature, the outdoors, and rowing 7/10 TEACHING: Wrote about my passion for teaching/tutoring kids from all different walks of life 9/10 UPBRINGING: Wrote about my experience growing up as a very westernized Indian with very eccentric parents, not really feeling like I fit in with \"traditional\" Americans or other Indians I knew. 8/10 Letters of Recommendation: Math teacher and History Teacher Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (list here): UC Berkeley (Committed) Cornell University of Southern California (Got in EA) Wesleyan University UC Santa Barbara

Vanderbilt (deferred ED2 and then accepted) Georgetown University Emory Washington University Saint Louis Waitlists: (list here) University of Michigan UC Irvine UC San Diego Pomona Bowdoin CMU Rejections: (list here) Yale Duke Northwestern (Deferred ED1 and then rejected) Williams Princeton UPenn Stanford Harvard Columbia Amherst Brown"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Point Park University (~25k/yr) Norwich University (~35k/yr) Virginia Military Institute (~40k/yr) Penn State University (main campus) (~35k/yr) Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (likely accepting) (~35k/yr) Drexel University (~60k/yr)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Western PA (a bit outside Pittsburgh) Income Bracket: \$100-120k Type of School: Small-medium public school (~175 graduating class) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Chemistry Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.96/4.22 Rank (or percentile): Top 15% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 APs, 2 DEs, plenty of honors courses Senior Year Course Load: Dual Enr. Physics I & II, AP CSP, AP Calc BC, AP Gov, Hon. English 12, Music Theory & Comp., Band Standardized Testing SAT I: 1470 (740RW, 730M) ACT: 35 (35E, 31M, 36R, 36S) AP/IB: Chem (5), Calc AB (5), Lang&Comp (4) Extracurriculars/Activities #1: Indoor drumline - huge time commitment (20+ hours per week), held small leadership roles 2 years in a row, participated for three years (not school-affiliated) #2: High School Marching Band - 15-20 hours per week, was a section leader my junior year, won Silver my junior year, held other leadership, organization, volunteering etc. roles #3: Mens' Varsity Swimming - 2x varsity letters, ~15 hrs/wk #4: Student Council - held a leadership position during my senior year #5: Naval Academy Summer Seminar - participated in my rising sr. year summer, won Iron Company #6: HS Science department - volunteered to help chemistry teacher with lab setup, etc., ~5 hrs/wk #7: Work @ McDonald's - was never a manager, worked ~10 hrs/wk #8: HS Math League - was intramural top scorer in my soph. & jr. years, didn't participate my sr. year Awards/Honors: #1: AP Scholar #2: Student of the Month #3: French NHS Inductee #4: National Merit Scholarship Commended Student Letters of Recommendation Letters were all from teachers I knew closely - I saw each of them and they were all very positive & well written Interviews USNA - had four interviews (BGO, Representative, 2 Senators); BGO, Rep., and Sen. 1 interview all went well, Sen. 2 interview was horrible Essays My essay(s) were all pretty mid, just talked about my past experiences with music and tried to apply it to my success as a student Decisions (all decisions except USCGA are RD or rolling) Acceptances: Point Park University

(~25k/yr) Norwich University (~35k/yr) Virginia Military Institute (~40k/yr) Penn State University (main campus) (~35k/yr) Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (likely accepting) (~35k/yr) Drexel University (~60k/yr) Waitlists: United States Coast Guard Academy (deferred EA, waitlisted RD) University of Pittsburgh (got taken off the waitlist!) Carnegie Mellon University Rejections: United States Naval Academy (applied super early, didn't hear till mid-April; also I had a congressional nomination from my representative) University of Notre Dame Additional Information: While I got more acceptances than other news, my top 4 choices by far were Pitt, CMU, USCGA and USNA, which were all waitlists or rejections. Pretty bummed about it but I'm looking forward to my time at RHIT. Getting waitlisted from Pitt particularly sucked because I may be average or below average by r/A2C or r/collegeresults standards, but I was constantly told that I'm one of the smartest kids to ever attend my school for my whole life, and half the people I talked to thought I had a good chance at CMU and USNA, let alone Pitt Also for the two service academies, it may be worth noting that I was disqualified by DoDMERB for very mild eczema and I would have needed a waiver (lowkey bullshit but whatever)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): University of Florida Stanford(Committed) Additional Information: Would be happy to discuss and give more information to those who are curious.",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic (Mexican)  
 \*Income Bracket: ~30k Residence: Florida, US Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First Gen, Low-income, (perhaps rural?) Intended Major(s) : Aerospace/Astronautics engineering Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.55W/3.96UW Ranked 1/296 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 APs, 10 Dual Enrollment courses, rest were honors/grad requirements Senior Year Course Load: AP Eng Lit AP Macro AP Bio AP Calc AB AP US Gov Intro to div (Dual Enrollment) Intro to Philosophy (Dual enrollment) Intro to Edu (Dual Enrollment) College Success 101 (Dual enrollment) Leadership Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1490 (730EBRW/760M) AP: Received 4s on every single one of my AP exams lmao (APHuG, AP Chem, APES, APUSH, AP Spanish lang) Extracurriculars/Activities: (list here) 1.Chess and Soccer coach for migrant children in my area + otherwise underprivileged youth 2.Senior Class president, president of NHS, President of Spanish HS 3.Competitive Powerlifter (USAPL Nationals qualifier) 4.Varsity Weightlifting Captain (FHSA States Qualifier) 5.Varsity Soccer (FHSA States Qualifier) 6.Varsity Track+Field throwing Captain (FHSA Regional Qualifier) 8.Varsity Cross Country (lmao 2019m mid lmao) 9.Academic Team Captain 10. 600+ community

service hours Awards/Honors: No meaningful awards/honors, I'm a pretty average student compared to the rest of the kids on this sub Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) Essay: Reflected about my life growing up as a super low-income child to immigrant parents, working heavy physical labor jobs from a very young age, and dealing with an extremely toxic and broken household. LOR 1 - My Chem/AP Chem/ Leadership teacher. I was the only one (out of 15) to pass the AP Chem exam that year. Very good LOR in my opinion, she let me read it all once she submit it. LOR 2 - My sponsor in founding the Chess and Soccer club, she also just recently graduated from the school I was accepted into, and was nationally known for her valedictorian speech from the same HS I'm graduating from. Getting into a school like we did is an extremely rare case, we've never had a student get into an Ivy EVER, and very few (if any) T50s since the school was founded in the 1920s . Never read the letter, but I'm assuming it was very well written Schools I applied to: Results: MIT Duke Harvard CalTech UIUC USC Princeton Carnegie Mellon University of Florida UPenn Johns Hopkins UMichigan Stanford UC Berkeley Rejections: (list here) MIT Duke CalTech UIUC USC Princeton UPenn Johns Hopkins UMichigan UC Berkeley Waitlists: (list here) Carnegie Mellon Harvard Acceptances: (list here): University of Florida Stanford(Committed) Additional Information: Would be happy to discuss and give more information to those who are curious."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: MIT Duke University (Likely letter, then accept) Georgia Tech (CS, OOS) Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Deferred, Accepted, then committed) Cooper Union North Carolina State University Northeastern University Rochester Institute of Technology Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Clarkson (Clarkson Ignite Presidential Fellowship program, full ride scholarship) 7 Random Schools",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male (Occasionally presenting female) Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Southeastern US Income Bracket :[Removed for privacy] Type of School: \"Independent\" School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): [Removed for privacy] Intended Major(s) : Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Urban Planning with CS (MIT) Academics GPA (UW/W): None (school uses a mastery based transcript) Rank (or percentile): None Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: Chem, Calc BC, CS A, Lang, Statistics (All exam only) Senior Year Course Load: Calculus (1-3 compacted), Statistics, Humanities class and Chem Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1600 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Reverse-

engineered games, discovered flaws, bugs, and exploits, implemented proofs, and reported issues to Valve, Mojang, Riot Games and more Published ML sleep stage classification research in a reputable journal (first and only author). Solved problems of community outreach, aging customers and public safety through building a community center, social media campaigns and radio PSAs (Duke University). Led green initiatives including a solar trailer (3KW peak output), lead acid battery recycling & power over ethernet lights (90% watt reduction) (Oil Company) Led a community (5.8M+) dedicated to video game exploitation & reverse engineering + contributed new ideas like homemade direct memory access FPGAs. (Internet forum) Maintained existing features, prototyped, tested, and implemented new features based on community feedback, game updates, and competitor offerings. (Well known minecraft cheat) Worked on personal projects, self-taught driver development, reverse engineering, and some programming languages (C, Rust, PHP, Java and more) Engaged in a 5-week, 24/7 high school credit immersion camp, participating in classes and daily activities conducted exclusively in German. Developed, maintained and documented the Lua API, which was used by 14k+ users to implement their own features and automate functionality. (Known B2B service provider) Cycled daily, exploring my neighborhood, local trails, and occasionally covering over 20 miles to commute to school and back. (I included this mainly for what do you do for fun essays) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 1-4. National Hackathons 5. Professional Certifications (CCNA and Sec+), while not a traditionally an award definitely stood out Letters of Recommendation I haven't read any of my letters of rec, I've known all of my LOR writers for 3-4 years and two of them told me that they clicked the \"one of the best students I've ever worked with\" option on the common app. Interviews MIT - Went well, but my interviewer recommended me to a different school (that was really unhinged). Essays I'd describe myself as a fairly skilled writer compared to the average HS senior, but most of my essays were written on their deadlines and definitely fell on the eccentric side of things. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: MIT Duke University (Likely letter, then accept) Georgia Tech (CS, OOS) Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Deferred, Accepted, then committed) Cooper Union North Carolina State University Northeastern University Rochester Institute of Technology Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Clarkson (Clarkson Ignite Presidential Fellowship program, full ride scholarship) 7 Random Schools Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon Rejections: Colorado School of Mines (was rejected EA due to missing required coursework, but got in through an alternative pathway) Olin College of Engineering (top choice) Harvey Mudd Arizona State University and All UCs (would not accept my transcript)\"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Stevens Institute of Technology (+\$33k/yr, scholars program) EA University of Maryland (+\$2k/yr) EA Rutgers University New Brunswick (SAS honors program-not honors college.) EA Duke Kunshan University (+\$25k/yr) RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: NJ Income Bracket: ~200k Type of School: non-competitive, religious private school Hooks: none Intended Major(s) : Computer Science Academics \*School doesn't rank, and only allows juniors and seniors to take APs. I filled my schedule with art classes instead of harder math classes in grades 9 & 10. GPA (UW/W): 96.23/98.56W Rank (or percentile): top 5% Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 5 APs, 13 Honors Senior Year Course Load: AP- Physics C Mech, Calc AB, CSP. Honors- Spanish, English, Religion, Data Science. Standardized Testing SAT: 1540 (760RW, 780M) AP/IB: AP Chem (5), AP Lang (4) Extracurriculars/Activities Cybersecurity Club (4 yrs), team captain (3 yrs) Math League (4 yrs), president (1 yr) High school STEM/History tutoring (2 yrs) Cybersec course (1 yr) Art Club (4 yrs) Volleyball (1 yr) Church service Various community service Programming (2 yrs) Family responsibilities Awards/Honors \*#6-9 were listed in additional info section or updates CS-related award and scholarship Cybersec cert \$20k high school tuition scholarship National Merit Commended Student National Honor Society (2 yrs), NHS Spanish (1 yr) Math League award National Spanish Exam award Various school awards National level CS award Letters of Recommendation AP Chem teacher, club advisor - 8.5/10. Had him for 3 yrs; out of 30 students, only me and 2 others scored 5 on AP exam. Also made significant contributions to club. AP Lang teacher - 7/10. Solid relationship and I got the highest grade in his class. Counselor - 8/10. Thought we weren't close but she recently wrote me a very sweet and personal letter. Told me she was shocked about my rejections (spoiler alert). Interviews Princeton: 5/10. 1st interview. I was a mess, but he was nice and sent me a book in the mail 3 weeks later. Penn: 7/10. Got to talk about my other accomplishments like weight loss and sim racing. Many compliments. MIT: 4.5/10. Interviewer happened to be an expert in all my interests. Bonded over F1 but he grilled me over CS and data science stuff. Duke Kunshan: 3/10. Way past interviewing season and I just wasn't ready. Gave one word answers to many questions. Essays Common app: 5.5/10. Maybe worse. Wrote about being introverted and tried to sound empowering. Made analogy between myself in a videogame and myself irl. Imao. Some people who reviewed it liked it, while others thought it sounded negative. Also an essay review service person helped edit/suggest changes. All agreed that the writing quality was good. Probably could've found a better topic though. Decisions Acceptances: Stevens Institute of Technology (+\$33k/yr, scholars program) EA University of Maryland (+\$2k/yr) EA Rutgers University New Brunswick (SAS honors program-not honors college.) EA Duke Kunshan University (+\$25k/yr) RD Waitlists: Villanova University deferred EA --> waitlisted RD Carnegie Mellon University RD Rejections: University of Virginia EA Northeastern University RD

Massachusetts Institute of Technology RD Cornell University RD University of Pennsylvania RD Princeton University RD Duke University RD My unsolicited final thoughts It was a good experience visiting and applying to all of these great schools, but I wish I had someone to keep me grounded. Originally I was only applying to two top colleges, and my list was full of 'match' schools that I knew I could get into and loved (and more importantly, that my family could afford). However, my parents wanted me to shoot way higher, and thus this monstrosity of a list was born. Over the application season, my friends, teachers, and counselor continually fed into my delusions that maybe I could get into these crazy, single-digit acceptance rate schools. At some point, I learned I had the highest SAT score in the school and my ego just went through the roof. Come March 28, the rejections hurt, but it's obvious now that I was never T20 material. My principal has been asking me in passing about my decisions. He told me sometime back that he could really see me at Cornell, and thinks I have what it takes to get in. I don't have the heart to tell him about my results. Being an NJ resident, it sucks to see all the stellar public school students getting into selective schools, meanwhile, in my private school, no one's gotten into a T20 in four years. I've wasted my parents' time and money for what? These few acceptances are good, but everything is a tad too expensive. I wish I could go back in time and punch myself for giving in to what others thought would be right for me. I'm really not happy with my options, or my major. I don't have any passions. I wish I worked harder, was more outgoing, had more impactful ECs, etc. etc. But it's too late. Sorry for the entitlement and whining, I just had to let it all out :D"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Rutgers (public health) Fordham (environmental science) \$12.5k/year, \$ GRANT Temple (health professions), \$20k/year Seton Hall (health sciences) \$25.5k/year NJIT (environmental science) University of Rochester (epidemiology) Lehigh (population/global health) \$15k/year, \$\$ GRANT Overall I was expecting a lot MORE rejections but all my waitlists are driving me CRAZZYYY! I'm so glad this entire process has come to an end b/c I finally committed to LEHIGH UNIVERSITY!! GO MOUNTAIN HAWKS '28 p.s. any lehigh'28 commits pls reach out to me i would love to talk!",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Income Bracket: <\$70k School Type: Magnet Public Hooks: \"Low-income??\", LGBT+ Intended Major: Public Health (health sci/env sci for schools without public health) Academics: 94/100 UW GPA, NO RANK, All honors, 1 AP (Calculus AB) - most I could take Standardized Testing: SAT: 1380 (710M, 670R), only submitted to schools above a 40% acceptance rate ECS (in order from most to least important): marching band drill captain, yearbook



club editor, docent/tour guide for a cultural center, part-time restaurant job, LGBT/Diversity club officer, winter-guard member, cultural dance member/choreographer, participated in a community play, morning announcements technician Awards/Honors Spanish National Honor Society (that's it... \ud83d\ude2d) Essays Talked about how my interest in Google Maps led to an appreciation of my own culture, the world around me, and the field of public health. Lowkey was kinda cheesy but I spent almost a month working on it and I received pretty good compliments on it For my supplementals, I basically copy-pasted a diversity prompt mentioning my family situation as of right now to half my schools and elaborated on my interests in smaller supplementals! Decisions: Rejections: NYU - was sad about this for like 1 minute lol ( global health/psych) Colgate (environmental science) Skidmore (health sciences) Waitlists (i was so shocked with all of this): Northeastern (public health) Boston U (behavior & health) Vassar (environmental science) Case Western ( biology) Franklin & Marshall (public health) Connecticut College (biology) Syracuse (public health) Acceptances: Rutgers (public health) Fordham (environmental science) \$12.5k/year, \$ GRANT Temple (health professions), \$20k/year Seton Hall (health sciences) \$25.5k/year NJIT (environmental science) University of Rochester (epidemiology) Lehigh (population/global health) \$15k/year, \$\$ GRANT Overall I was expecting a lot MORE rejections but all my waitlists are driving me CRAZZYYY! I'm so glad this entire process has come to an end b/c I finally committed to LEHIGH UNIVERSITY!! GO MOUNTAIN HAWKS '28 p.s. any lehigh'28 commits pls reach out to me i would love to talk!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UIUC (EA) UW Madison (EA, Deferred) UCI UCSC UCR UCM CSULB CSU Fresno CSUF CSUN UTD (National Merit Scholarship)",

"answer": "A: was rlly lazy in 9th and 10th grade (6 B's and a C) and had 0 ecs during that time mostly cuz of Covid and stuff. Managed to turn it around junior year by spamming AP classes to try and raise my GPA. Right now im still deciding between colleges so advice there would be helpful. Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: South Asian Residence: CA Income Bracket: 150k Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): mostly Physics, did Comp Sci and Mech E at safeties Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.78 / 4.37 (rlly big upward slope from 9th to 12th) Rank (or percentile): 117 / 507 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 14 APs (vast majority in 11th and 12th) Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC AP Physics C AP CSA AP Lit AP Econ AP Gov (like i said spamming APs) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that

were reported. SAT: 1550 (780 M, 770 EBRW) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.):

Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1: Member of School Speaking Club (1hr per week) #2: Speech and Debate (4hr per week) #3: Personal Coding Projects (8 hrs per week) #4: Officer of Economics Club (1hr per week) #5: Teacher at Summer Camp (15 hrs per week) #6: Member of Robotics Club (3 hrs per week) #7: Teacher at Math Club (1hr per week) #8: Volunteer at Food Pantry (8 hrs per week) #9: Creative Writing (2 hrs per week) #10: Tutor at Math Club (1 hr per week)

Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1: AP Scholar with Distinction #2: National Merit Semifinalist Letters of Recommendation

Physics Teacher - idk this one was pretty okay I think. I had him for AP Physics 1 and C so I think he knew me decently well. Class size was also very small so I think that helped (only 1 period) 5/10 History Teacher - this one was rly bad (she thought i was someone else when i asked her) only really did this because i needed a non-stem one and the other teachers were already busy with other LORs 2/10 Essays This was one of the better parts of my app I think. Some of them look bad in hindsight but the majority were pretty good. Overall, i think i did a pretty good job at showing my interest in Physics and some of my extracurricular stuff. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) I had way too many safeties that I probably didn't need to apply too. In hindsight I wish i tried for some more schools in RD but its good Acceptances: UIUC (EA) UW Madison (EA, Deferred) UCI UCSC UCR UCM CSULB CSU Fresno CSUF CSUN UTD (National Merit Scholarship) Waitlists: UCSD UCSB Cal Poly Pomona Rejections: Harvey Mudd (ED) UChicago (EA) UMich (EA, deferred) Purdue (EA, deferred) UCD UCLA UCB USC (RD) GaTech (RD) Cal Poly SLO Overall I wish i put in more effort earlier on in high school, especially seeing some of the other posts on here. In the end though I'm pretty satisfied with my results. I mostly got lucky with UIUC and UCI so I'm deciding between either one for Physics. I know that Grainger should be better for my major, but the cost is pretty high (Near full price for both) Advice would be helpful ig."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Binghamton (EA) Stony Brook (EA) (Presidential) University at Buffalo (EA) (Honors College) City College (RD) Purdue (EA) (Honors College) Johns Hopkins (RD) Carnegie Mellon (RD) UPenn (RD) Princeton (RD) Columbia (RD) (Likely Letter and Davis Scholars) NYU (RD) University of Rochester (RD) (Bausch + Lomb Scholarship)",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Native American Residence: New York Income Bracket: ~110k Type of School: Predominantly

Minority Public School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First Gen, URM Intended Major(s): Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering  
Academics: GPA (UW/W): 97.682/108.316 Unweighted/Weighted Rank (or percentile): 1/481 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Physics C: Mechanics, AP Physics C: E&M, AP Gov, AP Stats, Honors English  
Standardized Testing: SAT: 1380 (650RW, 730M) Went Test-Optional for the higher ranked schools. AP/IB: AP Chem (5), AP World (4), AP Physics 1 (5), AP Physics 2 (5), AP Calc AB (5), AP US History (4), AP Lang (4) Extracurriculars/Activities: Mathletes (Vice President) 4 years Future Problem Solvers (Coleader) 3 years Research on DART Mission and Regeneron Science Fair 1 Year Science Olympiad 3 years National Honors Society (Vice President) 2 years Track and Field 2 years TRI-M (Music Honor Society) (Secretary)- Around 25 hours of service Family Responsibilities- Helped work at small Dry Cleaner business and helped office cleaning business (4 years) All County Orchestra + LISFA 1 Year Robotics High Altitude Balloon Project 1 Year (Elaborated on along with the DART Mission Research in the additional info section) Awards/Honors: New York American Chemical Society (NYACS) award for outstanding academic achievement in High School (10th grade) 2023 New York Future Problem Solving 2nd place award- Senior Division (11th grade) Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Award (11th grade) Saint Michaels College Book Award for Academic Achievement and Social Conscience (11th grade) Mathletes Award for Top 30% placement in county (11th grade) Letters of Recommendation : Honors Algebra II and Mathletes Teacher (9/10): Probably the best teacher relationship I have. I had actively participated in his class and Mathletes club even during the fallout of COVID. Director of Science of High School (9/10): Having worked with him starting my Sophomore year on various projects, including a High Altitude Balloon project and research on the results of the DART mission meant that he had a lot to say about me. He is also a Columbia Alumni which definitely helped contribute to my results. 9H English Teacher and Future Problem Solvers Coach (7/10): Didn't know her as well as my STEM teachers but was the best humanities recommendation I could get. Interviews UoR (7/10): Pretty standard and didn't make a good impression with the broken camera I had lol. Princeton (9/10): I emphasized my research with the Director of Science of my school leading to our discussion on our favorite moments in research. We also connected on how we wanted to find a group that supports us while in college. I'm not sure how common it is, but she even emailed me after my acceptance congratulating me which was nice. Essays Main personal statement was on how my love and knowledge on Viola performance contributed to the characteristics I developed through high school leading to my greatest accomplishments. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Binghamton (EA) Stony Brook (EA) (Presidential) University at Buffalo (EA) (Honors College) City College (RD) Purdue (EA) (Honors College) Johns Hopkins (RD) Carnegie Mellon (RD) UPenn (RD) Princeton (RD) Columbia (RD) (Likely Letter and Davis

Scholars) NYU (RD) University of Rochester (RD) (Bausch + Lomb Scholarship)  
Waitlists: None Rejections: Cornell (RD) Macaulay Honors College (RD) Thoughts: I feel extremely lucky to have landed the schools I did. I believe the essays were what made me stand out as a candidate as they were carefully reviewed with the help of a college counselor. I'm still deciding between Columbia for their Davis Scholars program and Princeton. I'm leaning more toward Princeton though for the beautiful campus, prestigious name, and reasonable distance from home allowing me to become independent while still being able to visit home."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Yale (SCEA) Harvard (RD) UMich (Ross) (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) UVA + Echols Scholar (EA) UC Berkeley (Haas) (EA) UCLA (EA) UC Davis (EA) UC Irvine (EA) UC San Diego (EA) UC Santa Barbara (EA)",

"answer": "A: I'm posting this on a new account because my ECs may be too specific to me  
Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Income Bracket: 200kish Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Economics/Applied Math Academics GPA (UW/W): 100/100 Weighted. My school reports a little weirdly lol Rank (or percentile): School doesn't rank Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 14 APs, the rest honors. Additionally, I've taken Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, and Differential Equations through my school's independent study program. Standardized Testing SAT: 1590 (790R, 800M) AP/IB: So far everything was a 5 except for Micro (my major) Extracurriculars/Activities My mom and I started a charcuterie board business in the summer of my sophomore year. We cater events, and hold workshops for the community to teach people how to make a charcuterie board. Together, we've made 150k+ in revenue, and raised ~30k for senior homes, women's shelters, and a local cancer charity. DECA, where I am a team captain Speech and Debate, where I compete in a variety of Speech Events Poetry Out Loud, a national poetry recitation competition I've written a ton of articles about a specific modern philosopher, and some of them have been published in his journal Ethics Bowl I've played piano for 13 years Lifeguarded during my summers from Freshman-Junior Year I worked at a Starbucks last summer Tutor Awards/Honors Top 5 at the National Speech and Debate Tournament Top 5 at the International Career Development Conference (DECA Worlds) National Semifinalist at the Poetry Out Loud Finals, State Champion, Regional Champion Top 3 at the Yale Debate Invitational National Merit Semifinalist (Now Scholar), AP Scholar with Distinction Essays My parents are split, where I see my father only on the weekends and live with my mother

throughout the week. I wrote my personal statement about how whenever I choose to compete at a tournament, I give up a piece of the very little time I have to spend with my father. Tied it into the myth of Icarus, and the fear of getting burnt from \u201cflying too high\u201d. Because my personal statement was pretty serious and sentimental, all of my supps were pretty silly. I wrote my academic interest supp about how my family would scam me in Monopoly, my community essay about my failed SoundCloud rap career, and my Why Yale/Harvard were LITERALLY \u201cX school is silly\u201d LOR I got one from my Calc teacher from 10th grade, he\u2019s been my mentor and best friend since I\u2019ve had him My other was from my English teacher, who also coaches Speech and Debate as well as Poetry Out Loud Can\u2019t really score them\u2026 how would I know what they wrote? Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Yale (SCEA) Harvard (RD) UMich (Ross) (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) UVA + Echols Scholar (EA) UC Berkeley (Haas) (EA) UCLA (EA) UC Davis (EA) UC Irvine (EA) UC San Diego (EA) UC Santa Barbara (EA) Rejections: Princeton (RD) Imao Overall, I feel like I had a good application season. I\u2019m not really sure what stuck out about my application other than the essays. Currently, I\u2019m between Harvard and Yale, but leaning Yale because the community and campus are AWESOME. Congrats to everyone for making it through the year!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UC Irvine UC Davis UC Riverside UC Merced Cal Poly Pomona San Jose State \*Cal State San Marcos \*Long Beach \*Fullerton",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender:Female Race/Ethnicity: South Asian Income Bracket: arounddd 200kish Type of School: Fairly competitive Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None ( I technically AM first gen, but I didn\u2019t realize I\u2019d be considered such until after i submitted my apps \ud83d\udc80\ud83d\udc80\u2026 ) Intended Major(s) : (write here): I applied for biology/bioengineering everywhere Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.6/4.2W Uc gpa was a 3.9 \ud83d\ude2d\ud83d\ude2d Rank (or percentile): School doesn\u2019t rank, but I was not in the top 10% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 APs, the rest honors. Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc AB & BC, AP Stats, AP physics, AP Gov, AP Lit, Biomedical Interventions Honors, Medical intervention honors. Standardized Testing None AP/IB: So far everything was a 4 or 5 except for bio which was a 3, literally my major Imao Extracurriculars/Activities Member of CSF 60 Hours volunteering at local library 60+ hours volunteering at a religious center, made lesson plans, taught children new languages there, etc. 50+ Hours Volunteering at hospital Co-President+Founder of Psychology Club Secretary+Fundraising chair for HOSA Vice president of Women in

Stem club Secretary of Stem club Treasurer of American Future Medical Leaders Varsity Academic Team Some more I can't remember atm, but they were very minor. I listed taking care of my autistic brother as one though. Awards/Honors Hosa Bowl Bronze Medal ( State Level ) Ap Scholar with Honors 4.0W Certificate ( school ) Essays I wrote my PIQS on the day OF the application due date, I literally had to skip school to write them because I forgot LMAOO.. I doubt they were good, but I got a 5 on AP Lang so maybe they werent awful.. For my PIQS I chose the following prompts: Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time: Wrote about finding a common ground between my immigrant parents and brother who has autism, and how I realized leadership involved being able to understand a multitude of varying perspectives even if they're entirely different from yours. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?: Wrote about my Dad's heart surgery and how his negative experiences at the hospital made me interested in pursuing healthcare and prioritizing empathy. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom.: Wrote about Cultural Diversity, and how being a minority affected my views on healthcare What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?: Wrote about volunteering at the religious center and how I helped my students deal with self hatred stemming from being a minority. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UC Irvine UC Davis UC Riverside UC Merced Cal Poly Pomona San Jose State \*Cal State San Marcos \*Long Beach \*Fullerton Rejections: UCLA \*UCSB \*UCB \*UCSD</3333 \*SDSU \*Cal Poly Slo Overall I'm honestly super happy. I lived with a horribly abusive family for all of high school. They were convinced I wouldn't get in anywhere and I was so scared of having to live with them any longer. I had so many Bs and a couple Cs so I didn't think I'd get in anywhere but my safeties. I think its between Irvine and Riverside as of now."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo w/ Full Ride (committed) (EA) Livingstone College w/ Full Ride (EA) Dillard University w/ \$10k (EA) Howard University w/ \$20k (EA) Hampton University w/ \$7,500 (EA) Fisk University w/ \$12,500 (EA) Tuskegee University w/ \$10,000 (EA) Xavier University of Louisiana w/ \$14,000 (EA) Clark Atlanta (EA) Louisiana State University (RD) Jackson State University (EA) Grambling University (EA) Lincoln University (EA) Claflin University (EA) Paine College (RD)",

"answer": "A: I've wanted to go to an HBCU since I was a kid, so I'm super sad that I won't get the HBCU Experience, but I plan on pursuing my PH.D. so hopefully I can do that at Howard University??? Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: African-American Residence: California Income Bracket: 100k Type of School: Competitive Charter Intended Major(s) : Philosophy and Sociology Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.98/4.1 Rank (or percentile): 7/40 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 5 DE Credit Senior Year Course Load: Econ/Govt, Spanish 3, English 12, DE Philosophy, DE Statistics, Standardized Testing SAT/ACT - Test Optional because I scored poorly NWEA Testing - 93th percentile English, 91th percentile Math, 87th percentile Science Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. President of Associated Student Body Junior and Senior year (first in a couple years) 10/hr a week minimum Vice President Yearbook Club Junior and Senior year, 4/hr a week, left the club second semester senior year because of personal factors, however I still designed the cover and class of 2024 shirt Logic Club member Junior and Senior Year 3/hr a week President and founder of a gardening club sophomore year 5/hr a week Volunteer Tutor for students in my district, 4/hr a week since my freshman year Teachers Assistant in English, Spanish, and Algebra/Geometry, whenever needed (basically on call) Member of cooking club sophomore year, 3/hr a week Coding certificates in data encryption, personal protection, and python script to mod games from local State Uni Leadership program at local Black Chamber of Commerce, we designed a business plan that would provide housing for unhoused people in our area Awards Citizenship Awards x2 Student of the month award x2 Certificates of Excellence in ASB 2023, Spanish 2 & 3, English 11 Letters of Recommendation Math teacher - probably 7/10, we weren't close but I worked extremely hard in her class English teacher - 10/10, also my ASB teacher we are close and I've been exemplary Mother of a student I tutor - probably 6/10 she happens to be a teacher (never been taught by her), worked with her daughter for about a year Interviews Howard University for the Humanities and Social Sciences Program - 4/10, was super uncomfortable and absolutely didn't do my best Essays I feel like my essays were 8.5/10. I'm a great writer but I had a massive load of personal things going on that probably impacted my writing. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo w/ Full Ride (committed) (EA) Livingstone College w/ Full Ride (EA) Dillard University w/ \$10k (EA) Howard University w/ \$20k (EA) Hampton University w/ \$7,500 (EA) Fisk University w/ \$12,500 (EA) Tuskegee University w/ \$10,000 (EA) Xavier University of Louisiana w/ \$14,000 (EA) Clark Atlanta (EA) Louisiana State University (RD) Jackson State University (EA) Grambling University (EA) Lincoln University (EA) Claflin University (EA) Paine College (RD) Waitlists: North Carolina A&T (RD) Rejections: Spelman College (EA) - absolutely did not expect this rejection, Spelman was my #1 pick and I cried for days :) I only applied to HBCUs in the hope that I would get to go to one, but Cal Poly came through with the

money and I'm left basically without a choice but to go there. It'll be okay though, that's life."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Brown RD",

"answer": "A: Brown was my dream school but didn't expect these results  
Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: International (Asian) Residence: Kazakhstan Income Bracket: Below \$10k Type of School: Public (Vocational) Hooks: None Intended Major(s): International Affairs/Political Science/East Asian Studies Academics GPA (UW/W): 5.0/5.0 UW, 4.14 W during exchange year Rank (or percentile): N/A, 7/162 during exchange year # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Only 1 AP during exchange year (calc), my school doesn't offer any advanced classes Senior Year Course Load: Regular social science + comp sci classes Standardized Testing SAT I: 1520 (740RW, 780M) IELTS: 8.0 Extracurriculars/Activities #1 Speedcubing. Multiple national records, medals at nationals, asians. Opened the only speedcubing club in my town to teach kids how to solve twisty puzzles. Founded a team that specialized in organizing competitions around the country. (Time varies, generally at least 20 hours a week) #2 Organizing events at school as a student government member. (10 hours/w) #3 Track and field, 400m runner, team captain for 1 year. (10 hours/w) #4 Volunteering at the local American Corner (organizing events) (5 hours/w) #5 Work as a freelance translator (5 hours/w) #6 Playing Dombra (traditional instrument) (2 hours/w) #7 Choir, Bass singer (4 hours/w) don't do everything for the whole year, also have swim and soccer that I don't really do anymore Awards/Honors #1 FLEX Program - an exchange year in the United States fully funded by the U.S. Department of State. #2 National Japanese language contest #3 Language Olympiad (National) #4 Language Olympiad (Regional) #5 Entrepreneurship contest (Regional) Letters of Recommendation Counselor (8/10) Should be good and thorough. Math teacher (10/10) Literally my best friend, knows everything about me, did a lot of activities with them. The history teacher from the school in the States (9/10) Knows me extremely well. We didn't do much stuff outside the class, though. Interviews NO INTERVIEWS Essays Spent around a month on the essays. Trust me, I put in way more effort than I did for this post. My personal statement is about how my fascination with magnets on the fridge evolved into a passion for cultural exchange and promoting peace. Used easy metaphors and didn't use any fancy vocab, but still consider it one of the best pieces I've ever written. Decisions Acceptances: Brown RD Waitlists: Vassar RD Rejections: Amherst RD, Clark RD, Colby RD, Colgate RD, Colorado (Colorado Springs) ED, Dartmouth RD, Harvard RD, Yale RD, Stanford RD, University of



Pennsylvania RD, New York University RD, Lafayette RD, Wesleyan RD, Oberlin RD, Bennington RD, Williams RD Additional Information: Switched to ED for Colorado because I thought securing a spot at a college would be better than chasing dreams that may or may not become reality (still got rejected lmao) Glad it worked out in the end..."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Temple University (EA-got into Honors program, committed!!) University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (EA) UW-Milwaukee (EA) Western Michigan University (EA) Eastern Michigan University (EA) Xavier University (EA) University of Cincinnati (EA) Duquesne University (EA)",

"answer": "A: I feel like my stats are pretty basic but I was pleased with my results! Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Illinois Income Bracket: \$75-100k Type of School: Public School (kinda crappy school district) Intended Major(s) : Communications Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.88/4.45 Rank (or percentile): 38/640 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 APs (3 by Junior Year), Dual Credit English Senior Year, Honors classes Freshman/Sophomore year Senior Year Course Load: Decent amount of classes-3 APs (APHG, AP Stats, AP Macro)+Dual Credit English, Magnet Academy Media class Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1290 (690RW, 600M) ACT: 28 (31E, 25M, 28R, 25S) AP/IB: AP Calculus AB-3, AP European History-4, AP English Lang-4 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. President of a volunteering club Junior/Senior Year, organizing events and getting a ton of hours in Social Media Manager of the Environmental Club NHS member Part of Student Council, helping with many school wide events/activities Part of an Academy for Media/Digital Arts production, learning skills in Adobe Premiere/other programs Did Photography classes at school, learning new skills in Photoshop Letters of Recommendation Didn't get any Letters of Recommendation \ud83e\uddc4 just didn't really ask for them cuz I didn't need them for any apps lol Interviews N/A Essays I felt like my essay was a solid 8.5/10. I wrote about these bracelets that I wear and how they impact my life and what lessons they teach me. I talked to one admissions counselor and one of the schools I applied to and she said it was really good and she loved the concept! Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Temple University (EA-got into Honors program, committed!!) University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (EA) UW-Milwaukee (EA) Western Michigan University (EA) Eastern Michigan University (EA) Xavier University (EA) University of Cincinnati (EA) Duquesne University (EA) Waitlists: N/A

Rejections: Northeastern University (just applied for funzies, I think they rejected me mainly because I didn't have a letter of recommendation haha) I didn't apply to any super competitive schools (or any in state ones for that matter), but I'm glad I was able to get in to basically all of the schools I was considering, which gave me a lot of options!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: USA (Full Ride) UWF USF UCF (Provost Scholarship) UF UGA (Classical Scholarship)",

"answer": "A: College results of a decent student (at least I think) Going to try not to get doxxed. I'm only doing this cuz I used this sub when I was applying haha. Hopefully someone reads this and can learn something from it Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian / East African Residence: North Florida Income Bracket: \$60k Type of School: Lightly competitive but rural Hooks: what is a hook? Intended Major(s): ChemE, pre-med track Academics GPA: 3.81 UW / 4.86 W Percentile/Rank: Top 10%, 13/254 Number of AP/IB/Honors Classes: 8 AP, 4 IB HL, 2 IB SL, rest were honors classes SAT: 1490 (730R/760M) AP/IB Scores: A mix of 3's, 4's, and 5. 5's on the IB SL Exams. Extracurriculars/Activities Business generating 80k in revenue Helped organize and coordinate blood drives across my city HOSA (won awards, was an officer) FBLA (won awards) Key club (was an officer, did lots of service) Rest are just honors societies and stuff, I was an officer in my NHS and SNHS. also was helped take care of grandmother and played lacrosse all 4 years of HS Awards/Honors FBLA event - first place district - third place state - eight place nationals HOSA event - first place regionals Also put AP Scholar with Distinction Letters of Recommendation Chem Teacher- 8/10- Good relationship imo English Teacher - 6/10 - Decent relationship, prob nothin crazy Interviews Cornell - It was fine. Interviewer was nice, 7/10 Essays Common app essay about starting my business and what I learned. 7.5/10 in my opinion All my college specific essays were decent, but nothing crazy looking back at it Decisions (What you really want to see lol) Acceptances: USA (Full Ride) UWF USF UCF (Provost Scholarship) UF UGA (Classical Scholarship) Waitlists: UMiami NYU Rejections: UT Austin UNC Emory Vanderbilt Cornell UPenn Columbia Harvard Conditional Acceptance? Rejection?: Georgia Tech gave me guaranteed transfer after 1 year. Definitely gonna consider it as I work through my first year at college. Closing thoughts... I mean, at least I applied to the reaches. They proved they were definitely out of my reach, but its ok. Many people, myself included, always see this corny stuff in here: \"Goofy CS boy bags a T10\", and \"lucky girl with a dream gets into an ivy\" in this reddit. Congrats to them, but response biase is REAL. A majority of you are not going to get into your reaches. That is the truth, and it is completely ok. There are plenty of

stellar options for undergrad education. If you believe in yourself, apply! You never know what can happen. While I did get hard rejected from almost all of my reaches, I'm glad I gave it a shot :) Best of luck! P.S I'm posting under 1500+ flair. Let me have this one LOL!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Brandeis Clark (+15k/yr scholarship!!!) (was still more expensive than Penn State) Penn state + Committed! (got rejected from main, but still got into 2+2, feel that I applied too late to main)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: South American Latino Income Bracket: Enough to not seek financial aid Type of School: High end Private school Intended Major(s) : Business Management Academics GPA (UW/W): School doesn't use GPA Rank (or percentile): Top 30% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Full IB Diploma Standardized Testing SAT: 1350 (720RW, 630M) IB: 31 overall 4 HL Spanish A 6 HL English B 6 HL Business management 5 SL ITGS 5 SL Environmental 5 SL Math Applications and Interpretation \*TOEFL: 103 Extracurriculars/Activities (summarized bc they are long) 1. Tutor Voluntarily Offered lessons to classmates who needed it. 2. E-Commerce Brought High-Demand items and resold online 3. Community service Participated on cooking and distributing food to an elderly adults hospital routinely 4. Consultancy Did analysis of growth opportunities for a multinational company 5. Web Developer Developed a webpage for a craft brewery 6. Safeguard Team Member of a safeguard team that involved looking out for students' overall safety. 7. Online courses Took online courses on web development/programming. 8. Podcast host Hosted a podcast in which news were discussed. Awards/Honors Exceptional Effort in Business Management (school) Letters of Recommendation Business Teacher (8/10) Think it was definitely a good letter, had a good relationship and was the best at his class. Math teacher (7/10) I had to help translate the letter because the teacher only spoke spanish ¯\\_(ツ)\_/¯ Still I think it was great, I was the best at his class, always helped classmates (which is talked about on the letter). Counselor (6/10) Barely had any relationship with him, but I think he did a very good letter with the limited resources he had. \*No interviews Essays Had someone helping out with essays, so they were definitely better quality; Talked about my self improvement journey on the commonapp essay, how I started losing weight, hanging out with better people, getting better grades, and kinda finally having a purpose, doing more things,etc. Supplementals were also high quality, but I feel like my experiences weren't that unique/shocking (although still somewhat unique) Some were reused but definitely fitting for all prompts. Decisions RD for all Acceptances: Brandeis Clark

(+15k/yr scholarship!!!) (was still more expensive than Penn State) Penn state + Committed! (got rejected from main, but still got into 2+2, feel that I applied too late to main) Waitlists: Trinity University Rejections: University of Pennsylvania University of Notre Dame Rice \*NYU \*Georgia Tech \*University of Michigan, Ann arbor (this one hurt the most) \*Lehigh \*Boston College Additional Information: I put on the common app that my \u201dLow\u201d Sat was because my school didn\u2019t teach any SAT math, They probably didn\u2019t even read it. Final Thoughts I had higher expectations, but \u2019m still very happy with my results. Really excited for Penn State. Looking back, I feel like I needed a higher SAT, but at the same time my score was in the ranges (or very close to) of all the unis. What could\u2019ve been improved?"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UIUC EA Purdue RD Emory-Oxford RD Cal Poly Pomona UC Santa Cruz UC Riverside UC Davis UC Berkeley!! UCLA!!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: East Asian, Japanese Residence: California Income Bracket: 100k Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s) : Environmental Science Academics GPA (UW/W): At the time of applying 3.89 UW/4.32 W Rank (or percentile): N/A (average standing at school) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 APs including senior year, took max honor courses, and 3 dual enrollment classes Senior Year Course Load: 4 APs: Bio, Calc AB, Lit, Comp Sci Principles Standardized Testing I went test optional except for UIUC & Purdue, in hindset I regreted going test optional SAT I: 1450 AP/IB: 5s on AP Stats, HUG, Chinese, Lang, 4s on AP Chem, US Hist Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Science Nonprofit Culture Group President/Founder Art Club President Environmental Club President Robotics Club Vice President STEM Summer Research Program Civil Engineering Internship Personal Research w/high school Small Business Published research w/professors Other ec was sports, key club, sustainability camp, art competition awards etc. probably had combined 500+ hours of service For UCs I filled up all 20 spots on extracurriculars like I had to combine extracurriculars because there wasnt enough room Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Math Research Competition National Science Research Competition Local Robotics Competition World Science Testing Competition State Gold PVSA Letters of Recommendation Science Teacher (100/10) Knew me all 4 years of high school and I talk to them almost everyday, knew me through the thick and thin Statistics Teacher (9/10) Did research with them outside of class but not as closeish compared to science

teacher. US History Teacher (8/10) Only knew inside class overall typical student. Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Dartmouth: (10/10) Vibes so well, they were super young for an interviewer so had lots in common. I thought it went really well but i guess admissions think different Stanford: (9/10) Not too bad went pretty smoothly I dont have much to comment typical interview no red flags they seemed pretty excited about what I talked about Essays Even before decisions came out my essays that I was truly proud of was my UC PIQ and my Cornell essays they encompassed a lot of me and I put my soul into it. I started my UC PIQ in June also which is absolutely overkill but I got to refine it a lot leaving it for a couple weeks and coming back. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UIUC EA Purdue RD Emory-Oxford RD Cal Poly Pomona UC Santa Cruz UC Riverside UC Davis UC Berkeley!! UCLA!! Waitlists: Northeastern RD Emory RD UC Irvine UC San Diego UC Santa Barbara Cornell RD Rejections: USC EA deferred then rejected Caltech REA Harvard RD Columbia RD Dartmouth RD NYU RD WashU St Louis RD Brown RD Stanford RD Northwestern RD Overall I am so thankful with what the college application brought me and I have some amazing choices to choose from. I didn't think I would be getting into T-20 schools because my grades aren't 4.0 I definitely think my essays and extracurriculars filled up for my grades but I wanted to share my acceptances so any worried juniors know it's possible!! If anyone has any questions feel free to pm!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Case Western (EA) with \$30k/yr scholarship! Stony Brook (EA) with \$3k/yr scholarship! WPI (EA) with \$27k/yr scholarship! UW-Madison (EA) Tufts (RD) NYU (RD) UMich Engineering (deferred EA) BROWN!! (deferred ED) CORNELL ENGINEERING?? (RD) + rawlings cornell presidential research scholar",

"answer": "A: Demographics female asian (chinese + singaporean) east coast not seeking aid competitive private no hooks Intended Major: mechanical engineering (listed ee, physics, visual art as alternate/secondary interests) Academics 3.8 UW \ud83d\udc80 (i had multiple A-'s and a B+ in a class i got a rec letter from...) school doesn't rank my school has a weird system, but i took the highest possible amount of rigor! Senior Year Course Load: linear algebra, adv physics, middle eastern history, english, mandarin Standardized Testing ACT: 35 (36E, 36M, 35R, 33S) APs: BC Calc (5), CSA (5), Lit (5), APUSH (5) Extracurriculars/Activities co-captain of ftc robotics team (the team itself is kinda ass but i did a lot in terms of community engagement/stem education access) cs/physics research project (2 conference presentations, won a minor award, was published sort of) outreach coordinator at engineering/education access nonprofit co-founder & co-captain of debate team robotics research project

(literally just a literature review, published in high school journal) co-editor-in-chief of school art & literary magazine summer intern at data science company intern/research assistant at a T50 lab (helped with an ongoing robotics project) graphic design intern/volunteer at stem education nonprofit art lol Awards/Honors ncwit award (national) best paper award at conference (regional) some random ftc awards (regional) hackathon award (regional) various scholastic awards, including 4 gold keys (regional) various debate awards (this was in additional info) various piano awards (this was in additional info) Letters of Recommendation english teacher (7/10): i did not do super well in his class but he's the faculty advisor for my art and literary magazine so he kinda knows me & is a pretty good writer so it couldn't be that bad?? calc teacher (5/10): did well in the class but me asking her for a rec was my first conversation with her ever \ud83d\ude80 art teacher (8/10): had her for 3 years, knew me pretty well + is a very good writer counselor: i have no idea Interviews northwestern: 4/10, was my first interview & i was really underprepared princeton: 8/10, we vibed a lot, it lasted over an hour!! penn: 6/10, was normal yale: 2/10, i was 10 minutes late bc i got the address wrong \ud83d\ude80 duke: 5/10, she only asked me like 2 questions then spent the rest of it answering my questions harvard: 7/10, she works at a publishing company so she gave me an advance copy of a robotics book as a gift ^^ Essays i'd say my writing is pretty strong! i spent a ton of time revising, i wrote most of my essays over the summer, then redid a lot of stuff over winter break. i had two versions of my commonapp! i submitted the first one to all my early schools, it was about my experiences with leadership + community building working on my litmag. i submitted the second to all rd schools, i linked my childhood fascination with flying machines to my work in stem community engagement. i reused some supps but also changed them quite a lot between each schools. some of the main ones were about my interdisciplinary interests in art/engineering, singapore, my work on the engineering/education access nonprofit, multimedia art, videography, and sapiens. Supplemental Content i submitted an art portfolio + research portfolio to all schools that took them for my brown & washu videos i used the engineering design process to describe my life,, the subject was kinda cliché but i tried to use my videography/animation skills to make it creative RESULTS Acceptances: Case Western (EA) with \$30k/yr scholarship! Stony Brook (EA) with \$3k/yr scholarship! WPI (EA) with \$27k/yr scholarship! UW-Madison (EA) Tufts (RD) NYU (RD) UMich Engineering (deferred EA) BROWN!! (deferred ED) CORNELL ENGINEERING?? (RD) + rawlings cornell presidential research scholar Waitlists: Duke (RD) Carnegie Mellon (RD) Rice (RD) BU (RD) Rejections: Harvard (RD) Princeton (RD) Yale (RD) Penn (RD) Northwestern (RD) WashU (RD) Thoughts i had low expectations going into march because i was afraid my gpa/recs would be too weak for ivies/t20s but i'm really happy with how everything worked out!! my biggest piece of advice is to have a cohesive narrative. i used my essays to frame my ecs around the intersection of creativity, technology, and education access, which i think helped me

stand out among the sea of generic engineering applicants. if you have a broad academic interest, try to pair it with social impact in some way! i added cornell to my list super last minute (i think i applied the day before the deadline) so the acceptance was a huge surprise ... brown vs. cornell vs. umich eng is such a hard decision but feel free to share any insight/advice on what to choose ^^"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UNC Chapel Hill EA (7% OOS) U of Minnesota Twin Cities -- Honors (73%) CSULB (40%) Cal-poly pomona (55%) Cal State Dominguez Hills (89%) CSUB (85%) Arcadia Uni (66%) Drake Uni (68%) UCLA 9% UC Berkeley -- 9.3% UCSD -- 25% Denison -- 22% CWRU -- 27% Tulane Honors -- 11% Williams -- 3.75% Duke -- 4.1% Georgetown University -- 12% Saur that is like all and I was most surprised by my Georgetown acceptance because they are test required! If you have any questions like \"How?\" let me know!!!! Go Trojans!!!!",

"answer": "A: HI!!! I remember last time I posted here I was BERATED for my act score saur like I wont be putting it in this one :3 Demographics: Gender: Female Race: African American Residence: America  
Income: 73k. (Family of 5)  
School: Non-competitive charter Major: Public policy | Political Science | Government  
ECS: Cheer co-captain peer tutor Student govt -- Director of Academics Baking club president Bovard Scholar <33 JSA Gene A Burd Institute of Media and Politics (or something like that) Head Librarian Awards: QuestBridge College Prep Scholar JSA Summer Scholarships (2x) Award of Excellence Honor roll for both high school and community college Anyways these are my RD Decisions. I applied to 37 colleges.  
REJECTIONS Oberlin -- Technically application incomplete because I didn't feel like finishing it USC -- Deferred EA -- Rejected RD (this kind of hurt because I'm a C7 Bovard Scholar ) MIT -- Duh. low act score Harvard Yale Princeton Cornell UPenn Columbia Stanford Waitlists Johns Hopkins University Northwestern -- I declined it UC Irvine NYU Vanderbilt -- This hurt too ngl Acceptances: UNC Chapel Hill EA (7% OOS) U of Minnesota Twin Cities -- Honors (73%) CSULB (40%) Cal-poly pomona (55%) Cal State Dominguez Hills (89%) CSUB (85%) Arcadia Uni (66%) Drake Uni (68%) UCLA 9% UC Berkeley -- 9.3% UCSD -- 25% Denison -- 22% CWRU -- 27% Tulane Honors -- 11% Williams -- 3.75% Duke -- 4.1% Georgetown University -- 12% Saur that is like all and I was most surprised by my Georgetown acceptance because they are test required! If you have any questions like \"How?\" let me know!!!! Go Trojans!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: university of south florida (rolling) university of missouri - st louis (direct through niche) university of scranton (direct through niche) university of the pacific (direct through niche) george mason university korea (ea) university of san francisco (ea) fordham university rose hill (ea) bryant university (ea) clark university (ea) rutgers university (ea) american university (rd) california state university long beach (rd) george washington university (rd) university of amsterdam (in the netherlands) (rd)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: f Race/Ethnicity: southeast asian Residence: northeast Income Bracket: 100k+ Type of School: big public (600+ in my grade) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): immigrant? Intended Major(s): international studies, polisci, fashion design Academics GPA (UW/W): 5.077 (only weighted) Rank (or percentile): top 20 out of 600+ Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: all honors and 9 aps total Senior Year Course Load: ap stats, fashion design 3, ap chinese, physics honors, ap lit Standardized Testing SAT: 1510 (730 RW, 780 M), 1350 (630 RW, 720 M) AP/IB: world history - 4, us gov - 5, calc ab - 5, bio - 5 (didn't report my apush and ap lang bc i got 3s) Extracurriculars/Activities Congressional intern Language studies Chinese club president Asian Club member Work Asian Youth Act content designer Asian Club dance Work Political campaign intern Tutor Awards/Honors Seal of Biliteracy Korean Seal of Biliteracy Vietnamese AP Scholar with Distinction National Honor Society History Honor Society Letters of Recommendation strong but probably not as personal as i would have liked Interviews georgetown: went pretty well imo. i connected with the interviewer and we talked about courses, her experiences, my activities, etc. prob my best interview princeton: it was good. we talked abt the school and miscellaneous stuff. i got to tell him abt my achievements and everything i wanted to say washu: it was a little awkward. there were some awkward silences but otherwise it was nice. it was more informational and casual than the other interviews. washu interviewers don't really have a say on admissions so i wasn't too worried Essays spent 3 months on my personal statement and i'm satisfied with it. it was about my asian identity, which i was nervous about because people said it is overused but alas, it was authentic to me and something i felt strongly about. i worked hard on my supplements too, but not as long bc they opened on aug 1 Decisions Acceptances: university of south florida (rolling) university of missouri - st louis (direct through niche) university of scranton (direct through niche) university of the pacific (direct through niche) george mason university korea (ea) university of san francisco (ea) fordham university rose hill (ea) bryant university (ea) clark university (ea) rutgers university (ea) american university (rd) california state university long beach (rd) george washington university (rd) university of amsterdam (in the netherlands) (rd) Waitlists: georgetown university (ea) university of pittsburg (rolling) -> withdrew washington



university st louis (rd) amherst college (rd) -> withdrew Rejections: princeton (rd) columbia (rd) Additional Information: i think i got waitlisted for upitt because i applied in march, wayyy after when everyone else had already applied. for my waitlists, i uploaded an additional document, which is my hsk2 certificate, so i'll update those later. i also wished i would've applied to more \"good\" colleges, so i could've gotten in to at least one but oh well"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: ASU (90% Acceptance Rate) (+16.5k scholarship per year), EA \* Michigan State University (88% Acceptance Rate) (+10k scholarship per year), EA UMass Lowell (86% Acceptance Rate) (+ Half Tuition Scholarship and Honors College), Rolling Indiana University (86% Acceptance Rate), EA University of Minnesota (75% Acceptance Rate, EA Rochester Institute of Technology (67% Acceptance Rate) (+25.5k scholarship per year), EA Rutgers - New Brunswick (66% Acceptance Rate), EA University of South Carolina (64.1% Acceptance Rate) (Deferred-> Accepted) EA UMass Amherst (64% Acceptance Rate) (+2k scholarship per year and Honors College), EA Fordham University (54% Acceptance Rate), EA The Ohio State University (53% Acceptance Rate) (+ Full Tuition Scholarship!!!!), EA Purdue University (53% Acceptance Rate), EA Binghamton University (42% Acceptance Rate), EA Kenyon College (34% Acceptance Rate) (+25k per year scholarship), RD Northeastern University (7% Acceptance Rate) (+5k per year scholarship) (Deferred-> Accepted), EA",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: South Asian Residence: MA Income Bracket: 200k+ Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Finance Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.55 weighted, school doesn\u2019t calculate unweighted Rank (or percentile): School doesn\u2019t calculate rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 16 Honors, 1 AP, 1 College Class Senior Year Course Load: All Honors Classes and 1 AP + self studying for Micro Standardized Testing SAT I: 1540 (740RW, 800M) Extracurriculars/Activities Debate Lead Coached Middle School debate team and won several awards 2. Human Resources Internship Internship at Town Office to gauge interest in business career 3. Job Worked at a tutoring center to teach kids reading and math 4. Tutor Was a SAT Tutor and racked up 250+ volunteer hours 5. Assistant Instructor at Taekwondo Won multiple awards in Kata, Sparring in regional tournament. 1st & 2nd place recognitions. Mentored 20+ in technique, promoted discipline & agility. 6. Co-Program Lead at Senior Center Lead seminars in technology education with a focus on scam avoidance 7. Job After school counselor and Summer Counselor at local elementary school 8. C-Level Executive at Student-Run Nonprofit Fostered a

community of 4.5k+ people and oversaw all internal practices 9. Ranked Choice Voting Volunteer First high schooler to ever be on the campaign, and recognized as outstanding volunteer 10. Job Referee for Youth Basketball Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 2nd place, finance case competition, out of a pool of 1200 students 1st place with Research Paper about plant viability on the moon Octofinalist in State Debate Competition 1st place in Taekwondo Tournament 1st place, Destination Imagination event Letters of Recommendation Algebra 2/Trigonometry Teacher This is probably one of the strongest points of my application, as she was firsthand observer to my spiral of depression in sophomore year, but was my trig teacher last year and witnessed remarkable growth as I constantly overachieved and was consistently coming to extra help. She's also a great orator, and I'm sure that will transfer over to the letter. Guidance Counselor My family and her have been very involved in the making of my 504 and I have met with her many times over the course of my academic career. I think she recognized how I've prioritized my mental health over the last 2 years and made a difference in how I view academics Essays Common App: Wrote about how I became motivated to join the DEI committee in my town after witnessing a widely-publicized racist incident in my school and became the first high schooler to do so despite pushback Supps: Expanded on my EC\u2019s and what I bring to the table as a leader Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) (By Acceptance Rate) Acceptances: ASU (90% Acceptance Rate) (+16.5k scholarship per year), EA \* Michigan State University (88% Acceptance Rate) (+10k scholarship per year), EA UMass Lowell (86% Acceptance Rate) (+ Half Tuition Scholarship and Honors College), Rolling Indiana University (86% Acceptance Rate), EA University of Minnesota (75% Acceptance Rate, EA Rochester Institute of Technology (67% Acceptance Rate) (+25.5k scholarship per year), EA Rutgers - New Brunswick (66% Acceptance Rate), EA University of South Carolina (64.1% Acceptance Rate) (Deferred-> Accepted) EA UMass Amherst (64% Acceptance Rate) (+2k scholarship per year and Honors College), EA Fordham University (54% Acceptance Rate), EA The Ohio State University (53% Acceptance Rate) (+ Full Tuition Scholarship!!!!), EA Purdue University (53% Acceptance Rate), EA Binghamton University (42% Acceptance Rate), EA Kenyon College (34% Acceptance Rate) (+25k per year scholarship), RD Northeastern University (7% Acceptance Rate) (+5k per year scholarship) (Deferred-> Accepted), EA Waitlists: Bentley University (58% Acceptance Rate), RD University of Pittsburgh (49% Acceptance Rate), EA Rejections: University of Wisconsin (49% Acceptance Rate), EA Denison University (22% Acceptance Rate), RD Tulane University (12% Acceptance Rate), RD Additional Information: I\u2019m glad it\u2019s over. I lowkey wish I applied to more selective colleges to just shoot my shot but it is what it is I guess. I\u2019m excited to be committing to Ohio State! I know it\u2019s not a target school for finance but I know if I work hard I\u2019ll be alright."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Johns Hopkins Lehigh Columbia UCB Brown Cornell Tulane Yale (attending!!)",

"answer": "A: I know how stressful this process is, PM me for advice or anything. I'm happy to help fr. Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: white Residence: soflo Income Bracket: low but assets r high so not sure Type of School: private Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none :( Intended Major(s): business admin or psych or design Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.88 UW, 4.4 W Rank (or percentile): school doesn't rank of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 Senior Year Course Load: AP state, AP macro, AP calc ab, AP Spanish, AP psych Standardized Testing ACT: 33. Literally brought my score from a 26 to a 33 in one summer. PM me if u want advice on bringing ur score up dramatically!! AP: submitted a 4 in AP Lang and that is it \ud83d\ude44 Extracurriculars/Activities Started an organization dedicated to mental health awareness (don't wanna get doxxed, pm me if ur interested), had about six volunteers. President of women in stem club at my high school Tutor in math subjects for anything up to calc. Psychology research w rice Professor. Published in a small place. Varsity golf, not that good at it but I was on team lol Art, I paint and sell some stuff Volunteer at animal shelter Volunteer at soup kitchen Dog walker in my neighborhood for elderly. I live in a neighborhood w primarily older ppl so I help them out for free + tips. Caretaker for little sister Awards/honors AP scholar Spanish award from national Spanish exam Deca regional finalist Low level mu alpha theta award Math award at high school Letters of Recommendation English teacher (8/10): she liked me a lot bc i took intellectual risks but the class was hard. Definitely a top scorer, but not THE best. V nice relationship. AP Chem teacher (10/10): so he was obsessed w me. However, beginning to wonder if he was a good writer bc he is not the best at that but super good relationship and is known at my school for getting kids into good schools. Interviews Georgetown: average, interviewer was a boring finance guy. He sold the school well but not himself Imao. Columbia: asked me a weird question, but he was nice. Definitely scared me bc he told me to not be upset if I don't get in. Told me I was v promising. Essays I hate to be generic, but these slapped. I had some help, which was nice. Spoke abt progression of my personality and some big things I have done. For the supplemental, I was very specific and detailed. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Johns Hopkins Lehigh Columbia UCB Brown Cornell Tulane Yale (attending!!) Waitlists: Vanderbilt Rejections: Stanford UCLA WHAT I THINK HELPED ME: Ok so test optional is not real. I brought my ACT up from a 26 to 33 after studying over the summer. I think it is super important to have a story. Stats are not everything. SO SO grateful !!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: In-state safety (80%+ acceptance rate), Rolling UT Dallas (+National Merit package), Rolling University of Central Florida, Rolling Case Western Reserve University (+40k per year), EA Purdue (+10k per year), EA University of Washington, Seattle (+5k per year), RD UC Davis, RD Cornell (??!!), RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Chinese) Residence: Southern state, not Texas, not known for being academically competitive lol Income Bracket: 200k Type of School: large public school ~2k population Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Electrical engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): when applying 3.98 UW / 4.47W, got a B in sophomore yr chem Rank (or percentile): 63/510ish (rank was based only on UW) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 2 Honors (although this didn't mean much at our school) 12 AP including senior year, 5 semester credits of dual enrollment Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics C E&M, AP Research, Digital Art (1st sem), Intro to ODE (1st sem), Environmental Studies class (1st sem), Linear Algebra (2nd sem), Advanced psych stats (2nd sem), online US gov (2nd sem). Standardized Testing SAT I: 1550 (760RW, 790M) ACT: 35 (35E, 35M, 36R, 35S) AP: Human Geo (5), AP World (5), AP Stats (5), AP Psych (5), AP Chem (4), Calc BC (5), Physics C Mech (5), APUSH (5), Seminar (5), Lang (4) Extracurriculars/Activities AAPI focused club - President (11-12) & Social Media Manager (10-12), club saw a lot of growth my senior year & we were able to do a lot - seems silly to have this as my #1 EC but I put in a lot of time and it felt most important to me. Science Olympiad - President (12) Vice-President (11) Secretary (10), got 2nd in state in 10th-11th grade, I had a handful of top 3s each year but nothing crazy Volunteer math class, taught weekly 1 hour classes in junior year to 4-8th graders Summer virtual volunteer classes, taught 2 weekly 1 hour classes for math and handlettering over zoom, summer before sophomore yr Gelato shop employee, ~15-20hrs per week, summer before senior year through senior year Local non-profit student board, marketer, joined senior yr Young Democrats club, social media manager sophomore yr, don't ask me why I put this down LMAO Sushi restaurant hostess, 40+ hours per week, summer before junior yr Fast-casual restaurant chain cashier, summer before senior yr (had 2 jobs this summer) Awards/Honors National Merit Semi-Finalist Science Olympiad misc state medals (10, 11) AP Scholar w Distinction President's Volunteer Award Gold 2021 (100+ hrs) Jane Street AMC12A Certificate in regional section, sophomore yr Letters of Recommendation AP Lang Teacher & AAPI Club sponsor in senior yr - 9/10 - very solid relationship, she could attest to the effort I put into the club and it's growth, did alright in her class but still had a pretty good connection - also known for writing good rec letters Physics Teacher - 8/10 - had him 3 years (10-12) and in junior

year I put in a lot of time outside of class with him, I think he could attest to my work as a student Interviews Did not get any interviews from my acceptances so. MIT - my first interview, objectively went terribly, I was only asked 3 questions and I could not answer one of them at all, was lowkey nonsensical, but I still enjoyed the conversation LOL Duke - liked the questions and feel of this interview much more, felt like I was able to showcase myself better, my interviewer was very nice, but it still wasn't the best Essays Now this is the part that is really sketchy CommonApp: wrote about my bullet journal which I've kept since 6th grade and how it improved my productivity & mentality pretty generic with COVID arc spent about 3 days on this before Nov 1 deadlines and only made minor edits after that Not the greatest! But maybe unique topic?? Supplements: Kind of did not spend more than 6 hours on any one supplement I reused like 5 supplements, my why school and why major were combined into one supp and I just changed names/words I did have one community/contribution supp which I think I cooked on, but everything else was a bit do NOT recommend doing this I still regret it Decisions Acceptances: In-state safety (80%+ acceptance rate), Rolling UT Dallas (+National Merit package), Rolling University of Central Florida, Rolling Case Western Reserve University (+40k per year), EA Purdue (+10k per year), EA University of Washington, Seattle (+5k per year), RD UC Davis, RD Cornell (?!), RD Waitlists: Northeastern, RD Duke, RD Brown, RD Rejections: MIT, RD Boston University, RD USC, EA (deferred) 2014> rejected RD UC San Diego, RD Additional Information: Took freshman year online? Tried not to be too specific for anonymity not sure if it worked Closing thoughts: So late to the party but I wanted to post my results in the hopes it will give other applicants some hope or insight! I know I have great stats but the way everyone talks, I thought I was done for because I had no research, internships, sports, fine arts, etc etc and my strongest ECs were relatively small school-contained clubs. Admissions is really a lottery and you have no idea what these schools are looking for. I'm so so grateful and lucky to have gotten the results I did, and I still can't quite believe it sometimes. So I just want to encourage y'all to take that shot, even if you don't think there's much of a chance. 200b With that said, I am still not 100% committed yet and have mostly narrowed my choices down to CWRU vs. Cornell (I'm leaning towards a private school vs public). CWRU would be about half the price, though price is not really an issue. My heart says Cornell, but I'm a bit scared of the rumors of cut-throat competitiveness and grade deflation, and CWRU seems lovely too. I plan on going straight into the job market after graduation (though that could change). UT Dallas (near full ride) and Purdue are also on the back burner if anyone has any insight it would be greatly appreciated!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (+\$27k/yr) EA University of Colorado Boulder (+\$13.75k/yr) EA Purdue University EA University of Maryland (+12.5k/yr) EA Cal Poly Pomona RD Worcester Polytechnic Institute (+38k/yr) RD University of Washington Seattle (+7.2k/yr) RD UC Santa Cruz RD University of Wisconsin Madison RD (Probably going here, Purdue is a close second but I love the city of Madison)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Prefer not to say Race/Ethnicity: East Asian Residence: Bay Area Income Bracket: \$800k Type of School: Competitive and Highly Ranked Public Hooks: Legacy at Cornell (Undergrad) Intended Major(s): Mechanical Engineering for all, Economics for Emory Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.47 (My school does not weight freshman year, would probably be closer to 4.5) Percentile: top 10%, school does not do rank of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Freshman Year: Honors Geometry, Honors Biology Sophomore Year: Honors Alg2/Trig, Honors Chemistry Junior Year: Honors Analysis(Pre-calc), Honors Physics Senior Year Course Load: AP Spanish Lang, AP Lit, AP Physics C Mechanics and E&M, AP Psych, AP Calc BC, AP Macro Econ (AP Macro for only 1 Semester) Standardized Testing SAT I: 1530 (730RW, 800M) AP/IB: APUSH 5 APCSP 5 APCS 5 AP Lang 5 AP Stats 5 Extracurriculars/Activities Boy Scouts achieved Eagle in 12th grade, Eagle Scout project was building new planter boxes for a local preschool. Served 1 year as Senior Patrol Leader in 9th grade. I put this as 6 hours a week on common app. Volunteer Tutor at a local middle school, 2 hrs/week Summer camp counselor during 9th and 10th grade summer, 2 weeks for 6hrs/day Pre-college program at Brown, 3 weeks for 20 hours each week, learned about artificial intelligence (non selective program, didn't have anything else to do \u00af\(\u00c4)\u00af) Awards/Honors NONE Letters of Recommendation APUSH Teacher- 8/10- Good relationship, I would often talk after class about material in and beyond the lectures. Pretty sure he liked me a good amount and recognized that I put a lot of effort into the class. Physics Honors Teacher- 1/10- Never talked to her \ud83d\udc80 Had a good grade in her class though Interviews NONE Essays Wrote my common app essay about my love for learning about math/science as well as history and politics. Pretty basic topic, but good writing since I had help from a tutor. 6/10 College-specific essays I either wrote about a specific program that interested me at each college, or talked about my experience as a boy scout. 5/10 Decisions Acceptances: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (+\$27k/yr) EA University of Colorado Boulder (+\$13.75k/yr) EA Purdue University EA University of Maryland (+12.5k/yr) EA Cal Poly Pomona RD Worcester Polytechnic Institute (+38k/yr) RD University of Washington Seattle (+7.2k/yr) RD UC Santa Cruz RD University of Wisconsin Madison RD (Probably going here, Purdue is a close second but I love the city of Madison) Waitlists: UMich Deferred EA -> Waitlisted RD Carnegie Mellon RD UC

Santa Barbara RD UC Davis Waitlisted RD Northeastern Deferred EA -> Waitlisted RD  
 Rejections: Cornell Deferred ED -> Rejected RD UIUC EA Georgia Tech EA UC Irvine  
 RD UC San Diego RD UCLA RD WashU RD Northwestern RD Emory RD Vanderbilt RD  
 Cal Poly San Luis Obispo RD UC Berkeley RD Closing thoughts- Overall, I got better  
 results than I expected since my EC's were extremely lacking. My parents encouraged  
 to me to apply to many far reach schools, so I did and got rejected to all of them as  
 expected. I'm pretty happy with my acceptances! I suppose my strong academics (GPA,  
 Course Rigor, Standardized Testing Scores) pretty much carried me for my target/reach  
 schools such as UW Madison and Purdue."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 NC State EA Aerospace engineering, UNC RD Applied Math, CU Boulder RD  
 Aerospace Engineering",

"answer": "A: Demographics \u2022 Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White \u2022  
 Residence: Upper Middle class area in Raleigh/Durham NC \u2022 Hooks (Recruited  
 Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Legacy for Duke Intended Major(s):  
 Engineering everywhere except Applied Math for UNC Academics GPA/Rank (or  
 percentile): 4.6 Weighted, 4.0 Unweighted, top 10% of 480 class size of  
 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9 AP (15 ish honors? I took as many as I could)  
 \u2022 Senior Year Course Load: AP Stats, AP Physics 1 and 2, Honors Economics,  
 Honors English IV, Spanish III, Wind Ensemble both semesters Standardized Testing  
 List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. \u2022 SAT/ACT:  
 1580/36 \u2022 SAT II: Only took once \u2022 AP/IB: 5 5's and 4 4's Other (ex. IELTS,  
 TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities: Marching Band drumline captain, Indoor  
 percussion, Private math tutor, various volunteering for Music Honors Society and Math  
 Honors Society Awards/Honors: National Merit Finalist Essays/LORs/Interviews: I don't  
 think I did great on my essays. Rec letters were likely 7/10 Decisions (indicate  
 ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: NC State EA Aerospace engineering, UNC RD  
 Applied Math, CU Boulder RD Aerospace Engineering Waitlists: Purdue RD Aerospace  
 Engineering Rejections: Duke ED, CMU RD, UMich RD, Georgia Tech EA, Virginia Tech  
 RD, UIUC RD I have 3 (if I get into Purdue I'm going) choices. I would love to go to UNC  
 and they have a great applied math program, but I am unsure of a career I could get in  
 that field. NC state seems like a good choice and I would probably end up doing  
 Electrical/Computer engineering. CU Boulder is out of state and expensive, but I have a  
 small scholarship and it's good for AE Engineering. Any advice? I'm also open to major  
 swap suggestions. I'm indifferent to my major between math and engineering, I just  
 want to be able to get internships and a good career. Thanks!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): Ohio State (rolling) UNC Chapel Hill (RD) WashU (ED)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: east coast Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : (write here) Undecided GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.2/3.9 120/500 rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 APs junior year, 5 aps senior year Senior Year Course Load: 5 APs, strong courseload SAT: 1530 (790M/740RW) Extracurriculars/Activities: Varsity Football Captain, All League Varsity Wrestling Captain, All league, state champion (small uncompetitive state) Disabled Student Club Member School Leadership/Male mentoring Club Member Awards/Honors: (list here) Honor Roll Highest GPA on football team/wrestling team National Merit Commended Essays/LORs/Interviews: English teacher: VERY strong rec (he showed me it) Math teacher: Good rec I assume No interviews Very mid essays (imo) \*\*Decisions Acceptances: (list here): Ohio State (rolling) UNC Chapel Hill (RD) WashU (ED) Waitlists: (list here) N/A Rejections: (list here) Vanderbilt Notre Dame"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Bryn mawr smith cal poly slo cal poly pomona ucla -> committing usc uc davis ucr stony brook",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: LA Income Bracket: \$150k+ Type of School: shitty public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): first gen, rare health condition Intended Major(s): Astrophysics/Astronomy Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.6 UW/4.2 W Rank (or percentile): Top 10% of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 AP\u2019s, 2 dual enrollment Senior Year Course Load: 4 AP\u2019s (lit, mandarin, apes, gov) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1560 (790RW/770M) AP: 5\u2019s (physics 1, stats, lang, world hist, us hist) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. founded tech initiative to provide more devices and free wifi in homeless shelters. raised \$20k President of Vex Robotics team. Raised \$2k+ in funding and won some tourneys Programmed a game using unity with \$1k+ in sales Model UN Vice President web developer for small businesses and nonprofits museum volunteer on weekends intern at local tech startup participated in many hackathons virtual tutor Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on



your application. Presidential volunteer service award Multiple hackathon awards School awards Letters of Recommendation Physics teacher (9/10. super close to him + i\u2019ve known him since sophomore year) world hist teacher (3/10. was not close to him and did not that much talk in class whoops) Essays: Pretty good, I wanted to be as genuine as possible. My common app essay was about playing D&D. Also briefly mentioned my rare health condition and how being in the hospital affected my grades and attendance. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) All of these are RD Acceptances: Bryn mawr smith cal poly slo cal poly pomona ucla -> committing usc uc davis ucr stony brook Waitlists: uc berkeley ucsd Rejections: uci yale columbia nyu harvey mudd northwestern Additional Information: I think my unique circumstances definitely helped me. I spent a couple months in the hospital so that hurt my grades. I had 6 B\u2019s, a C, and an F in my classes. After submitting my apps, I stalked this subreddit and felt really discouraged because of my low stats so I wanted to give some people hope. ANYWAYS GO BRUINS!!! \ud83d\udc3b \ud83e\udd73\ud83e\udd73"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Penn State - EA Union College - EA Rutgers University - Brunswick & Newark - EA University of Pittsburgh - RD Boston College - RD Rowan University - RD University of Rochester - RD Hofstra University - EA University of Connecticut - RD Hamilton College - RD Johns Hopkins University (DMP - MPH) - RD Bryn Mawr College - RD Stony Brook University - RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Small Town, East Coast Income Bracket: \$400,000+ Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Public Health; Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies; Biology Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.561 W Rank (or percentile): Top 3% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 Honors 5 APs Senior Year Course Load: 1 Honor 1 CP (Mandatory Requirement) 5 APs (English, 2 Maths, Science, Language) Standardized Testing ACT: 35 (36E, 34M, 36R, 34S) - First Attempt PSAT Merit Scholar AP/IB: Biology (5), Lang (4), APUSH (4), Psych (5), Chem (4) Extracurriculars/Activities 1 Cancer Research in Low-Income Country (Family Originally From Here) - wrote proposal, got IRB approval, did in-person data collection over a few months 2 Shadowing - worked with a different physicians on a biweekly basis over a few months 3 Local Newspaper Intern - wrote monthly articles online 4 International Volunteer Organization State Board Member - managed social media accounts, created press releases, managed over 500 HS students, went to international events. etc for a year 5 Literary Magazine - managed 20+ people, climbed up the leadership ladder every year since freshman year, won gold from Columbia

University every year under my leadership, for four years 6 Female Empowerment Club - leader of large club who facilitated an open environment for peer discussions and did small projects within school, for four years 7 Published Writing - published 3 poems, was a proofreader for NYT author, featured in large state newspaper 8 Job (Tutoring) - weekly, for a year 9 STEM Clubs - small leadership and general member, for four years 10 Soup Kitchen Volunteer - managed collection and preparation of food monthly, since childhood Awards/Honors 1 College Board National Recognition Recipient (National Rural and Small Town) and AP Scholar 2 Ivy League Award & Highly Competitive Program Finalist 3 Distinguished Volunteering Award & School AP Award 4 Honor Society Leadership Positions 5 More Honor Societies Letters of Recommendation AP Teacher #1 (STEM) - 8/10, loved me as a student, saw me grow from someone who failed tests to an A+ student who got a 4 on the exam. Was in a couple clubs with them as the advisor and became a TA under them the next year. They're not very strong in writing, however. AP Teacher #2 (Humanities) - 10/10, also loved me as a student. Had them for multiple years for a couple APs. I genuinely enjoyed their classes and built a strong relationship with them. I have no doubt my letter was great considering it also got me past a few stages of a very prestigious summer program. Counselor - 8/10? I interacted with her a good amount but we didn't have a super strong bond or anything. They definitely know I'm driven and a hard worker--ended up recommending me for a selective program. Interviews Princeton - (8/10) didn't prep well but had a pretty decent chat about my research experience and interests with the interviewer Union - (9/10) was amazing and pretty nonchalant Essays Common App - (10/10) Made my asian father cry, made my asian mother cry, made me cry. Super personal and creative. Worked on this for MONTHS. Wrote about my ethnic background and a genocide my family lived through -> my own personal identity. Supplemental Apps - (7/10) Mixed bag, some supplementals I spent weeks on, others I crammed the night before. The ones I spent more time on overwhelmingly gave me more acceptances--go figure! Decisions Acceptances: Penn State - EA Union College - EA Rutgers University - Brunswick & Newark - EA University of Pittsburgh - RD Boston College - RD Rowan University - RD University of Rochester - RD Hofstra University - EA University of Connecticut - RD Hamilton College - RD Johns Hopkins University (DMP - MPH) - RD Bryn Mawr College - RD Stony Brook University - RD Waitlists: Brown University - RD Haverford College - RD Rejections: Princeton University - RD Yale University - RD University of Pennsylvania - RD Williams College - RD Additional Information: JHU 28' HERE I COMEEEEEEE!!! Feel free to DM with specific questions :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Michigan State (EA): (Somehow didn't get into Broad, their business school) Accepted

to Honors College IU Bloomington (EA): Kelley Auto Admit + Hutton Honors College + \$8k/yr UMich (EA): Accepted to Ross + \$1500 Notre Dame (EA): Deferred --> Accepted to Mendoza Villanova (RD): Accepted to Business School and Honors College NYU (RD): Rejected ): Additional Information: I only applied to schools I legitimately could have seen myself attending and being happy with where I was (except MSU, which I only applied to because it was free). I definitely recommend doing what I did. I didn't waste any time writing essays for schools I knew I wouldn't get into or wouldn't want to attend, and this strategy allowed me to spend a lot of time on essays for the few schools I did apply to. But, on the other hand, I do kind of wish applied to some IVY+ schools to see if I could have gotten in, but I don't think I would have attended any if I had been admitted. The hardest decision came the last 2 weeks of December, after getting deferred from ND, and I had to decide whether to commit to NYU (I would have had to apply ED and would have had guaranteed admission with the coach), or hope I get accepted to Ross or ND. It was probably the hardest decision I will ever have in my life, and it made Christmas break hard to enjoy, but I'm relieved my risky decision paid off.",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Michigan Income Bracket: Upper Class (Didn't report on Com App) Type of School: Private Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Half Blind and Half Deaf (Not sure how much this helps or if it does at all) Intended Major(s): Finance/Business + a Spanish minor Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.96 UW 4.8 W Rank (or percentile): My School doesn't rank, but I know I was top 10 out of ~200 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 Honors, 8 APs Senior Year Course Load: AP Gov, AP Calc AB, AP Spanish, AP Physics I, Ceramics/Personal Finance, Religion, English 4 Standardized Testing ACT: 34 (35E, 35M, 33R, 32S) (took 3 times) AP: 5 on Stats, 4 on APUSH, Euro, and Lang Extracurriculars/Activities Cross Country: Varsity captain and led team to the State Championship Track: Varsity captain Spanish Honors Society: As an Officer, I raised \$1k in school supplies for a school in Mexico, tutored Spanish students, and organized field trips and community service DECA: I regret only doing this senior year, but I still qualified for states in a roleplay. I was an editor of the yearbook club NHS: I did some tutoring and some other volunteer work Math tutor for a middle school student 2-week overnight cross country camp Summer Jobs Awards/Honors Cross Country Academic All-State AP Scholar with Honors Award for the top students in the school district School Honor Roll Award for having the highest grade in AP Stats Letters of Recommendation Math Teacher (8/10): She was my math teacher for my last 3 years of high school and she would come watch a few of my races. Spanish Teacher (6.5/10): I had her for two years, was one of the most engaged in class and would talk to her a lot about her stepson who also ran XC/Track. My counselor said this one wasn't as good as my math teacher's. Essays I'm not a great writer but spent a lot (probably even too much) time on my essays and tried to write about stuff that was actually meaningful. Com App (9/10): I wrote about my struggles with being blind in one

eye and deaf in one ear, both socially and academically. I showed I learned from my disabilities and was able to connect with an autistic teammate through this. Notre Dame: (7.5/10) UMich: (9/10) Villanova: (7.5/10) NYU: (6.5/10) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Michigan State (EA): (Somehow didn't get into Broad, their business school) Accepted to Honors College IU Bloomington (EA): Kelley Auto Admit + Hutton Honors College + \$8k/yr UMich (EA): Accepted to Ross + \$1500 Notre Dame (EA): Deferred --> Accepted to Mendoza Villanova (RD): Accepted to Business School and Honors College NYU (RD): Rejected ): Additional Information: I only applied to schools I legitimately could have seen myself attending and being happy with where I was (except MSU, which I only applied to because it was free). I definitely recommend doing what I did. I didn't waste any time writing essays for schools I knew I wouldn't get into or wouldn't want to attend, and this strategy allowed me to spend a lot of time on essays for the few schools I did apply to. But, on the other hand, I do kind of wish applied to some IVY+ schools to see if I could have gotten in, but I don't think I would have attended any if I had been admitted. The hardest decision came the last 2 weeks of December, after getting deferred from ND, and I had to decide whether to commit to NYU (I would have had to apply ED and would have had guaranteed admission with the coach), or hope I get accepted to Ross or ND. It was probably the hardest decision I will ever have in my life, and it made Christmas break hard to enjoy, but I'm relieved my risky decision paid off."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: SUNY Stony BrookSUNY BinghamtonSUNY UBuffaloSUNY UAlbanySUNY New PaltzSUNY PurchaseSUNY OswegoSUNY Buffalo StateMacaulay Honors College @ Hunter (Shocked but happy)CUNY Baruch CollegeCUNY Hunter CollegeCUNY City CollegeCUNY Brooklyn CollegeCUNY Lehman CollegeCUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice Columbia University ( Committing!)Cornell University ( YAY) \*\*New York University (\*\*Shanghai but a win is a win) Stevens Institute of TechnologyFordham UniversityRochester Institute of TechnologyNew York Institute of TechnologyAmerican University Middlebury College (Applied on a whim and slowly fell in love with it <3 would've loved to attend, maybe in another life)The New School \*\*Withdrawn:\*\*Johns Hopkins University \*\*",

"answer": "A: \*If anyone want's specifics please feel free to DM me! :D, I'll keep it vague here to avoid dox. Demographics Gender: Non-Binary Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic-American Residence: NYC Income Bracket: 50-60k Type of School: Small yet competitive Public School Hooks:, URM, First-Gen, and not sure if being a polyglot counts as a hook, but my parents are immigrants and English wasn't my first language.

Intended Major(s): History, Global Studies/International Relations, depending on what each school offered  
Academics GPA (UW/W): School uses a weighted 100. scale, so a 97.8 but a 4.0 according to the College Board. I do want to note that I had around six 80's on my transcript, usually in the first semester of a school year. Those were in the more difficult classes (AP/Honors/College Prep Classes), but I did improve in all of them the following semesters. Academics are be on lower end, but I take these hard classes not because they are easy, but because they are hard. Rank (or percentile): School doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 2 Honors, and 10 AP Classes by graduation, school offers 13 AP Classes. Took 3 Dual Enrollment Classes, Cloud Computing at Arizona State University (Took it With an organization that allows students to take the class online, I was very active in that organization) and Cultural Anthropology and Sociology at Baruch College  
Senior Year Course Load: AP Computer Science Principles, AP African American Studies, AP Lit, AP Calc AB, AP Biology, and Regular Gov Class (had to take a freshman music class first semester because I needed the credit to graduate it smh)  
Standardized Testing: Applying Test Optional because I didn't take the SAT Seriously (worst mistake). Note to future College Applicants: Take it seriously if you intend to apply with test scores! I did however, scored two 4's on AP World History and US History without studying, but 3's on the rest. Not too memorable here.  
Extracurriculars/Activities (Gonna Keep it Vague for Privacy Reasons)  
#1 Family Responsibilities Translated gov't docs & bills; Interpreted conversations @ banks, hospitals & w/ neighbors; Proactively learned ASL to converse w/ autistic nephew.  
#2 ESL Tutor & Ambassador for an International Program that partners Tutors with Ukrainian Students learning English I loved being an ESL Tutor. I Personalized 1:1 tutoring sessions weekly for 1 student every 3 months and as an Ambassador for the program I conducted ~10 monthly typical outreach projects in my neighborhood which consisted of me advocating anyone interested in joining the organization to volunteer. And most importantly, I cracked dozens of jokes with international friends.  
#3 Spanish/English/Ukrainian Translator & Revisor , Translators Without Borders Served 6 Int'l NGOs; Translated & proofread ~21 k+ words. My work mainly specialized in Humanitarian Interpretation & Translation in Migration, Displacement & Health  
#4 Founder & Developer of a Co-Lang Translator This is a project I've been working on for about 2-3 years after I learned to Speak a Con-Lang. I was fascinated with how simple it was to learn it, but actually trying to translate my thoughts into English was comically complicated. So I worked with around 2000 people who spoke the language online to help me learn how to translate the language into English, and I'm currently continuing to develop this translator.  
#5 Nat'l Student Advisor | Elected 1/70 Nationally for a Academic Program that brings College Credit Classes to High Schools Teamed w/ CEO, Student Success Director & 70 advisors to improve teacher-student-contact; Nominated speaker @ departure ceremony (100+ attendees).  
#6 High School Law Student at a High School program at a

local Law School Ascertained criminal & constitutional law w/ 4 Teaching Assistants & ~30 students weekly; Explored the influence of law's meticulous language. #7  
 Spanish Translator & Sub-titler, TEDx Translated & edited 50+ Speeches from English to Spanish; Recruited & Counseled 10 volunteers on linguistic, subtitling/translation inquiries. #8  
 High School Law Student at a Law School Program online Studied US Legal System & Constitutional Law w/ 30 students & TA; Researched 5 Constitutional cases; Playfully questioned ice cream's legal definition #9  
 Grassroots Activist Volunteer, State Senate Campaign Piloted a group of 5 volunteers; Networked w/ Candidate & Local City Official. I talked to and lovingly encouraged 30+ voters to support the candidate. Did get ignored a couple times :c #10  
 Open House Tour Guide at my High School This was surprisingly fun. I led tours for ~24+ families/prospective students' Highlighting school offerings; Fostering welcoming & stress free atmosphere during admission season. Awards/Honors #1 Magna Cum Laude & Gold Medal Award | National Latin Exam #2 The National Honor Society for the Academic Program I work with | Scored top 15% in ASU Intro to Cloud Computing Class Nationally #3 Merit Award on the National Greek Exam | Intro to Greek | First student from my high school to sit for exam #4 Magna Cum Laude Award | National Latin Exam #5 School Award that Celebrates how I am an upstanding member of my School Community B) Letters of Recommendation Latin Teacher: I won't rate it BUT I will say she said she wrote a lovely and detailed letter that captures who I am academically in and out of the classroom. She told me she was very impressed with how fast I learn languages, especially those that are vastly different from one another. She loved how I was the first in my High School to take the National Greek Exam and continue to take the National Latin Exam. Overall, was very impressed with me and regarding our relationship, she commends how I present myself to faculty and in the classroom. I think it's safe to say her letter was glowing. Cloud Computing Teacher :We vibe and click easily, we both have an animated and sarcastic sense of humor, I'd go on to say dramatic personalities. I also won't rate it but he also expressed how he wrote a detailed and charming letter. When I was talking about my recommendation letter to him, he expressed how everyone (in my school) knows these colleges are gonna accept you. Aside from building onto my ever-evolving delusions, it doesn't hurt to have that level of support from my teachers. In case he were to be lazy about writing it, I made sure my brag sheet was detailed and charmingly written if he decided to copy paste it. Counselor: We had to fill out a form asking us standard questions that I'll give her more details to consider when writing her recommendation letters. I made sure I added a lot of context and substance to my responses which she appreciated. We have a warm and comfortable relationship, like a cozy cabin. She learned a lot about me this year through my essays. Interviews Harvard: Not what I expected, the interviewer was mainly focused on my academic interests and extracurricular activities. Didn't ask to introduce myself

nor asked why Harvard, or any typical questions, which might've worked out for me. She did misinterpret one of my jokes and answers but she seemed really impressed with how fast I learned languages. She grew an interest in why I began learning an American Creole Language as well as my unconventional way of learning Ukrainian through snooping Instagram Comment Sections. She asked a lot of 'why' questions to what I said. Decently positive experience, wasn't bad, might've gone better, but I'm pleased with the conversation I had.

Princeton: Made me fall in love with Princeton, and connected with the interviewer quickly. Didn't gain anything from it other than Princeton was a great fit for me and had fun talking to my interviewer Macaulay Honors College @ Hunter: Could've been better but I did act like myself, even with the pressure of 3 interviewers all at once. Essays (Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Personal Statement: Began working on it as soon as Common App opened, and finished it like 2 weeks before New Years. Candidly, it might've been a wiser idea to work equally on my supplemental essays but it's too late for that now. Everyone who read my common app essay LOVED it. I told the story of me ambitiously trying to learn Mandarin in a week to better communicate with the manager of my local Laundromat, and embarrassingly making a mistake when I delusionally tried to speak to her. My reflection was the climax of my work. It was a charming essay that spoke a lot about me. My AP Lit Teacher was impressed with it and instead of critiquing it, he praised it, even calling it beautifully written, which is rare for him to say about student essays. My college counselor loved it and couldn't think of any suggestions, and my family members who read it thought it was beautiful and even made my sister in law tear up a bit. Might be safe to say it's a nice essay I spent about a week or two writing my other supplemental essays for schools, recycled a lot of them, but personalized it for each school.

Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD)  
Acceptances: SUNY Stony Brook SUNY Binghamton SUNY UBuffalo SUNY UAlbany SUNY New Paltz SUNY Purchase SUNY Oswego SUNY Buffalo State Macaulay Honors College @ Hunter (Shocked but happy) CUNY Baruch College CUNY Hunter College CUNY City College CUNY Brooklyn College CUNY Lehman College CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice Columbia University (Committing!) Cornell University (YAY) \*\*New York University (\*\*Shanghai but a win is a win) Stevens Institute of Technology Fordham University Rochester Institute of Technology New York Institute of Technology American University Middlebury College (Applied on a whim and slowly fell in love with it <3 would've loved to attend, maybe in another life) The New School

\*\*Withdrawn:\*\* Johns Hopkins University \*\*Waitlists:\*\* Vanderbilt University (Very happy and shocked) Syracuse University (Surprise but it's perfectly fine) SUNY Geneseo

Rejections Harvard University Princeton University Yale University UPenn Brown University Dartmouth College Northeastern University

\*\*Reflection:\*\* It does not hurt to dream or to have a vision. I am very happy with my results and I never would've thought

I'd be in this position, and I will continue to invest in my education at Columbia University in the City of New York! I am also happy with the fact my Harvard Interview made me realize I wouldn't like to go to Harvard, it was a weird predicament, but it made me realize it wasn't a great fit for me."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UMass Amherst (in-state) \u2013 EA University of Vermont (\$84K + Honors) \u2013 EA Brandeis (Humanities Fellow Scholarship: \$96K, Intl Business Scholars Program) \u2013 RD Tufts \u2013 RD -> COMMITTED I get free tuition, so this was a no brainer out of all of my decisions! + excellent IR program and close to home. Northeastern UIn (\$36K) \u2013 EA Wesleyan \u2013 RD Guaranteed Transfer: Boston University \u2013 RD",

"answer": "A: Going to be vague-ish to avoid doxxing! If ya'll want more information please feel free to PM or comment :) Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: East Asian Residence: New England Income Bracket: ~250K Type of School: Medium-sized Semi-Competitive Public High School (sends ~3 kids/year to ivy leagues, 20-30+ to T20s) Hooks: Parent is long-time Tufts faculty member. Intended Major(s): International Relations, Political Science, Economics. Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: AP Calc BC, AP Econ, APES, APUSH (4), AP Chem (5) + all honors. I theoretically could have taken more APs but my school doesn't offer as many as other schools might and didn't have much I was particularly interested in. Standardized Testing SAT: 1570 (790 M, 780 R&W) Other: Several National Latin Exams for Vocab testing, etc. Extracurriculars/Activities Campaign Intern \u2013 2022 Midterm State Dem. Party Campaign (11th) Worked primarily under State Senator in order to advocate for Dem. majority + governor, ballot questions, etc. Extensive grassroots canvassing. Union partnerships. Focused on advocating for passage of question regarding change in taxes in order to fund public schools' free lunches post-COVID. Campaign Manager Intern \u2013 2024 State Senator Campaign (12th) Re-hired again by State Senator to run signature-gathering campaign for 400+ in order to re-run. Democratic caucuses representative for Sen. Volunteer mobilization. Student recruitment. Canvassing. + ADDED AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN UPDATED RESUME TO SCHOOLS ~2 MONTHS AFTER APPLICATION DEADLINE. Intern \u2013 2023 City Ward Councilor Campaign (11th) Win in closely contested municipal elections through grassroots campaigning to gather support for progressive underdog. Heavy focus on preservation of accessible transportation, environmentally friendly parks, zoning laws. Interviewer/Coordinator \u2013 Oral History Project (10th-11th) Conducted project on important historical event



in my cultural background by interviewing people about their experiences w/ the aim to preserve history in face of government censorship under Teacher Recc #1. Officer \u2013 Debate Club (9th-12th) Typical things. Participated in comps, etc. Publications Editor \u2013 Junior Classical League/Latin Club (10th-12th) Typical things, again, but this time consistently placed top 3 in state comp. every year! Opinion Editor \u2013 School Newspaper (9th-12th) Typical things! Geared my section to write about more political and current event topics, however. Independent Writer (9th-12th) 70K+ words in total of various short stories, poems, and movie scripts. Lots published in local newspapers, school literature magazines, etc. JV: Co-Captain, V: 1B \u2013 JV & Varsity Softball (9th-12th) Self-explanatory! Lead Student Volunteer \u2013 Tutoring Place (9th-11th) Specifically focused on Asian-American community impacted by COVID. Awards/Honors Medal from State's National History Day Comp (10th) Various medals, awards, and honors from National Latin Exam (10th-12th) Various school awards about writing & social studies (11th). Letters of Recommendation (My guidance counselor read both of my recommendation letters and said that they were some of the best he's ever seen. Not sure how reliable this opinion is!) HISTORY/ECON TEACHER (9/10) \u2013 Extremely close to him from the start of 10th grade. He supervised + advised my oral history project during my time TAing for him. Said that my recc letter was the best & easiest he's ever written in his decades of teaching. ENGLISH TEACHER (8/10) \u2013 Also close to him, but not as close to him as #1. 11th and 12th; got to see a lot of my writing skills (creative, argumentative, analytical), as well as my public speaking skills. STATE SENATOR (6/10) \u2013 Worked with him a bunch for internships. He's pretty involved in Harvard's community and is a Harvard alum. Not sure if this had an impact at all, tbh. Interviews Brandeis (Optional) \u2013 7/10 15 minute in-person interview with a Brandeis admission employee who was a year older than me! Talked about my passion about political science and campaigning with her, who was also interested in polisci. 15 minute interview doesn't really do much though, but maybe it did get me the fat package I got? Tufts (Optional) \u2013 9/10 30 minute Zoom interview turned into 1.5 hours. Didn't realize my interviewer was literally a part of Tufts' Office of Trustees until after! We talked about Tufts only briefly because I knew a lot from hanging around Tufts campus while my dad was working + participating in Tufts' faculty community events. The other one hour was us talking about our town's politics, my school's culture (she had a younger child in private school and was curious about my town's public school), my campaign experience, which I thought went really well! PS\u2013 she ended up congratulating me on my acceptance 30 minutes after my acceptance result came out and asked if we could go get coffee together + offered a personal campus tour! Georgetown \u2013 3/10 This was horrible. My very first interview and my interviewer made it very uncomfortable for me to talk about my struggles as a POC and political advocacy, so my interview felt very bland and one-sided. (She was very much legacy, white, and wealthy). She also kept emphasizing how

she had multiple of these and how she was on a very strict time limit, which made me feel as if she were rushing me and that I was a waste of her time. I'm 99% sure she had crammed all of her interviews on that Saturday, so. Princeton \u2013 5/10 Not horrible, not great. My interviewer and I met in a local cafe and she talked about herself more than there was room to talk about me. Overall, I left feeling like I could've said more about myself, but there was also no time/space to do so. Harvard \u2013 7/10 My best interview. My interviewer very much made the interview feel like a conversation and she was genuinely interested in the political work I had done despite us having completely different interests (her, a STEM major, me, humanities). By the end, I felt like I had given it my best shot and she seemed relatively pleased. Essays Not great, not bad. Nothing outstanding, I would say, but definitely above average. My CommonApp and my supplements reflected my passions for politics as well as my background and passions as a regular human. Decisions Acceptances: UMass Amherst (in-state) \u2013 EA University of Vermont (\$84K + Honors) \u2013 EA Brandeis (Humanities Fellow Scholarship: \$96K, Intl Business Scholars Program) \u2013 RD Tufts \u2013 RD -> COMMITTED I get free tuition, so this was a no brainer out of all of my decisions! + excellent IR program and close to home. Northeastern NUin (\$36K) \u2013 EA Wesleyan \u2013 RD Guaranteed Transfer: Boston University \u2013 RD Waitlists: Colby \u2013 RD Middlebury \u2013 RD NYU \u2013 RD Williams \u2013 RD Harvard \u2013 RD Rejections: Columbia \u2013 ED Brown \u2013 RD Yale \u2013 RD Princeton \u2013 RD Georgetown \u2013 RD Comments : You're probably wondering why I didn't ED to Tufts knowing that they have an incredible IR program and get free tuition and are close to home. I don't know. My parents wanted me to give a shot at other schools and they were willing to pay more money if I had gotten into a better school, but we agreed that otherwise I would be going to Tufts. I feel really fortunate and lucky for being in the position that I'm in, and although this process was literal hell it all worked out!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Georgia (Morehead honors, \$9k/yr scholarship) Texas A&M (Business honors, \$4k/yr from business school with more pending)",

"answer": "A: I am gonna preface this by saying my main extracurricular is very unique so if you know who I am, go ahead and dox me below :) Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Texas Income Bracket: Under 100k Type of School: Very wealthy public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Single Parent household, Sister with special needs (autism spectrum among other things) Intended Major(s): Business (with exception of HOD at Vanderbilt)

Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.82 UW, 6.38W (on a wacky 6 scale, discount this please ; ) . Rank (or percentile): 80/630 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 AP classes, rest of all core classes were honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Macro, AP Gov, AP Lit, AP Physics 2, Business Law Standardized Testing: ACT List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. ACT: 34 ACT (35M/35E/32R/34S), AP: HuG (5), World (5), US Hist (3), Stats (5), CS A (4), Chem (4), Phys 1 (4), Lang (no score due to illness) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. 1 - Rubik's Cube Competition Organizer Organized official Rubik's Cube competitions in the South with as many as 250 competitors. Interviewed by a local news station. Co-managed 40k+ in revenue. Contributed towards restructuring/revival of the Southern regional organization as a nonprofit LLC. Created Regional Website. 2023 Texas Championship Finalist. Competed at over 45 competitions. Partnered with a local cancer charity to provide cubes to pediatric cancer patients, and also a charity competition which raised ~2.5k to the international nonprofit mentioned in activity #3, 2 Part-time work at a local high-traffic restaurant where I trained and recruited 5+ other employees and oversaw a team of 3-4 front-of-house employees each shift. I have worked ~15 hours a week for 2.5 years straight (during the school year and breaks) 3 Internship at a locally headquartered international nonprofit. Managed inventory data and helped fix the inventory system for laptops, tablets, phones, etc. Led initiative to increase participation in anti-malware security and identified vulnerable devices in the organization's 15+ countries of operation. 4 Weightlifting- Cofounded the school's weightlifting club with weekly meets and ~20 attendees each week. Taught proper form to new lifters. Progressed personal Squat, Bench, and Deadlift total to 1210lbs at ~180lbs bodyweight 5 Caretaker for my sister, who has high ADHD and Autism, while my mom worked. Would drive her from school daily to and from her various other activities. As the only male in my household, I do a lot of home maintenance-related activities and things that involve manual labor and heavy lifting around the house. 6 Young Mens Service League - Volunteered 20+ hours each year at various locations. Wrote meeting reports and provided information about volunteering opportunities to the chapter of ~100 members. 7 NHS - 20 hours volunteered 8 Drumline & Honors band freshman and sophomore year (biggest regret was doing this in high school; it was not for me, and I have basically no four-year extracurriculars because of it) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 1 AP Scholar w/ Distinction 2 National Merit Commended - 213 NMSQT Letters of Recommendation AP Stats - 8/10, also this teacher is known for writing rec letters that have get people into T20s year after year AP Chem- 7/10, this teacher didn't like me much at the start of the year but we were good pals by the end of it. I think it showcases growth. Interviews - None Essays My main commonapp essay I spent extremely long on, though I did not submit it to UT or Texas A&M (big regret). I talked about all the things the Rubiks cube has solved (by

mentioning charity involvement and other positive social impacts of the cube, then ended it off with how it \"solved\" me. Besides this, I would say most of my supplemental were pretty mid. Decisions Vanderbilt (RD, had intended to ED but mom said no) University of Virginia (EA) UNC Chapel Hill (EA) University of Texas at Austin (Priority) University Of Georgia (EA) Texas A&M (Applied in sept, is rolling) Acceptances: University of Georgia (Morehead honors, \$9k/yr scholarship) Texas A&M (Business honors, \$4k/yr from business school with more pending) Rejections: Vanderbilt (ouch) University of Virginia UNC Chapel Hill UT Austin (this one sucked a lot) Additional Information: I am remaining in my home state this fall, which isn't too big of a deal, and I am very grateful for the opportunity I have received from A&M. I wish I had not waited till the deadline to apply to UT. I got COVID during finals and had to make them up at the end of winter break. Had that not happened, I would have applied to other schools and maybe would have had more of a choice."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: USC Early Action + Test Optional Tufts Test Optional UF FSU USF George Washington (Honors) American University (Honors) Waitlisted: Boston University Emory UVA Northeastern Denied: Yale Boston College Georgetown Comments: In all test scores really don\u2019t matter as long as you have a strong resume backing you up. Unless you are forced to submit your test scores and you know that they are below that 50-75 percentile don\u2019t submit them. They will only harm you application. Trust yourself and your abilities and you\u2019ll end up where you are meant to be.",

"answer": "A: Major: International Relations Demographics: White Male Floridian Come from mid-size town Go to non-competitive private school Catholic Grades: 14 APs 3.89 UW 4.52 W SAT: 1420 EC\u2019s Founder and President of MUN Club Won 4 Best Delegates at International Competitions Writing Intern at Borgen Project Chief Editor at an Policy Making Ilc NHS Vice President Swim Team Captain School Record holder for Swimming Econ Club Cofounder Acceptances: USC Early Action + Test Optional Tufts Test Optional UF FSU USF George Washington (Honors) American University (Honors) Waitlisted: Boston University Emory UVA Northeastern Denied: Yale Boston College Georgetown Comments: In all test scores really don\u2019t matter as long as you have a strong resume backing you up. Unless you are forced to submit your test scores and you know that they are below that 50-75 percentile don\u2019t submit them. They will only harm you application. Trust yourself and your abilities and you\u2019ll end up where you are meant to be."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): Cornell (RD) UC Berkeley (RD) UCLA (RD) UCSD (RD) UMich (EA) CWRU (RD) \*\* not listing safeties because doxxing worries (so don't worry, i wasn't crazy enough to not apply to any)",

"answer": "A: \*\* edit: not so insane in respect to the other people on this sub!! i swear i didn't mean it in a bad way Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: asian Residence: midwest Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s) : biochemistry (on the pre-med track) Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.0 UW, top 3% of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: all honors/AP; took AP Chem, APUSH, AP Calc BC, AP CSP (all 5s) Senior Year Course Load: AP Bio, AP Stats, AP English, AP Gov; rest honors courses Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. ACT: 35 (36R, 36E, 35M, 33S) (single sitting) Extracurriculars/Activities: (just summarizing, sorry!) research internship (i was paid) officer, school club/fundraiser (raised 10s of thousands of dollars to give to various charities ) research assistant (not working on my own project, just helping out in the lab) president, school club (attended state comps & placed) vice president, MUN varsity swim (all years) & varsity track hospital volunteering + shadowing student government my job summer program Awards/Honors: (not insane at all lmao): local STEM award, 2 local program awards, AP scholar w/ honors, highest honors Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) essays I would say were 8/10s to 9/10s; i think i showed my personality and how i would be a good fit for each school Cornell alumni convo: 10/10, we really connected (even though these convos don't count) Penn interview: 8/10, not the same connection as cornell but went well Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (list here): Cornell (RD) UC Berkeley (RD) UCLA (RD) UCSD (RD) UMich (EA) CWRU (RD) \*\* not listing safeties because doxxing worries (so don't worry, i wasn't crazy enough to not apply to any) Waitlists: (list here): none, woaaa! Rejections: (list here) Penn (RD) JHU (RD) Brown (RD) Additional Info/Reflection: I genuinely believe it was my essays that got me into these schools. I have seen several people who are absolutely cracked get into these schools and did not think I was anywhere close to them (which I still technically am not, but hey, I made it!). I am absolutely grateful to have these opportunities. I am deciding between Cornell, Mich, and CWRU right now so if you guys have any insights/advice you would like to share, please do so!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Edinburgh (UK) - conditional offer; must get 39+ on my IB diploma

University of Toronto, St. George (Canada) - admitted to Trinity College. Awarded 100k in merit scholarships, as well as priority enrollment for courses and a premium housing award lasting 2 years. Currently waiting to see if I got into a first year Honors program which was recommended to me by the registrar of the college. University of Toronto, Scarborough (Canada) - 110k in scholarships. University of Toronto, Mississauga (Canada) - ~200k in scholarships. University of Washington, Seattle (USA) - 16.8k Purple/Gold scholarship + admission to Honors college. University of Oregon (USA) - 50k Summit scholarship + admission to Honors college. University of Colorado, Boulder (USA) - 25k Chancellor's Achievement Scholarship + admission to Honors college. University of Virginia (in-state) (USA) College of William and Mary (in-state) (USA) George Mason University (in-state) (USA) American University (USA) - 88k Presidential Scholarship + admission to cornerstone honors/internship program. Tufts University Northeastern University - admission to NUin program (1st semester abroad)",

"answer": "A: Hi! I've recently received the last of my admissions updates, and I need some help deciding between a few schools (see the bottom of this post). If you have any advice, or you want to ask me anything about my application process, feel free to comment or DM. FYI, my courses/ECs are a bit weird because I moved halfway through highschool, from an American public school to an international private school, from which I will graduate with an IB diploma. Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: In-state for Virginia, currently residing abroad Income Bracket: Upper-middle Type of School: Private international school; IB Diploma program Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Political Science and Environmental Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.28 Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 1 AP, 6 IB Senior Year Course Load: (IB curriculum) Music HL, English A HL, History HL, French B SL, Math SL, Environmental Systems/Societies SL, Theory of Knowledge Standardized Testing SAT: 1490 (770RW, 720M) AP/IB: AP World History (5), Predicted IB score of 45 Extracurriculars/Activities Internship with a US embassy, including learning/doing home renovations for diplomats and organizing a charity drive Model UN - I run the club and have won best delegate at a major international conference for 2 years in a row. I've won 5 other awards at other conferences as well. Currently handing the club over to my successors. School DEI initiative - I am a founding member. Have helped draft a statement of inclusion, coordinate school involvement at local pride parade, organize response to epidemic of sexism/harassment in lower grade levels, and start anti-bullying campaign. Marching band/band - my old school had a fantastic marching band I was in, and I've kept up in a few smaller ensembles since moving, most notably I've played in the pit for 2 musicals. School volunteering team - I've done a lot of campaigning/fundraising work for this school team that funds a childrens center abroad. I don't play a pivotal role, but I've done some noteworthy grunt work ig. Baking club - I founded and led my old school's baking club until I moved

:/ . Club included weekly bake-offs where the winner would be chosen by popular vote, and then they could pick the next week's theme. Super fun, kinda bummed I had to leave it behind. Trivia team - also at my old school. Our team did surprisingly well, winning some regional/state level competitions and going to a national tournament in Atlanta. I was a team captain on a few occasions, but I wouldn't say I was ever the most prominent/important player. French - not super important, but I take learning French quite seriously so I do some work out of school. Awards/Honors National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholar Leadership award (school-based) Academic performance award (school-based) Best delegate award at most recent intl conference (~500 delegates) Performance award for marching band (school-based) Letters of Recommendation History teacher - 10/10. My history teacher has had a genuine influence on my education and perspective. We are both founding members of my school DEI initiative (see above) so, aside from classwork, we've done a lot of work together for the school community. I also put forward my best work in her class because I have a lot of genuine respect for her both as a teacher and a person. I didn't get to read the full rec, but what I did see was personal and heartfelt, with good reference to some of my finer work in history class, and my efforts for the DEI team. Probably one of the strongest components of my application overall. Environmental Science Teacher - 7/10. We aren't super close, but I put a lot into her class because I'm gonna major in Environmental Science. I didn't see much of the rec, but I know she talked about a research assignment I did particularly well on, and mentioned my work on a class research trip we took last year. Counselor rec - ?/10. I'm on pretty good terms with my counselor, but I didn't get to see any of their rec letter. I suspect it was quite good, but I can't be sure. Interviews Oxford (UK) - I was shortlisted and interviewed twice for PPE (St. Catz college). The first interview was with 2 econ professors, probably a 6/10. I gave a few good answers, one not-so-good answer, and I had fun, which I think they appreciated. The second interview was not as great, 4/10. The politics professor definitely wasn't fond of the responses I gave, and my wifi picked a really awful time to crap out on me. The philosophy professor was much better, and I had fun like with the econ interview, but I definitely wasn't able to make a positive impression. I kinda knew it was over for me after the second interview. Essays CommonApp Essay - 8.5/10. I wrote about how moving so much has left me with fundamental knowledge about the meaning of resilience, using examples like growing up gay and Saudi Arabia, and using that experience as motivation to study politics so I can eventually work against the policies that absolutely sucked for me. I tried not to make the essay a sob story/trauma dump, focusing more on what I took out of my different experiences and how I plan to use that info in my career instead of how hard it was/how much it sucked. Personal Statement - 5/10. I had a really hard time trying to write with British formality. I wrote about books I used in my study of Politics, Philosophy, and Economics, but in hindsight I

definitely could've made stronger connections than I did. I think that my poor personal statement is behind a lot of my UK decisions, it definitely wasn't my best work. All good though! Decisions - All applications were regular decision. Acceptances: University of Edinburgh (UK) - conditional offer; must get 39+ on my IB diploma University of Toronto, St. George (Canada) - admitted to Trinity College. Awarded 100k in merit scholarships, as well as priority enrollment for courses and a premium housing award lasting 2 years. Currently waiting to see if I got into a first year Honors program which was recommended to me by the registrar of the college. University of Toronto, Scarborough (Canada) - 110k in scholarships. University of Toronto, Mississauga (Canada) - ~200k in scholarships. University of Washington, Seattle (USA) - 16.8k Purple/Gold scholarship + admission to Honors college. University of Oregon (USA) - 50k Summit scholarship + admission to Honors college. University of Colorado, Boulder (USA) - 25k Chancellor's Achievement Scholarship + admission to Honors college. University of Virginia (in-state) (USA) College of William and Mary (in-state) (USA) George Mason University (in-state) (USA) American University (USA) - 88k Presidential Scholarship + admission to cornerstone honors/internship program. Tufts University Northeastern University - admission to NUin program (1st semester abroad) Waitlists: Brown University (USA) Rejections: Oxford University (UK) (ouch, kinda saw it coming though) London School of Economics (LSE) (UK) University College London (UCL) (UK) Harvard University (USA) Additional Information: In the unpredictable world of American college admissions, I feel like I more or less won the lottery. I'm currently torn between UToronto St. George, UVA, and UWash Seattle . I'm leaning toward UToronto for the moment - they rank super highly and have given me the offer of all offers. However, UVA is also incredible for politics from what I've heard, and it's affordable because of in-state tuition. UWash Seattle let me into their pretty competitive honors college, which would definitely be a leg-up if I went, + they're fantastic for Environmental Science from what I've heard. Any advice on which I should pick? Am I totally missing out on another school from the list that I should be considering? Let me know your thoughts!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: American University D.C. RD Bates College RD SUNY Binghamton RD (admit but for a transfer applicant, so enroll in 2025 but in the class of 2028) SUNY Buffalo EA SUNY Oneonta EA SUNY Potsdam EA SUNY Purchase EA SUNY Stonybrook EA \u2014> deferred \u2014> admit! Temple University EA Hampton University EA Seton Hall University RD (my mom made me apply because they offered merit & it was a free app lmaoo)",



"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Black/African-American Residence: Long Island Income Bracket: Upper Middle Class Type of School: Small boarding Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): maybe because I go to a rigorous boarding school, not sure Intended Major(s) I chose a major in psychology and a minor in womens gender and sexuality studies, but I\u2019m lowkey reconsidering. we\u2019ll see how I enjoy my classes this fall! Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.7 W Rank (or percentile): N/A Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc. school does not offer APs Senior Year Course Load: 4 honors, 1 capstone research class for an independent project, and 1 additional psychology research course Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: did not submit test scores AP/IB: N/A Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. going to be vague so nobody finds out who i am.. Varsity VB Captain (played 3 years, senior year I was captain) Varsity Beach Captain (played 2 years, senior year I was captain) Communications & Media Team works on team at school to connect graduates to current students + raises money for school Volunteer Bio Tutor Residence Life for upperclassmen at my boarding school Community Service Club Jack & Jill of America Lifeguard (paid) Research intern @ Wesleyan for psychology (starting this month) Awards/Honors Community Service Award (school) Community Service Award (Jack & Jill) Photography Award (Jack & Jill) All-Conference Volleyball Award Girl Scouts Bronze Award Girl Scouts Silver Award Sportsmanship Award Letters of Recommendation I only requested two. Letter 1: My (current) French teacher.. have a very close relationship with her, and we have gotten extremely close over the last couple of years! Has been my #1 supporter since day 1 :) 10/10 Letter 2: My former history teacher\u2026 also someone who I can rely on for support, have a lot of trust in, and can talk to about anything! 10/10 Essays I wrote about how coming from a privileged socioeconomic background, and transitioning to a boarding school where other Black students came from different socioeconomic backgrounds pushed me to become isolated and lost in my identity. I also wrote about how I navigated the intersections of race and wealth, growth, and how I\u2019ve learned more about who I am as a person and pushed myself to find myself and leave this state of isolation\u2026 That period was def difficult for the first few years of high school but i got thru it yayyy Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: American University D.C. RD Bates College RD SUNY Binghamton RD (admit but for a transfer applicant, so enroll in 2025 but in the class of 2028) SUNY Buffalo EA SUNY Oneonta EA SUNY Potsdam EA SUNY Purchase EA SUNY Stonybrook EA \u2014 deferred \u2014 admit! Temple University EA Hampton University EA Seton Hall University RD (my mom made me apply because they offered merit & it was a free app lmaoo) Waitlists: Howard University EA\u2014 deferred bro i was deferred but they still haven\u2019t released decisions\u2026 like WHAT its april 7th Rejections: The George Washington University RD University of

Southern California EA \u2014 deferred \u2014 rejected! Wesleyan University EDII in reality i did not want to go here. the app was free because i said i was applying for finaid, and i also only applied because of the opportunity to play volleyball since I had been talking to the coach Reflection: if your school uses those college websites that calculate your reaches, unlikelies, and etc, APPLY ANYWAYS! I want to say about 65% of my schools were unlikely. only 3 out of the 6 SUNYs i applied for were targets, and those were my state safety schools. bates was my number 1 and it was an unlikely. their acceptance rate is 13.7% and i STILL did that. don\u2019t doubt yourself ever 2. make sure you know where you want to go\u2026 don\u2019t waste your EDI/II\u2026 I didn\u2019t even want to go to Wesleyan fr, and I really did regret not doing EDII to Bates. I had the opportunity to, and I didn\u2019t\u2026 Solidify your choices and make sure you\u2019re doing it for YOU. 3. SAVE MONEY FOR APPS Most of my apps were free- all of the SUNY\u2019s except for SBU because of SUNY Free App Week, Seton Hall, Wesleyan, and Bates were free. Go to different virtual college events, look into free app periods, etc! They will provide codes or opportunities to get your fees waived! save as much money as you cannnn edit, rewoded my statement due to confusion"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Purdue University (EA, Honors College). UIUC (RD, Mechanical Engineering, no clue how this happened since they admit most of their pool EA). RPI (RD, \$20K Scholarship and \$12,500 F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Scholarship). WPI (\$30K Scholarship). NJIT (\$14K Scholarship, but no Honors College??) Rutgers University New-Brunswick (No scholarship or Honors College??) University Of Waterloo (\$1471.62 Scholarship; idk how I got in, it's actually super competitive and a dream school for many Canadians) UMD (RD, Mechanical Engineering; again, weird because I think they admit most of their engineers EA) Rose-Hulman Institute Of Technology (\$28K per year scholarship).",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Indian citizen living in the US :/ Residence: NJ Income Bracket: Middle Class Type of School: Smallish-Mediumish Public High School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Parents went to college in India Intended Major(s) : Mechanical Engineering (Put Materials Science or Electrical Engineering as my second choice). Academics GPA (UW/W): 102.863 W (School works on a 100 scale and doesn't submit weighted GPAs). Rank (or percentile): N/A of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 APs from freshman to junior year (Max you can take from my school in the first three years of high school is five, which I wasn't able to do because of scheduling conflicts). Senior Year Course Load: AP Chemistry, AP Physics C, AP English Lit, AP French Lang, AP Psychology, Multivariable Calculus. Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned

and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1550 (750 RW, 800 M), but submitted all three scores (1490, 1520, 1550 with 800 M in all three). AP/IB: 5 in AP Lang, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, and AP US History. Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. FRC (Mechanical Officer jr year, Co-President sr year) - Led 25 members develop mechanisms w/CAD+shop tools, managed \$21K budget+doubled savings, set up 501c3 status, organized ~5 annual STEM outreach events. Engineering Internship with my town's engineering department - 1st HS student to intern w/ Town Engineer, oversaw \$2,000,000 road improvement program, designed+implemented drainage solutions for residents. Investing Club (Founder and President) - Led financial discussions to 50 members, encouraged addition of investing class to school curriculum, organized simulated trading competitions. MUN - (Secretary for two years, president for sr year), Set up conferences for participation, led discussions on geopolitics, taught public speaking and debate skills. French Honor Society (Secretary sr year) - Set up international pen-pal program, raised knowledge of French culture through dance, raised money and set up for town's international night. National Honor Society - (Tutorin Coordinator) - Manage town tutoring program (~300 tutoring requests per year), spend 1+ hours/week tutoring students, lead ~5 service projects in community. Peer Leader for Freshman Advisory - Co-led a class of ~15 freshmen adjust to high school, led freshmen orientation, familiarized 9th graders w/ school environment, extracurriculars, and academics. Camp Counselor Volunteer @ Camp Invention - Mentored students grades 1-6 in science, planned & assisted w/ STEM experiments, aided teachers in managing classrooms of 20 students. Math Honor Society & Science National Honor Society (VP Math Honor Society Sr Year) - Completed ~10 hours of tutoring in Algebra 1 and Biology, fundraised \$100 dollars for school STEM-Appreciation Events. Junior Varsity Tennis - Participated in JV Tennis, helped new teammates improve, represented the school and team at home and away games. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. FRC Dean\u2019s List District Championship Semi-Finalist; 1st from team to receive award since 2013. School Science Award - Awarded to a junior in my school for interest, passion, and capability in science. National Merit Commended Scholar NJ Seal of Biliteracy in French AP Scholar with Honor Letters of Recommendation I can't really comment on how good they were numerically lol, but here's what I thought. English Teacher - Above average, she definitely thought I was a great, mature, and intelligent writer. Calculus Teacher - Above average, her calc class is known to be super hard and I got like the second highest grade in the class. Guidance Counselor - REALLY REALLY GOOD, my guidance counselor and I were tight. She really mentioned everything I've done for my community, like setting up and piloting a completely novel internship program for high school students from my town, my robotics award, and how my personal history tied into one of my extracurriculars. She didn't show me anything, but she told me what she wrote about

and I was very impressed (and super grateful!). Engineering Internship Boss - I read it, and it was really good. It really highlighted my work ethic and my responsibility, and how impressed my boss was with my ability to adapt and learn quickly. I showed it to my friend and he was really impressed with it too. Interviews/Videos Princeton: First one, and I absolutely cooked with it. My interviewer was telling me about how his engineering friends made him something inappropriate (he lowkey got super comfortable with me lmao), and he called me one of his top interviewees and said that I had many good qualities and characteristics that will bring me success wherever I go. It was such a confidence booster lmao. Cornell: Not evaluative, but the interviewer liked me and my life story. I knew her son too, which was weird. Stanford: It was good, but my weakest one. We talked about AI and developments within the field for a decent chunk of it lmao. Essays I started my essays REALLY early. I got them reviewed by C2, my English teacher, friends, and my parents. They all thought they were pretty good and highlighted my interests in the interdisciplinary very well. My common app essay was a unique take on my experiences moving around internationally. Definitely wasn't a tearjerker, but I think it was a really solid essay. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Purdue University (EA, Honors College). UIUC (RD, Mechanical Engineering, no clue how this happened since they admit most of their pool EA). RPI (RD, \$20K Scholarship and \$12,500 F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Scholarship). WPI (\$30K Scholarship). NJIT (\$14K Scholarship, but no Honors College??) Rutgers University New-Brunswick (No scholarship or Honors College??) University Of Waterloo (\$1471.62 Scholarship; idk how I got in, it's actually super competitive and a dream school for many Canadians) UMD (RD, Mechanical Engineering; again, weird because I think they admit most of their engineers EA) Rose-Hulman Institute Of Technology (\$28K per year scholarship). Waitlists: Olin College Of Engineering (Really thought I would like this school, but the Candidates Weekend was just not it for me, so I declined a spot on the waitlist; I hope someone out there gets in off of the waitlist though!) The Georgia Institute Of Technology (Got deferred EA; Yeah I'm gonna stay on this one and go if I get off of it, but that ain't happening lmao). Rejections: Princeton University (REA --> Rejection in RD). Cornell University (RD). Columbia University In The City Of New York (RD). Stanford University (RD). Reflection: So yeah, I knew that I was signing up for a rough ride because of my international status, but Jesus did I get screwed from my reaches lmao. Most of the kids and some of the teachers in my school thought I would get into Princeton University (we usually get one per year) simply because of the impact I had on my school and community. Ironically enough, even the person who did get in thought I would get in over him lmao. Life is cruel though, especially since Princeton University has been my dream school since I was 12. To H4 Kids: I'm sorry you're in this situation. You really can't win here, but you can do your best to hedge all the negative outcomes. If you're interested in STEM (and you better be to get a visa), please apply to Purdue. It's hellla affordable for the quality of education that you're receiving. Feel free to

look at options outside of the US. Canada has a really good immigration system, but it's rapidly changing. DM me if you want help/information with Canada (keep in mind that I'm choosing to take the risk to stay in the US). Definitely apply to the Need-Blind schools here; you may not get in, but if you get lucky, you're kind of set. Feel free to message me if you want support/guidance/advice I will do my best to help y'all out because lets be real, our situation is so unique that we don't get any help. To Everyone Else: Well, it's been real. The journey started with me watching college reaction videos when I was in 7th grade and ended with me being destroyed by all my reaches lmao. I was gutted, I worked super hard for everything. My family didn't help me out aside from basic support with extracurriculars, so I can say that everything I accomplished, I did with my own two hands. But still, it simply wasn't good enough, and I am thinking of changing my mindset and lifestyle because like it or not, grinding and hard work don't pay off. I don't really know what to say rn, I always thought of making this post when I was a junior in high school, but here I am. Try to craft a narrative the best you can, utilize all the opportunities in your school (and make some new ones for future students!) and try your best. You really can't do anything more than that, aside from be lucky. I'm gonna commit to Purdue University (which I can't be sad about because it is cracked at engineering), but I'll probably go to GT if I get in off the waitlist. BTFU!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: T60 Public State School (EA, +20k/yr scholarship) T60 Public State School (EA) and Honors College (5k/yr scholarship) Georgia Institute of Technology (EA deferred) Swarthmore College (RD) Brown University??? (RD, Still can\u2019t believe it) Harvard University???? (RD, Also still can\u2019t believe it)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Mid-Atlantic Income Bracket: Middle Class (applied and qualified for aid) Type of School: Large public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen Intended Major(s) : BME for all except Swarthmore (general engineering), my one state school (bioengineering), NEU (biological and chemical engineering?), and JHU (bio molecular and chemical engineering??) (I don\u2019t remember the names LMAO) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.64 W, no UW Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 8 APs from fr-jr yr Senior Year Course Load: 6 APs + Multivariable Calc Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1500 (700 RW, 800 M) AP/IB: Reported three 5s and three 4s (had one 3 and two 2s which I didn\u2019t submit) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Keeping this vague so I don\u2019t

dox myself but PM if you want specifics/impact Science Olympiad (Officer) Competition Club (think HOSA, DECA, FBLA, etc.) (Officer) Founded group tutoring org at school Social science research [redacted] Honor Society (Officer) Volunteer for local STEM org (100 hrs) School music performance group (think band, chorus, orchestra) Family responsibilities Leadership position in my school district (1 of 3 students across grades 6-12 chosen) Smaller selective performance ensemble Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. National Merit Commended Science Olympiad awards Award from competition club Candidate/finalist for state position in competition club AP Scholar with Distinction Had two other significant school awards in STEM and a regional citizenship award which I included in additional info Letters of Recommendation I had 5 LORs (English teacher, Math teacher, Chem teacher, counselor, and one of my club advisors). I'm not sure I can rate any of them, but after my acceptances, my math teacher said they wrote a very good letter. Interviews/Videos Duke: my first ever college interview. Was kind of tense during it but it wasn't bad. Harvard (1st): went really well. Talked about everything from STEM to advocacy and Diet Coke. We talked for over an hour. Harvard (2nd): was alright. I was nervous since it was with my AO. I think they got a good idea of my personality though. Cornell: it wasn't evaluative, so there wasn't too much pressure. My questions were all over the place lol Brown: I liked my video, and an AO messages me saying they liked it as well :) Swarthmore: I got lucky. My first prompt was horrible, but my second prompt was good and I think I answered well. Essays Don't want to share too much but I felt Mr essays (particularly in RD, not so much early) reflected my personality and character well. They weren't necessarily written well though if I say so myself. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: T60 Public State School (EA, +20k/yr scholarship) T60 Public State School (EA) and Honors College (5k/yr scholarship) Georgia Institute of Technology (EA deferred) Swarthmore College (RD) Brown University??? (RD, Still can't believe it) Harvard University???? (RD, Also still can't believe it) Waitlists: Northeastern University (EA deferred) Cornell University (RD) Columbia University (RD, thought I was getting rejected for sure bc I struggled w my essays so much but was pleasantly surprised) Rejections: Johns Hopkins University (RD, I spent 30 minutes on this app) Duke University (ED deferred, offended but it's fine cause y'all lost to NC State) Reflection: Going into this, I thought I had no shot at any of these big schools because I've done nothing close to the caliber of most admitted students, but I've learned the importance of showing your character and not being perfect. I'm sure being first gen helped me a lot, but being able to show how you can contribute beyond your talents in the classroom seems to be something these schools value as well, and I think it gets buried under other things like stats and ECs. It's honestly funny seeing where I am now though. At this point last year, if you asked me where I wanted to go, I would've answered

Duke immediately. I\u2019m extremely happy with my options now though, and my deferral from Duke wasn\u2019t that bad after all. I ended up finding some schools that I really liked (and getting into them!) :) I applied to 5 schools early, 3 of them being reaches. I was deferred from all of those reaches. I thought it was over for me, but DO NOT LOSE HOPE GUYS. Even if you\u2019re rejected early, there will always be a school that wants you!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Clark University (RD): Accepted Hampshire College (RD): Accepted Smith College (RD): Accepted SNHU (Rolling): Accepted UMass Lowell (EA): Accepted UMass Amherst (RD): Accepted for Comp Sci + Honors College!!! (Will probably go since CMU will NOT be taking me off the waitlist Imaooo)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Kenyan American Residence: Northeast Income Bracket: Upper Middle Class (only during 2022, we are not currently) Type of School: Public Trade School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen, LGBTQ, 504 Plan, URM Intended Major(s): Data Science and Gender Studies Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.31 W, 3.9 UW Rank (or percentile): 16/555 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 APs, 1 DE, 51 Classes Total (Mostly Honors), 2 language classes this year (very limited college options and I didn't even know we had them) Senior Year Course Load: 3 APs, 1 DE Standardized Testing SAT: Test Optional (1140 Imaoo) Extracurriculars/Activities Paid Internship with IBM SkillsBuild (cybersecurity) Unpaid Congresswoman Lori Trahan Intern CVS Mentorship Intern Aaron's Presents Project Leader for 6 years (BLM marches, book drives, local volunteering, etc) Small Online Business (selling official anime merch) GripTape Challenger (continued a passion project from Aaron's Presents that brought diverse and inclusive books to low-income communities) SkillsUSA competitor for 4 years in Technical Computer Applications Student Shop Representative Founder of sunnydayproject (small social media campaign bringing in awareness for LGBTQ+ youth) Art Club NTHS Sophomore Planning Committee Helper of mom's online African Jewelry Business Thrive Scholar (prestigious summer college program) 3 Jobs Awards/Honors National African American Recognition Award Upper Health 1 Excellence Award National Technical Honor Society Membership Award Technical Computer Applications SkillUSA 2nd Place In-House Award Technical Computer Applications SkillUSA 4th Place In-House Award (Mentioned my 1850840192 certifications from Google, IBM, etc in my resume) Letters of Recommendation I had 4 LORs (English teacher, Aaron's Presents Founder, Comp Sci Teacher (junior year), and counselor. (IDK if they were good) Interviews/Videos Brown: Super cringe and last

minute, shouldn't have done it lmao Essays Personal statement was 8/10 and my Brown, CMU, and USC essays were peak. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Clark University (RD): Accepted Hampshire College (RD): Accepted Smith College (RD): Accepted SNHU (Rolling): Accepted UMass Lowell (EA): Accepted UMass Amherst (RD): Accepted for Comp Sci + Honors College!!! (Will probably go since CMU will NOT be taking me off the waitlist lmaooo) Waitlists: Middlebury (RD): Waitlisted CMU (RD): Waitlisted Wellesley (RD): Waitlisted Rejections: Boston University (RD): Rejected Brown University (RD): Rejected Cornell (ED): Rejected Northeastern University (EA): Deffered >>> Rejected UMich (RD): Rejected UPenn (RD): Rejected USC (RD): Rejected No Desicion Yet??? Case Western (RD) Penn State (Rolling) Reflection: I thought I had a shot at some of these (Brown) but obvi not lmaoo I still happy with the results (UMass Amherst is near gender clinics that give cheap asf hormones) glad it's over now lol"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Georgia Tech Purdue West Lafayette Rutgers New Brunswick",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: NJ Income Bracket: 300k+ Type of School: Noncompetitive technical school, urban Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Parent works at Penn Intended Major(s) Material Science and Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 105.026 W Rank (or percentile): 2/375 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 18 DE, 9 H Senior Year Course Load: 9 DE Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1510 (710RW, 800M) Non-academics Extracurriculars/Activities Vex Robotics(3 years) Team Lead for two years Mentored 8 students Coded, CAD(Fusion 360), designed, built, drove Helped take the club from less than 10 students in my sophomore year to over 20 in senior FIRST Robotics(3 years) CAD Workshop Lead Scouter FIRST Lego Workshops/events SkillsUSA(4 years) Competed in 3 STEM competitions(2 silver medals) Volunteered at Community Service events held by the club Leadership Development program member NHS(2 years) Treasrurer Helped run member/recruitment meetings Wrote event proposals/liability forms/etc. Helped run community service/fundraising events Took care of dues Brainstormed/come up with ideas/write proposal forms with other officers Student Council(4 years) Secretary for 2 years and Vice President for Senior year Helped run meetings/brainstorm sessions Helped run events Track & Field(4 years) Sprinter(100, 200, 400) Piano(8 years) Church Volunteer(2 years) Helped with the CC on TVs in mass Helped clean the pews during Covid Summer Rowan Engineering Camp(Junior Summer) Self Nanorobotics Research(Junior Summer) Class Officer(4 years) Vice



president in freshman year(could not really do much in covid lockdown) Awards/Honors  
 Silver Medal in SkillsUSA Engineering Technology/Design Competition Silver Medal in  
 SkillsUSA Mobile Robotics Three-year varsity in track Nominated for New Jersey  
 Governor's School Program Presidents list for local cc and high school Mu Alpha  
 Delta Honor at local cc Two-time Naval Horizons Essay winner Letters of  
 Recommendation (Did not look at them) English Teacher Chemistry Teacher(also Vex  
 mentor) Pre-engineering teachers(also Vex and First mentor) College Stuff Interviews  
 MIT Interview(8/10, probably needed a little more prep, but I would say it went pretty  
 solid) Essay There were a lot, but my personal were about my three nicknames and  
 how they represented me.(Spent the most time on this, 9/10) Decisions (indicate  
 ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) EA: Georgia Tech Purdue West Lafayette UIUC Regular: MIT  
 UPENN Carnegie Mellon Rutgers New Brunswick Acceptances: Georgia Tech Purdue  
 West Lafayette Rutgers New Brunswick Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon Rejections: MIT  
 UPENN UIUC Additional Information: If I could do anything different, it would be to do  
 more with my summer and give more time to my supplemental essays(don't  
 repeat my mistakes) I'm still excited about Georgia Tech being my  
 second choice and because it has one of the best MSE programs for nanoscience!  
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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 UTD (w/ full ride + stipend) Texas A&M (\$3k/yr lol) Georgia Tech (EA w/ Stamps Finalist,  
 did not attend weekend) UT Austin (EA w/ Turing Scholars, Computer Science +  
 Business Honors) UCLA Rice (w/ Full Ride + 20k Research Stipend) Cornell (w/ Hunter  
 R. Rawlings III Cornell Presidential Research Scholar) Duke Yale Stanford (Update:  
 Committed!)",

"answer": "A: \*\*\*I'm gonna get doxxed, but yolo (dm me if you need help or want  
 more info on my application) Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Indian)  
 Residence: Southern U.S. Income Bracket: \$100-150k Type of School: Semi-large,  
 public school (~2000 kids) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic,  
 Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W):  
 4.0/4.0 (UW), High Weighted GPA Rank (or percentile): 1/~600 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual  
 Enrollment/etc.: 1 Regular, 22 APs, 3 Dual Enrollment Classes (Lin Alg, Diff EQ,  
 Multivariable Calc.), Rest of my classes were Honors/Pre-AP Senior Year Course Load:  
 AP Art History, AP European History, AP Gov/Econ, AP Physics C, AP Environmental  
 Science, AP English Literature Standardized Testing SAT: 1550 (750RW, 800M) AP/IB:  
 5s and 4s Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities 1 Independent  
 Research 2 State Officer for CTSO 3 STEM Non-Profit 4 Intern @ Startup 5 Researcher

@ T10 6 Researcher @ T20 7 World Science Scholar 8 AI Club President @ School 9  
 CS Club President @ School 10 Freelance Tutor Awards/Honors 1 Special Award @  
 ISEF, 2x ISEF Finalist 2 Oral Presentation Winner @ National Junior Science and  
 Humanities Symposium 3 2x American Junior Academy of Science Fellow 4 1st Author  
 of 3 Research Publications 5 2nd Place @ DECA ICDC Letters of Recommendation CS  
 Teacher: 10/10, knew him really well, helped him out a bunch w/ classwork/other  
 activities English Teacher: 6/10, was a good student in her class? not sure if I was the  
 best student, but definitely liked her class a lot (and did fairly well overall) External Rec  
 #1 (Professor): 10/10, worked in his research lab, 1st author of paper External Rec #2  
 (Mentor): 10/10, worked at his startup, built some really cool software Interviews MIT  
 (EA) - 5/10, super nervous for this interview (was my first one), ~45 mins and not sure if  
 I connected well with my interviewer Harvard - 7/10, pretty good, run-of-the-mill  
 interview; ~1hr Duke - 10/10, 2hr interview Yale - 7/10, got a really late interview request  
 (~2 weeks before decision came out), she grilled me on Shakespeare for almost the  
 entire time lol Princeton - 10/10, connected well w/ interviewer Georgia Tech Stamps  
 Scholarship Semifinalist Interview - 8/10, got finalist status (didn't attend weekend) UT  
 Austin CSB - 10/10, 1hr 30 min convo w/ interviewer UPenn M&T - 6/10, average  
 interview Essays Common App Essay: Finished common app before school yr started. I  
 thought it was a solid 8/10. Supplementals: Started these around a week before they  
 were due for all of my schools (I got deferred from MIT lol). Was super stressed and  
 definitely crunched for time. For the ivies I applied to, I thought they were fairly good  
 (7/10). For schools I didn't really care all too much (and thus spent very little time on)  
 about they were around a 4/10. In particular, I spent an extraordinary amount of time  
 (relatively) on my supplementals for Harvard, MIT, and UPenn. Decisions Acceptances:  
 UTD (w/ full ride + stipend) Texas A&M (\$3k/yr lol) Georgia Tech (EA w/ Stamps Finalist,  
 did not attend weekend) UT Austin (EA w/ Turing Scholars, Computer Science +  
 Business Honors) UCLA Rice (w/ Full Ride + 20k Research Stipend) Cornell (w/ Hunter  
 R. Rawlings III Cornell Presidential Research Scholar) Duke Yale Stanford (Update:  
 Committed!) Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon UPenn Princeton Columbia Harvard Rejections:  
 MIT (EA deferred --> rejected, dream school) Caltech UC Berkeley Additional Info: Put a  
 few extra science/research awards + Coca-Cola Scholar. Talked about special family  
 circumstances. Reflection/Advice: The college admissions process can be  
 unpredictable but it isn't random: Your essays, personality, and extracurriculars are  
 extremely important. There are tons of people on this subreddit with extraordinary  
 qualifications that definitely are capable of performing well at a T10 school, but many  
 don't gain admission. My best advice to anyone is focus less on maximizing your  
 awards/ECs and focus more on enjoying what you do. Throughout high school, I've  
 found great enjoyment and fun in all the activities I participate in. Your essays should  
 reflect that you are a genuine person who has a personality outside  
 academics\u2014what do you do for fun?, are you kind to other people around you?,

are you curious?, etc. Don't place so much emphasis on landing a top school: Trust me, there's (most probably) going to be a point where you're getting rejection/waitlist after rejection/waitlist. I was in the same position, but what I came to realize amidst these rejections was that I would've been happy at my state school as well. Your activities shape you as a person\u2014if you're genuinely passionate about them, it doesn't matter whether or not you get into a college because of them, you still gained valuable skills/learned something. You're probably not going to get into your dream school: My dream school was MIT. My second dream school was Harvard. My third choice was Stanford. I didn't get into my first two choices, and some of the smartest people I know who have far better credentials than I could ever attain (ISEF 1st place winner, Olympiad Qualifiers, RSI, etc.) didn't get into their dream schools. That's completely fine! Like I said before, college admissions is unpredictable, but not random. Before shotgunning or applying to a bunch of schools, remember that there's a high chance you may not get into the school you want to. I'm going to end this section off with a translated quote from one of my favorite movies of all time (3 Idiots): Don't pursue success; pursue excellence, and success will follow. I think this perfectly encapsulates my experience with college admissions. I've found that the common theme between several HYPISM admits I know is that they didn't care about college admissions until their senior year; instead, they focused on being excellent at what they enjoyed doing. If you do the same, there's a higher chance (although not guaranteed), that you will land one of your top choices. If you want help in the admissions process, finding research, or tutoring, feel free to private message me, I'd love to help :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UMich (cs), UMN twin cities (+ 15k per year), UW Madison (CS although Madison isn't a direct admit program), Purdue (CS), UCSC (CS), UFlorida (not sure about major + 6k per year), UC riverside (CS), UMD (not cs + 12.5k per year),",

"answer": "A: Sorry for vague and lazily structured post but here's my results. Please ask if you want more information. Help me pick a school to commit to! Residence: competitive social public school Major: CS everywhere besides DS at UCB/UCSD GPA (UW/W): 3.89/4.29 SAT: 1560 (770RW/790M) ECs: pretty mid but my best ECs were club president and an internship I did Acceptances: UMich (cs), UMN twin cities (+ 15k per year), UW Madison (CS although Madison isn't a direct admit program), Purdue (CS), UCSC (CS), UFlorida (not sure about major + 6k per year), UC riverside (CS), UMD (not cs + 12.5k per year), Waitlists: UIUC (CS+x), UC Davis (CS) Rejections (cs at all schools): ALL other ucs LOL, UT Austin, Stanford, Georgia Tech, USC Pretty happy with my results but let me know if y'all have any

questions. Good luck to all. Leaning towards Michigan because cost isn't a huge problem and I think it's worth the premium over Purdue. Any opinions on what school I should commit to are welcome, I'm really not sure which one is best."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Georgia Tech (EA II w/ Stamps SF, but did not advance to Finalist round post-interview, which I was pretty sad about). UNC Chapel Hill (EA w/ Honors Carolina and Accelerated Research Program). Emory (RD w/ Woodruff Scholarship Finalist. Did not receive Scholarship post-interviews but received half-tuition because of Finalist status). VANDERBILT!!! (RD w/ \$250K CORNELIUS VANDERBILT SCHOLARSHIP (+ \$8K National Merit Finalist Award), a dream since 9th grade). Duke!! (RD). PENN LSM (Wharton + Neuroscience)!!! (RD, seriously my DREAM UG PROGRAM FOR 3 YEARS, got in without any LSM or even penn UG interview and nearly cried when I got in so ARE YOU KIDDING ME). Pitt (Rolling w/ Frederick Honors College and \$80K Merit Scholarship). Hofstra (EA II w/ Rabinowitz Honors College and \$148K Presidential Scholarship). VCU (Rolling w/ Honors College and \$146K Presidential Scholarship). ACCEPTED BS/MD!!! (AHHH I GOT INTO MEDICAL SCHOOL) Creighton (Rolling w/ \$112K Magis Award + \$8K Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award). Accepted "BS/MD" (would take VCU's BS/MD over this). Temple (Rolling w/ Honors College and \$80K Provost's Scholar Award). In-state Safety (Rolling w/ Honors College and some scholarship money). Arizona (Rolling w/ Franke Honors College and \$72K National Merit Finalist Award). Baylor (RD w/ \$92K Distinction Award). Rochester (RD w/ \$35K Bausch + Lomb Honorary Award). GW (RD w/ \$125K Presidential Scholarship). COCA-COLA SCHOLARSHIP (\$20K + summit + massive alumni network)!!! (Another literal dream since 10th grade, I still cannot believe it). I submitted an update to all of my schools upon becoming a RF and Scholar, respectively. Rejections: Pitt BS/MD (Round 1, PSA: I don't recommend applying to Medicine GAP (this program) or Penn State's PMM program unless you have a (near) perfect SAT/ACT and UW GPA). Hofstra BS/MD (GHOSTED Round 1, sooo mean for what). Temple BS/MD (Round 1). Baylor BS/MD (Round 1). Case Western BS/MD (Round 1, also withdrew from traditional UG consideration). Syracuse BS/MD (Round 1, also withdrew from traditional UG consideration). Rochester BS/MD (Round 1, kinda sad because I loved my essays). GW BS/MD (Round 1). Arizona BS/MD (post-interview). I have a lot of emotions with this decision, especially since it was my last decision and was closest to my home state. Yale (SCEA, initially hurt since I had grown to love Yale a lot, but didn't really care about the rejection afterwards). Harvard (RD). Brown (RD, rejected from UG and PLME rippppp). Robertson Scholarship (Round 1). Private In-State Scholarship (became a SF, but rejected from becoming Finalist post-interview). This was one of the most upsetting

moments of the cycle, especially because of a lot of factors led me to think that I would advance, but I still would receive a \$60K scholarship in total from them if I chose to stay in-state",

"answer": "A: NOTE: I have not officially committed, but I will update this post by mid-April with my final decision! ANOTHER NOTE: I COMMITTED TO PENN LSM!!! ROLL QUAKE I wanted to make this because I haven't seen too many stereotypical-demographic BS/MD applicant results here. there's also so much (good and bad) that I've learned about this application process along the journey, and I'm here to give that advice to you earlier than I learned it through experience. so get ready for a super long post :) some abbreviations that I'll be using: UG: undergrad SF: Semifinalist RF: Regional Finalist UW: unweighted, W: weighted AO: admissions officer CA: Common App Demographics Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Western US Income Bracket: I don't qualify for need-based financial aid Type of School: Small, semi-competitive charter school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, LGBTQ+, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): medical anthropology, BME, tech & society, health/medicine, neuroscience and business ;) (very school-dependent, so PM me if you wanna know specific details) Academics GPA: 4.00/4.00 (UW), 4.86/5.00 (W) Rank (or percentile): N/A (school does not do class rank/percentile) Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment: 5 Regular, 8 Honors, 14 APs, no IB/DE Senior Year Course Load: Post-AP Science, Post-AP Foreign Language, Post-AP Math, AP Research Standardized Testing SAT: Did not take ACT (submitted to every school): One-sitting: 34 (36E, 34M, 36R, 31S) (one-sitting is sometimes required for BS/MDs) Superscore: 35 (36E, 35M, 36R, 31S) PSAT: 1470 (710RW, 760M) AP: APUSH (4), Bio (5), Calc AB (5), Calc BC (5), Chem (5), English Lang (4), English Lit (4), Euro (4), Human Geo (4), Psych (5), Research (N/A), Seminar (5), Spanish Lang (5), US Govt. (5) Other: I took the CASPer and got 4th Quartile (more on this in the \"Interviews\" section) Extracurriculars/Activities (I only included these 10 for CA, but I included many more for BS/MDs and scholarships. PM me if you want the full list of ECs I used for my BS/MDs) international 501(c)(3) in disability tech and education-related areas (3 years). a legitimate passion project that's changed the course of my life (and defined my career aspirations). computational epidemiology research with in-state university's professor (3 years). first-authored preprint, research used weekly by CDC for one of the most impactful national epidemiological projects in recent history. with that being said, I did NOT compete in any science fairs/symposiums nor did I publish in any journal or present at any conference . policy advocacy for topics related to #1 EC (<1 year). co-wrote multiple position papers on international level with multiple UN major groups. this wasn't a \"resume builder,\" but I could only begin this so recently due to age restrictions. instrument #1 (13 years). performed numerous national concerts for this. wrote 1 essay on how this has uniquely shaped my thinking processes and what I want to keep exploring in college. instrument #2 (8 years). played with local symphony for 6 years. wrote 1 essay on this and how it's

also uniquely shaped my thinking processes and what I want to keep exploring in college. founder/president of medicine-oriented youth club with hospital affiliation (3 years). hospital summer volunteering and language translating/rad tech shadowing (4 months). shadow at doctor's office (2 years). also observed some procedures, wrote informal meta-analyses on common conditions to show to doctor. very small intersectional science-humanities research program (1 month long). was able to write many of my "why major" and "why school" essays based on the insight I gained from this. music museum volunteer (<1 year). wrote this to end on a lighter note and give a foot-in-the-door for AOs regarding some slightly resume-related but also exploratory activities. Awards/Honors (I only included these 5 for CA, but I included many more for BS/MDs and scholarships. PM me if you want the full list of awards I used for my BS/MDs) Prestigious youth social entrepreneurship award #1 (\$5K, summit, 1 of 30 globally, for EC #1) Prestigious youth social entrepreneurship award #2 (\$5K, summit, 1 of 30 nationally, for EC #1) Prestigious youth social entrepreneurship award #3 (\$3K, summit, 1 of 52 nationally, for EC #1) External \$10K Scholarship Rensselaer Medal (\$160K RPI scholarship, selected by my counselor for this in junior year) Letters of Recommendation (yes I needed 10 for BS/MDs ) Teacher 1: I've messed up a few times in their classes but learned from my mistakes. I've always been extremely attentive and they know the perseverant journey I've had in their classes. Teacher 2: we've known each other since middle school since they also supervised a school club I was in. they've supported me at my concerts and know me on a personal level, not to mention that they know how I've persevered and helped others persevere through academic setbacks. Teacher 3: we've academically known each other since middle school. I've always been very attentive and contributive in their classes and got student of the year for one of them. Teacher 4: one of the best people I've ever known. they've supported me at my concerts and know me personally, not to mention that they know that their classes have changed how I view the world. School Counselor: I've developed a very solid connection with them since the beginning of junior year and they're one of the most supportive people to me. External 1 (#2 EC's Research Mentor): I've shown my initiative to always learn from them and be inventive, and they're always interested in hearing about my academics/other ECs. External 2 (Doctor I shadowed): I've always asked questions while shadowing and they always welcome me to closely observe even during some procedures. External 3 (Lead of Organization Collaborating with my initiative, not submitted to CA): could talk about my path to collaborating with their organization, tangible impact we've had on our community together. External 4 (Lead of Organization Collaborating with my initiative, not submitted to CA): could talk about my work in the community and with their org (also huge medical facility in the community), individual anecdotes that are heart-touching. External 5 (Supervisor for #6 EC): could talk about my perseverance in founding/leading, innovative ways to expand club, and my traits that would prep me to become an excellent physician. Interviews

Traditional UG: Duke (my only traditional UG interview; late-February, virtual): Interviewer was very intrigued by my work, we had some parallels regarding our fields of work and overall goals. I also mentioned something so specific about Duke that brought back lots of nostalgia for them and sparked a mini conversation that made them aware of how I would fit in at Duke (so DO YOUR SCHOOL RESEARCH to a T).

Georgia Tech Stamps (full-ride) SF (Kira Talent; early-February, virtual): I had prepped a lot for this, but my interview did not go very well (super bummed about this but it was completely my fault). However, I have to say that they do a very good job of showing you the infinite opportunities that they offers as a community, including putting you in contact with numerous Scholars/alumni and hosting several info sessions.

Emory Woodruff (full-ride) Finalist (2-part interview): Kira Talent (early-March, virtual): pretty reasonable and short (~30 minutes). same type of content prep as GT Stamps interview, but the practice with the GT Stamps one definitely helped me regarding verbal prep.

Group Interviews (late-March, in-person): very interesting, honestly kinda fun. they mainly test your ability to work on-the-spot WITH OTHER PEOPLE given a certain prompt and discern your natural leadership abilities (not being too overpowering but also never staying silent).

Scholarship (can't share too many details on this post due to confidentiality): Coke Scholar RF Interview (late-January, virtual): very comforting and conversational. I fit into the mindset of the community with ease, and appreciated how much they had read up on me.

Private In-State Scholarship (late-January, virtual): pretty intense interview, but I felt fairly confident about this one. Also appreciated how much they had read up on me, and asked for my opinion on pressing issues statewide.

BS/MD (can't share too many details here due to confidentiality): Creighton \"BS/MD\" (early-February, chose to have it in-person): VERY VERY relaxed. it consisted of 1 med student conversation for ~20 minutes where they ask about experiences on your application. overall day was also very welcoming/informative, and I really appreciated how much my interviewer had studied my application.

VCU BS/MD (late-February, virtual): very well-rounded experience. MMI was very conversational.

RPI/AMC BS/MD (early-March, virtual): surprisingly not too intense, required the same amount of prep as VCU, started off meh but got better as the interview went on.

Arizona BS/MD (early-March, virtual): very conversational, but slightly disappointed because I couldn't mention a few details that would've made my answers more potent.

CASPer Test (late-January): I started prepping 6 days before my test with no game plan whatsoever. I binged youtube videos, did dozens of practice scenarios, memorized the test's format, and nailed down my typing speed, and ended up getting 4th Quartile (highest possible score). In hindsight, many of my peers (who got into other BS/MDs) and I said that taking the CASPer actually helped them prep for their MMIs the most.

PM me if you need tips on how to prep (or cram) for this.

Brown Video Portfolio: very fun to make. got to express the non-academic and non-EC/artsy side of me, show my humor, and be very inventive.

NOTE : since the beginning of junior year, I've also talked to A LOT of

alums/current students at nearly all of the BS/MDs, scholarships, schools, and programs I applied to (LinkedIn is actually useful??). I highly recommend doing this, as they aren't necessarily "interviews," but very informative, nonjudgemental conversations. PM me for tips regarding this. Essays context: I started writing 1 week after my junior year APs finished. In total, I wrote 90 essays for UGs and BS/MDs and at least 25 for scholarships. I would say that my essays really differentiated me versus any other component of my application. I'm really proud that I wrote some banger hooks and my essays nailed down themes that were very central to who I am, what change I want to make, my approaches to tasks, and how I want to try new things. tip: don't be afraid to experiment with the format of your essay, as long as it contains a fairly evident, overarching theme. I would advise that each applicant reads this post to understand the AO perspective of essays and letters of recommendation. My CA personal statement focused on my journey and reasons for creating EC #1, and incorporated some humor, a very appealing hook, and a cohesive theme that applies to all of life. My BS/MD personal statement focused on a specific, seemingly-unconventional experience that reflected various of my clinical experiences and therefore my motivations to enter medicine. It was a slightly untraditional approach, but it seemed to relatively work with 4 invites from 12 programs (not counting PLME since they don't do interviews). RESULTS (NOTE: I've also attached my BS/MD decisions as a Sankey diagram to visualize that process better: [ link ]) Acceptances: Georgia Tech (EA II w/ Stamps SF, but did not advance to Finalist round post-interview, which I was pretty sad about). UNC Chapel Hill (EA w/ Honors Carolina and Accelerated Research Program). Emory (RD w/ Woodruff Scholarship Finalist. Did not receive Scholarship post-interviews but received half-tuition because of Finalist status). VANDERBILT!!! (RD w/ \$250K CORNELIUS VANDERBILT SCHOLARSHIP (+ \$8K National Merit Finalist Award), a dream since 9th grade). Duke!! (RD). PENN LSM (Wharton + Neuroscience)!!! (RD, seriously my DREAM UG PROGRAM FOR 3 YEARS, got in without any LSM or even penn UG interview and nearly cried when I got in so ARE YOU KIDDING ME). Pitt (Rolling w/ Frederick Honors College and \$80K Merit Scholarship). Hofstra (EA II w/ Rabinowitz Honors College and \$148K Presidential Scholarship). VCU (Rolling w/ Honors College and \$146K Presidential Scholarship). ACCEPTED BS/MD!!! (AHHH I GOT INTO MEDICAL SCHOOL) Creighton (Rolling w/ \$112K Magis Award + \$8K Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award). Accepted "BS/MD" (would take VCU's BS/MD over this). Temple (Rolling w/ Honors College and \$80K Provost's Scholar Award). In-state Safety (Rolling w/ Honors College and some scholarship money). Arizona (Rolling w/ Franke Honors College and \$72K National Merit Finalist Award). Baylor (RD w/ \$92K Distinction Award). Rochester (RD w/ \$35K Bausch + Lomb Honorary Award). GW (RD w/ \$125K Presidential Scholarship). COCA-COLA SCHOLARSHIP (\$20K + summit + massive alumni network)!!! (Another literal dream since 10th grade, I still cannot believe it). I submitted an update to all of my schools upon becoming a RF and Scholar, respectively.



Rejections: Pitt BS/MD (Round 1, PSA: I don't recommend applying to Medicine GAP (this program) or Penn State's PMM program unless you have a (near) perfect SAT/ACT and UW GPA). Hofstra BS/MD (GHOSTED Round 1, sooo mean for what). Temple BS/MD (Round 1). Baylor BS/MD (Round 1). Case Western BS/MD (Round 1, also withdrew from traditional UG consideration). Syracuse BS/MD (Round 1, also withdrew from traditional UG consideration). Rochester BS/MD (Round 1, kinda sad because I loved my essays). GW BS/MD (Round 1). Arizona BS/MD (post-interview). I have a lot of emotions with this decision, especially since it was my last decision and was closest to my home state. Yale (SCEA, initially hurt since I had grown to love Yale a lot, but didn't really care about the rejection afterwards). Harvard (RD). Brown (RD, rejected from UG and PLME rippppp). Robertson Scholarship (Round 1). Private In-State Scholarship (became a SF, but rejected from becoming Finalist post-interview). This was one of the most upsetting moments of the cycle, especially because of a lot of factors led me to think that I would advance, but I still would receive a \$60K scholarship in total from them if I chose to stay in-state Waitlists: RPI BS/MD (RD w/ \$160K Rensselaer Medal Award, post-interview). Northwestern (RD, accidentally wrote Harvard instead of Northwestern on my essays so yikes). Case Western (RD, even though I chose not to be considered for UG post-BS/MD rejection lol). Additional Information I included 9 other honors (20-30 words each) and lots of press-feature links regarding my #1 and #2 ECs (90% of the links were for my #1 EC). I also included my other experiences in research and shadowing and gave brief specifications (which medical speciality, when, how many hours, some specific things I did). Reflection/Advice before someone comes at me, I did not use ANY familial connections to find/improve my ECs. my #1 strategy is to cold-email, which I've talked about in a past comment here . writing this post is very emotional. I was one of those kids that began college admissions research WAY too early, meaning I've been HOOKED onto the whole process for an absurd amount of time. as a consequence, I developed a version of \"duck syndrome\" and couldn't do anything but always compare my activities/accomplishments to others and think that others were effortlessly taking on everything while I just grinded. over time, I've realized that this feeling is EXTREMELY common amongst a majority of competitive applicants. if you take away one thing from this post, it's to try not to fall into this, as it's extremely unhealthy. please try not to compare yourself to others, stay away from deep college research until at least middle of sophomore year, and know that there is genuinely no one factor that differentiates \"accepted\" from \"rejected.\" and frankly, that's the unfortunate truth of college admissions: we don't know how many variables exist that AOs factor into their decisions, and that's why admissions is SO RANDOM. for that reason, just continue to refine your own craft, and (this is cliché but) \"display the best version of YOURSELF.\" this cycle was nothing short of a rollercoaster (for me and others). I've had some (delusional) moments where I thought I would get into most of my schools,

but I've had many more moments where I thought I should start preparing for my safety school, because \_\_\_\_ is lacking in my application (I was fearing that lack of school involvement would be evident, since I've never done DECA/HOSA/FBLA and hold very little involvement in school clubs). there was a point when my fears started coming true: my first 7 legit results were all rejections. in these straining moments, I asked myself is \"What else could I have done?\" at least 10 times per day. and the answer is nothing. and I'm extremely grateful that the final results proved to be a balance of all outcomes. my motto for the whole year was \"just get through it.\" I pushed through each application with my 100% and didn't settle for any less effort. I GUARANTEE you, if you try as hard as you can to shoot for the stars, you'll land closer to them than if you never tried as hard. it's very possible that you won't see the results immediately, but you will eventually. my biggest realization about college admissions: you're applying to an institution to take advantage of their resources/traditions/culture in order to further your own aspirations and catalyze what change you want to make in this world. to optimize this, you have to vibrantly display what you think are the most important aspects that define WHO you are, and also what you would use at the institution to actualize those aspirations. after you've tried your hardest to do so, it's up to each program to consider whether you would thrive in their specific environment or not. ultimately, my decision of bs/md vs. LSM comes down to a few things, but is primarily based on how hard I'm willing to work for med school and go through an even more grueling process than these past few months. however, for me personally, I believe that LSM's resources can provide me an experience like literally no other, and also provide me with some flexibility regarding if I still want to pursue medicine or go into consulting first or even another healthcare field. so yes, I'm leaning toward LSM right now. edit: in fact, I'm still shocked because I, as a non-legacy, ORM, no FGLI, got into WHARTON with 0 economic ECs or classes (I don't think my organization or policy work really count as legit business ECs either). So literally ANYTHING is possible in college admissions. ANYTHING. finally, I'm now also launching a consulting program (essays, standardized test prep, internships, initiative building, BS/MD and scholarship interview prep, etc.). this includes some free sessions, but I'm still finalizing this with my team, who are all '24 coke scholars accepted into and attending some of the most prestigious programs nationally and aiming to pursue medicine, biotech, CS, IB/consulting, poli sci, and much more. PM me if you would like more information. otherwise, also feel free to PM me questions related to my application, experiences, or just admissions in general. also lmk if y'all want me to make another advice post and I will write my heart out. I hope to keep making much more admissions content in the very near future. thanks for listening to my ted talk :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Princeton, GA Tech, CMU, UIUC, Purdue, UF, UCF",

"answer": "A: demographics: indian male in central florida, 4000+ people in public school, 872 in class applied for material sci everywhere thinking ima do that but realized after i wanna do data sci type stuff test scores: 36 act , 1540 sat, 1470 psat/nmsqt coursework: projected to finish 26 ap classes, 14 dual enrollment, and have done 4 IB HL and 2 IB SL. currently have 12 4's, 7 5's, and 2 3's on ap's and a 5 and 7 on the two ib exams i have taken. diverse coursework with many math, physics, chem, cs related classes gpa: 4.0/4.0 uw, projected to be 4.9 ish/5.0 at end weighted, rank 1/872 awards (only listing 5): 1x AIME qualifier (2023) (possibly getting this year as well idk 90 on both amc 12's is borderline) 2x USNCO qualifier (2022 + 2023) UF SSTP (summer program) Best Research Paper (2023) National Merit Semi-finalist 3rd Place in CAC Quiz Bowl States as Part of Seminole County (have some additional info awards like selected to present at CMU sports analytics conference + Midwest Sports Analytics Meeting) extracurriculars (only ten here): also, two of them are italicized as the first italicized is included in my EA apps but i got the princeton opportunity after which is included in new apps mridangam/kanjira carnic percussion instrument player - around 10 hours a week and have participated in multiple concerts including one at a religious shrine in india (jan 2020 - present) founded free sat math tutoring program in junior year, have reached to around 30 kids starting this year, helping solve lack of access to education problem locally (oct 2022 - present) ucf physics research focused around molecular dynamics and computational modeling, contributed to research presented at a famous physics conference earlier this year (jul 2022 - present) uf sstp program - performed research on food waste dynamics, won best research paper and continuing research to contribute to published paper as it should be published soon (jun 2023 - present) mu alpha theta/national math honor society member, treasurer (2023-24), calculus content leader (2023-24) - won multiple regional and state accolades including perfect score of 120 on a calculus regional in 2023 (aug 2020 - present) science olympiad/bowl member, president (2023-24) - won multiple regional awards and working as sole president in club with projected around 25-30 members (aug 2021 - present) chinmaya mission philosophy student - philosophy student learning about the framework behind hindu philosophy for long period of time and performed volunteering and service work as part of organization (aug 2016 - present) princeton course developer assistant - helping with the development of a possible sports analytics course at princeton university along with the wintersession workshop (oct 2023 - present) soccer analyst intern for orlando city sc - creating data-driven projects that will contribute to the recruitment analysis of the club (aug 2023 - present) syracuse sports analytics research - helping with a project focused on f1 vs indy car speed differences currently and working on future projects after this one finishes (jul 2023 - present) georgia tech material science + polymer science research - helping a phd student in chemical/biomolecular engineering with

simultaneous learning of polymer science topics and contribution of data analysis and qualitative insights (sep 2023 - present) essays: were probably ok, not too special LoR: i think i got in because i had an insane LoR from the guy i work with at princeton but some of my other ones might have not been great RESULTS: Acceptances: Princeton, GA Tech, CMU, UIUC, Purdue, UF, UCF Waitlists: Berkeley, Northwestern, Rice, Cornell, Penn, UCLA Rejections: MIT, Stanford, CalTech, Duke Glad to join the Princeton family and do ORFE as my major!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (anything not EA or ED is RD) Pomona Claremont McKenna Northwestern UMich OOS EA UVA OOS EA State School",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Midwest Income Bracket: 100-150k / yr Type of School: Public, competitive Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s): Poli-Sci on a pre-law track Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.84/4.4 Rank (or percentile): unknown (top 10% weighted probably) of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 APs, no IB Senior Year Course Load: 5 APs (Physics I, Stats, US Gov, Eng Lit, Spanish) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1550 (770 RW, 780 M) AP/IB: 7 5s and 6 4s, 12-13 APs Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Track and Field - HS Team Captain (12-15ho/wk) Student Body VP Internship at Law Firm Volunteering stuff Science Olympiad Job Work at a nonprofit Work at another nonprofit School newspaper Another internship Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Essay Contest Science Olympiad State #1 Nat. Merit Scholar 2nd place at a random local government competition. AP Scholar Letters of Recommendation English teacher (9/10) \u2192 I knew her pretty well and I think she liked me, but I wasn't the favorite in the class. Math teacher (7/10) \u2192 Kind of lukewarm. She was okay w/ me, but definitely not a favorite. I still think she knew me well enough to write a decent LOR. Interviews: Harvard (6/10) \u2192 Interview was pretty short. The interviewer was pretty cool, but overall, it was mid. I wasn't able to connect with them at a close level. Penn (10/10) \u2192 We spoke for like 1.5 hours and we def connected. Talked ab sports and whatnot and felt like an actual conversation. Dartmouth (8/10) \u2192 Interview was pretty good. The interviewer seemed nice and was pretty interested in my activities and interests. Duke (8/10) \u2192 pretty much the same as dartmouth Pomona and CMC (na/10) \u2192 I forgot to do both optional interviews and videos Essays Very last minute but I thought they were all okay. (7-8/10) Decisions (indicate

ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (anything not EA or ED is RD) Pomona  
 Claremont McKenna Northwestern UMich OOS EA UVA OOS EA State School Waitlists:  
 Penn Williams Dartmouth Amherst UCLA OOS UC Berkeley OOS Rejections: Columbia  
 ED (defer \u2192 reject) USC EA (defer \u2192 reject) Harvard Stanford Tufts Duke  
 Conclusion: In sum, I was pretty happy with how things went. My GPA is definitely on  
 the lower end of the spectrum, but I demonstrated a slow upward trend and had a pretty  
 good SAT score to substantiate my academic skills. I figured that shotgunning would be  
 the best tactic w/ my stats. As I\u2019m on a pre-law track, I\u2019m torn between  
 Pomona and Northwestern \u2014 they\u2019ve both offered pretty good aid, so  
 affordability isn\u2019t too big of an issue. I feel like Pomona is a better pre-law college,  
 but Northwestern\u2019s big name is really enticing. I\u2019m PPE at Pomona and PoliSci at  
 NU. I\u2019d love to hear your insights \u2014 thanks!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 (order of release) \u2022 Cal State Long Beach- Biology \u2022 University of San  
 Francisco- RD Biology \u2022 UC Davis- Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior, B.S.  
 \u2022 Cal Poly SLO- Biology \u2022 UC San Diego- Human Biology \u2022 UCLA-  
 Biology <\u2014\u2014\u2014 COMMITTED!!! \u2022 UC Santa Barbara- Biological  
 Sciences \u2022 UC Berkeley- Molecular and Cell Biology",

"answer": "A: Demographics \u2022 Gender: Female \u2022 Race/Ethnicity: Asian  
 \u2022 Residence: Southern California \u2022 Income Bracket: Lower middle class (no  
 fee waiver but cannot afford private tuition) \u2022 Type of School: Competitive public  
 school \u2022 Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.):  
 first gen Intended Major(s): Biology (or bio equivalent) Academics \u2022 GPA (UW/W):  
 UW 4.0/ W 4.83 \u2022 Rank (or percentile): Not applicable \u2022 # of  
 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 AP, 1 Honor, 3 years of DE \u2022 Senior Year  
 Course Load: AP Chem, AP Calc BC, AP Lit, AP Gov/AP Macroeconomics Standardized  
 Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. \u2022 SAT:  
 1210 (did not report; did not take much effort into studying since I knew I did not have to  
 report) \u2022 \u0410\u0420\u0412: (very average) -5: none -4: HUG, Lang, World -3:  
 Bio, Psych, APUSH -honors pre calculus -dual enrollment (not much useful courses, just  
 took classes I was interested in) \u2022 intro to sociology \u2022 music appreciation  
 \u2022 religion and witchcraft (anthro) Extracurriculars Activities List all extracurricular  
 involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc.  
 Varsity tennis 4 years (captain 2 years) 2.BNP Paribas Open (pro tennis tourney)  
 volunteer 3 years: 30 hours/year 3. pres NHS 4. pres of cultural club 5. Vice Pres of  
 school\u2019s pathway club 6. CSF (didn\u2019t do much) 7. martial arts since age 6

8. volunteer at a doctors office 2x/week for 3 yr Awards/Honors (not many) List all awards and honors submitted on your application. MVP and School's athlete of season for 2 consecutive years AP scholar with honor Principal's highest honor roll for 4.0 UW Letters of Recommendation (Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) None Interviews (Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) None Essays (Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) I started my essays really late, and looking back I found that only 2/4 of my UC PIQS were decently strong (hardship and leadership question). I had 2 family members (English majors) read over them for grammar and editing. Only applied to one private, USF since they waived my application. Did it on the day it was due and their one supplemental response didn't take much time. I submitted one of my PIQS as my completed essay per their requirement without adding anything. (I didn't really care if I got in or not) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (order of release) \u0022Cal State Long Beach- Biology \u0022University of San Francisco- RD Biology \u0022 UC Davis- Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior, B.S. \u0022Cal Poly SLO- Biology \u0022 UC San Diego- Human Biology \u0022 UCLA- Biology <\u0022\u0022\u0022\u0022 COMMITTED!!! \u0022UC Santa Barbara- Biological Sciences \u0022UC Berkeley- Molecular and Cell Biology Waitlists: \u0022 UC Irvine- Biological Sciences Rejections: None"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UIUC: CS + Education ( I am extremely happy as it is the closest program to what I hope to do in the future. Even though it is very oriented to create digital learning environments, I'm sure it will be very useful for the career prospect I hold)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino Residence: International (Colombia) Income Bracket: 200k+ (I know it sounds hard to believe but no one in my family are drug traffickers) Type of School: Not very competitive private school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : I mostly wanted to apply to Data Science and statistics programs, but I also applied to some CS degrees as well. My dream is to work for the DNP (national planning department) to make decisions relating to national education. Academics GPA (UW/W): 9.4/10.0 Rank (or percentile): 3/66 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 (I mostly didn't send them as the scores were BAD) Senior Year Course Load: The Colombian Bachillerato Acad\u00e9mico forces you to study a whole lot of Subjects and I also had some IB Subjects as well so: German (IB HL), Biology in German (IB HL), PE, Music (I played Viola), Spanish (IB HL

Lang&Lit), Ethics, Philosophy, Physics, History in German (IB SL), Informatics, English (B Lang; IB HL), Mathematics (A&A IB SL), Chemistry, Religious Education, IB Core Subjects Before anyone asks, yes I had 4 HL Subjects, and yes I had very useless IB Subjects for Data Science, but the IB Subjects were school mandated and everyone had the same ones, so nothing I could really do. Standardized Testing SAT: 1560 (770RW, 790M) ACT: 34 (34E, 35M, 33R, 34S) IELTS: 8.5/9.0 Extracurriculars/Activities A course I was selected for due to having a good ICFES (Colombian SAT) Developed a game about the political discourse in Colombia and Latin America at the moment Co-Founder of an organization that collected more than 200kg of plastic trash and turned it into plastic wood to buy a playground in a nearby public school Participated in recreational activities made for low-income children in public schools across the last years of High School Helped with the production of a Documentary about the Bojayá Massacre Gave a Speech in my school about the Societal Importance of Colombian Football Played Viola and Piano Founded my school's debate club 6 Month Exchange Program in Germany Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Finalist (there was no real winner) of the local public university math olympiads 99th percentile scores in the 2 most important exams in Colombia's Education Math Valedictorian (there was no real valedictorian only a recognition of the best student in each subject group) Letters of Recommendation Math Teacher 5/10 Piano Teacher 7/10 Physics Teacher 6/10 Tbh I LOVED the letters, there were very honest and very beautiful, I still cry reading them, but they are not in the style of a US Admission rec Letter. For me personally (and for almost everyone here) they would be 10/10. For this subreddit, they would be near the ~3/10 Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Princeton - 3/10: the conversation was actually pretty nice, we talked mostly about my city and some other things related to the university, but my English completely failed me that day :( MIT - 8/10: We talked in Spanish as he was from Bogotá, so that was (although not ideal for the system) cool. We talked about my future plans and what I would use an MIT degree for. Essays Not good The main essay was hardly a 4/10, very generic. The only remarkable one is one of the CMU essays where I compared Carnegie's Work with a philanthropist family here in my city, and how we, the privileged have an obligation to help the less fortunate. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) I only applied RD Acceptances: UIUC: CS + Education ( I am extremely happy as it is the closest program to what I hope to do in the future. Even though it is very oriented to create digital learning environments, I'm sure it will be very useful for the career prospect I hold) Waitlists: CMU Georgia Tech Rejections: 5 UK Unis my dad told me to apply to even though I didn't meet the basic requirements Princeton MIT Harvard Columbia NYU Cornell Stanford UMich Yale Additional Information: Overall, I'm really happy. Most of my rejections came from universities I knew I wouldn't get accepted into so I was not really heartbroken. And from everything I've seen

UIUC is a perfect university (except for the countless Reddit posts about people not showering so I see about that. I still wait for the waitlisted universities, as they are also excellent universities, and the CMU program I applied to is also excellent for what I would like to do. Obviously I know there isn't much of a chance, but trying isn't worthless unless it's impossible. Thanks for reading either way. And I hope you all are great day :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: San Jose State University (CS) Calpoly San Luis Obispo (CS) UC Santa Barbara (CS) UCLA (CS & Engineering) UC Berkeley (EECS) Northeastern (CS, London Global Scholars + \$9k scholarship) - EA University of Michigan (CS advance selection) - Deferred EA --> accept UT Austin (Turing Scholars Program) - RD MIT (Aerospace) - EA",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Bay Area, California Income Bracket: upper-middle Type of School: Public, semi-competitive Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Aerospace, Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.47 / 4.00 Rank (or percentile): School not ranked of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 2.5 Honors + 11 APs + 12 Dual Enrollment Lots of physics (calculus-based mechanics and electricity & magnetism) + math (linear algebra, multivariable calculus) + some CS (Java, Python) classes. Senior Year Course Load: High School: AP Stats, AP Psych, AP Chem, AP Lit, AP gov / Honors Econ, Digital Photo Dual Enrollment: Differential Equations, Discrete Math, Physics with Calculus III, Java Data Structures Standardized Testing SAT: 1600 AP: 5s on everything Extracurriculars/Activities Technical leadership position on a team that built and test-flew 12 aircraft Summer Science Program (Astrophysics) NASA TechRise Challenge winning team (granted \$1.5k and mentored by NASA to build microgravity experiment) Self-published novel Volunteer at local aviation museum 2x/month School STEM club leadership positions Awards/Honors AP English Language Perfect Score AIME qualifier (I got a 2...) USABO semifinalist Letters of Recommendation Environmental Science teacher: mentored the NASA TechRise team, he knew me really well, probably a great LOR Math teacher: taught me for 3 years, I've done very well in his classes, probably a good LOR English teacher: taught me for 2 years, went through a lot of learning curves in her class but it worked out, probably a good LOR SSP professor: honestly no idea, but I assume it was good given how things turned out? Interviews I interviewed for MIT and Harvard, both over Zoom. Both were pretty standard. I'm not a great conversationalist on a good day and I was really nervous for my MIT interview so I rambled a lot and probably only made sense



half the time. The Harvard interview went more smoothly, my interviewer seemed enthusiastic. Essays Personal statement: I wrote about building the aircraft and how that inspired me to work on eVTOLs. It's unique but not peak writing, and has a fair bit of aerospace jargon. Supplemental essays: I spent a long time writing my MIT supplementals, ran them past an MIT alum, and am really happy with them. My UC PIQs were also good. My other supplementals were effective but bland (by the time I got to writing the Harvard and Princeton supplementals, I was completely done with everything...). Maker portfolio: submitted to MIT, Harvard & Princeton. I think it's pretty strong. Decisions Acceptances: San Jose State University (CS) Calpoly San Luis Obispo (CS) UC Santa Barbara (CS) UCLA (CS & Engineering) UC Berkeley (EECS) Northeastern (CS, London Global Scholars + \$9k scholarship) - EA University of Michigan (CS advance selection) - Deferred EA --> accept UT Austin (Turing Scholars Program) - RD MIT (Aerospace) - EA Waitlists: Harvard - RD Princeton - RD Rejections: University of Washington (CS) Stanford - RD Additional Information: I applied CS for most schools and am honestly shocked that I got almost all of them. I don't have as much CS experience as many of my peers, so my essays focused on how my other engineering/math/physics experience would be applicable to CS. So grateful it worked out!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign EA Indiana University Bloomington EA + 8k scholarship Purdue RD Chapman University EA + 40k scholarship San Jose State University UC Irvine UCLA -> Most likely committing for business economics",

"answer": "A: Copy and paste this template when creating your own post.  
Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Bay Area Income Bracket: Upper Middle Class- don't qualify for any aid but don't have enough to afford private and OOS tuitions Type of School: Public competitive hs in Silicon Valley Hooks: None Intended Major(s) : Business or Econ if the school didn't have business Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW for EA schools, 3.97 UW for RD and school doesn't calculate weighted Rank (or percentile): 1/720 for EA schools but not sure what rank was for RD schools since I got a B first semester 8 APs School doesn't offer honors 3 Dual: Intro to Business, Intro to Sociology, Elementary Statistics of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Senior Year Course Load: AP Gov, AP Macroecon, AP CSA, AP Lang Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1500 (720RW, 780M) 5s on all APs Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Paid Business Internship at the local chamber of commerce

Codeveloped a studying app for Technovation Challenge Varsity Soccer + Captain for 2 years Varsity Track & Field Club Soccer in NorCal Premier League Youth and Young Advisory Board Member for Santa Clara County Public Health Department Getting to Zero Program Vice President of School Science Olympiad Club Cofounded small business that donates profits to children in hospitals (crocheted goods to sell and wrote about this in my common app) Volunteer for Best Buddies Volunteer at a nonprofit that aims to increase financial literacy in high schoolers Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Technovation Challenge Quarterfinalist USABO Semifinalist National Merit Commended Student AP Scholar with Honor HOSA State Qualifier Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) AP Bio teacher 7/10 sort of knew me but had a good brag sheet English Teacher 7/10 we connected well and shared our love of soccer but I don't think he had much to write about other than that Overall LORs were probably average I don't think they hurt my application but probably didn't help too much Essays common app: wrote about my love of crocheting and gifting the world with my creations I had a college counselor so I think my common app was pretty good but I think my supplements for all schools were average nothing really extraordinary since I'm not that great at writing and I didn't have much help. I think my UC PIQs were pretty decent though. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign EA Indiana University Bloomington EA + 8k scholarship Purdue RD Chapman University EA + 40k scholarship San Jose State University UC Irvine UCLA -> Most likely committing for business economics Waitlists: UC San Diego University of Washington Rejections: University of Chicago EA(deferred -> rejected) University of Southern California EA(deferred -> rejected) UC Berkeley Northwestern RD Dartmouth RD University of Pennsylvania RD University of North Carolina Chapel Hill RD University of Virginia RD University of Texas Austin New York University RD Stanford RD Williams College RD Additional Information: I think that I kind of threw on college applications because I had pretty decent stats but my essays were average and I also didn't ED anywhere since I didn't know if I could afford the college I got into."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of South Florida (rolling) - 16,000 scholarship University of Central Florida (rolling)- 30,000 scholarship University of Florida (EA) NC State (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) UT Austin (EA) - accepted into second choice major but with 6000 per year",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Woman Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: Rural town Income Bracket: Lower Class Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen, Rural Town Intended

Major(s) : Chemical Engineering :) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 W/4.5 UW Rank (or percentile): 5/177 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 Honors, 15 AP (including Calc BC, Chem, Physics, etc) Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics 1, AP Stats, AP Gov, AP Macro, AP Comp Sci A, AP Lit, Two Intern classes, Tech class Standardized Testing SAT I: 1500 (760RW, 740M) ACT: 34 (34E, 31M, 36R, 35S) AP/IB: 5s on all except -> AP Chem & AP World 4 + APUSH 3 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. President of Robotics and programming club at my school President of Mu Alpha Theta at my school Caretaker of my little sister Shift Leader and my local ice cream shop Part of a scholarship pageant at my school (won a spot on the court) Costume Designer (aka cosplayer but i make my designs with eco-friendly materials) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. National Merit Commended National Hispanic Scholar National Small Town Scholar Sunshine State Scholar Nominee (for my school) Good Citizen Award/ Nominee (for my school) Letters of Recommendation AP Chem Teacher - 10/10 Honestly probably one of the reasons I got waitlisted where I did. I have a very good relationship with her and she pretty much knows my life story. She loved me in her class and is a beautiful writer. Robotics Sponsor - 9/10 This one definitely showed more of my personality and character traits especially when it comes to leadership. She let me take a look and I teared up reading it :) Math Teacher of 3 years - 6/10 Very cookie cutter but a decent LOR nonetheless Interviews Princeton- 100000/10 I cannot describe in words how well this went. The alumni who interviews me also happened to be a Latina who had the same views as me and she was very young so we bonded over my costume designs and the things we advocate for. Was able to do in-person and went over our allotted time by 20 minutes because she enjoyed our conversation so much Essays I wrote two personal statements: Costume design and how it helped me find my love for ChemE - 9/10 Definitely didn't given any insights into my personal struggles but gave a glimpse into my mind and how I function. (Submitted to all but Princeton) My struggles with my mother (won't go into detail but definitely not the 'typical' issues people have) - 9.5 This was actually a short essay turned into a personal statement because it gave so much insight about why I am the way i am and why i persevered through school and life. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of South Florida (rolling) - 16,000 scholarship University of Central Florida (rolling)- 30,000 scholarship University of Florida (EA) NC State (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) UT Austin (EA) - accepted into second choice major but with 6000 per year Waitlists: Princeton University (RD) :((( my dream school Overall, I am so happy and so grateful for my college decisions. Especially when on paper, I don't look all that impressive. I think the main thing that helped me was my writing. If I was physically able to do more EC's I may have gotten into Princeton. I wasn't able to because

of my family and financial situation. However, I believe whatever 2019s meant to be is meant to be :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: BYU EA (Full ride!!!) Going here since good community, good engineering and amazing business program! BYUI EA(Full ride!!!) Union College EA (Full ride!!!) Gettysburg College",

"answer": "A: I dont see many posts about people absolutely failing a shotgun attempt but heres mine. Im not mad at these results because I'm just happy to have a full ride to a good institution. Gender : Male Race/Ethnicity: Native American / European Residence: Low Competitive Semi Rural/Suburban Income Bracket: 42k Type of School: Title I Public Hooks: Low Income, URM Intended Major(s) : Electrical Engineering Business Management Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.71/3.89 Rank (or percentile):15% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 AP 17 DC Senior Year Course Load: 4 Dual Credit 3 AP SAT I: 1350 (650RW, 700M) ACT: 29 (22E, 35M, 22R, 36S) AP/IB: Calculus 4 Cisco Certified Networking Associate Extracurriculars/Activities Mayors Youth Advisory Council 2 years - Exec Council DECA 4 years, Founder and President, 3 Time State Champion in Written events Idaho Science and Aerospace Scholars 1 Year Team Lead, Online class with best students attending a summer camp Wrestling 1 year JV 3 year Varsity Church - 3 years active convert and member - tons of Volunteering Family Responsibilities - 4 years - Take care of siblings, drive them to appointments and help provide food with jobs and volunteering at food banks. Robotics - team lead 2 years Family traditions whole life - cook traditional dishes and make traditional clothes Exploring outdoors and camping Developed my own program for a teacher that uses an OCR recognition software for the schools livestreams Awards/Honors 3 time 1st place DECA state written event Quest Bridge Finalist Distinguished student at my school PSAT National Recognition award Letters of Recommendation History/Gov Teacher, amazing teacher, know each other really well. Math/Robotics Teacher - also know each other well, i show really tough work ethic and have a good relationship with her. Mayor of my city - 10/10 unique and worked with him lots and knows me well Interviews Tufts 9/10 really good connected with interviewer. Princeton 10/10 came from Similar area with similar background as me. Really connected. Essays Essays 9/10 really creative and original essays that reflected me as a person. Proof read my english teacher and many revisions made. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: BYU EA (Full ride!!!) Going here since good community, good engineering and amazing business program! BYUI EA(Full ride!!!) Union College EA (Full ride!!!) Gettysburg College Waitlists: RPI Lehigh EA Lafayette EA

Bates U of Rochester Rejections: Amherst Boston University Brown University Carnegie Mellon University ED 1 Columbia University Dartmouth University Duke University Haverford College Norte Dame Univseristy Northeastern University ED 2 Northwestern University Princeton University Rice University Stanford Swarthmore College Tufts University UNC at Chapel Hill Vanderbilt Yale Additional Info No reliable access to internet at home"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: CUNY Baruch, Hunter, CSI (EA) Stony Brook University (RD) [with \$2k/year] Binghamton University (SOM) (EA) Amherst College (RD) [with early write/likely letter] Babson College (RD) Bates College (RD) Williams College (RD) Georgetown University (McDonough) (RD) Cornell University (Dyson) (RD) -> committed!",

"answer": "A: if you know me no you don't :) Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Chinese) Residence: NYC Income Bracket: low-income but high assets (own house) + need full aid Type of School: specialized high school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): first-gen Intended Major(s) : mix of economics, accounting, statistics, finance, and/or business administration depending on school Academics GPA (UW/W): 96.11/100 UW, school doesn't weigh Rank (or percentile): school doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 APs, 1 honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Stats, AP Lit, AP French, AP Macro, Forensics (DE) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1410 (710 R&W, 700 M) and 1530 (740 R&W, 790 M) [reported both for a few schools but submitted highest for most] AP: APWH (4), AP Physics 1 (4), APUSH (4), AP Lang (4), AP Psych (5) Extracurriculars/Activities Mock Trial (9-12): was the most important to me so I listed it first + included team awards Marketing Intern (11): was for a educational software company, probably my most impressive EC - created content, analyzed data, compiled resources for social media campaigns + doubled social media following from 30k to 60k, reached all-time high of 90k users on the platform Constitutional Law Debate (10-12): local within my CBO, grade level championship 2x, fall debate winner 1x Student Intern at various law firms (10): gained exposure + hands-on experience w/litigation Key Club (9-12) Summer criminal justice course/program (9): 5-week long course at local law school + played the defendant in the mock trial at the end of the program Writing class (9-12): originally wasn't sure if I should include it but it took up a lot of my time + mostly wrote about social justice issues so it tied in nicely with my app Social justice philosophy course (12): college-level summer course, briefly mentioned my paper on carceral feminism Volunteer tutor (11-12): creating lesson plans, tutoring English + math to

elementary school students McDonald's crew member (12) Awards/Honors NHS AP Scholar Letters of Recommendation Precalc teacher: really loved my teacher and this class, she would always ask me to present my work + go around helping students APUSH teacher: loved the class + did well but didn't talk much (he was a little intimidating lmao) + my mock trial advisor for the past 4 years CBO advisor: probably my best rec because half of my ECs are under my CBO + super in-depth with 4 years of anecdotes Interviews Georgetown (8/10): first interview so I was pretty nervous, seemed to like me a lot but it was mostly me just volunteering information about myself + she was impressed by the amount of time I spent on ECs Harvard (6/10): interviewer did not seem impressed by my extracurriculars (kept asking what else I did even though I had nothing else to add), but seemed to think I was funny (?) when I told her I would like to meet my favorite kpop idol for the "who would you like to invite to dinner" question (i said bang chan from stray kids \ud83d\ude03) Northwestern (9/10): very solid interview, they were super friendly and liked my vibe Essays Personal essay: spent the whole summer working on one which I completely scrapped a week before the deadline. I felt that it had way too much outside influence and it didn't sound like me anymore so my new one was about overcoming my struggles with public speaking + later succeeding. Honestly, I think my new one is also super cliché but I think it was more authentic and my voice shone through a lot more. Supplements: had about 4 supplements which I just kept rotating, the others I wrote wrote the day it was due. I have no idea how I survived but I think they were pretty solid Additional Information: - My commute for schools is about 2 hrs one way - 4ish hours total daily - Talked about family responsibilities: taking care of my brother, cooking, cleaning, etc. - Clarified when I started my job (summer before senior year) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Fly-Ins: Amherst A2A (accepted + didn't attend) Prologue to Bates (accepted + attended) UPenn PIF (accepted + attended) MIT Wise (rejected) Acceptances: CUNY Baruch, Hunter, CSI (EA) Stony Brook University (RD) [with \$2k/year] Binghamton University (SOM) (EA) Amherst College (RD) [with early write/likely letter] Babson College (RD) Bates College (RD) Williams College (RD) Georgetown University (McDonough) (RD) Cornell University (Dyson) (RD) -> committed! Waitlists: Boston University (Questrom) (RD) Boston College (Carroll) (RD) CUNY Macaulay Honors @ Baruch College (EA) University of Pennsylvania (Wharton) (RD) Rejections: Yale University (REA) Northeastern University (D'Amore-Kim) (RD) Johns Hopkins University (RD) Northwestern University (RD) New York University (Stern) (RD) Duke University (RD) Harvard University (RD) Brown University (RD) Columbia University (RD) Notes: The reason why I applied to so many different times of colleges was to compare aid and because I didn't know what kind of school I preferred, so I decided to let schools decide for me. It came down to Williams vs. Cornell for me in the end, and even now I still second guess my decision quite a bit. I was very surprised by my results, especially given that I was applying to business programs with a "spike"

(?) in law and a lack of leadership positions which I thought was important for business programs in particular. To be fair, it may have been the reason why I was rejected from the rest of my schools. It also seemed like LACs preferred me a lot more over research universities, which was interesting. Overall I'm super happy with my results though!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Cambridge UTokyo",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: East Asian Residence: East Asia Income Bracket: Upper-middle Type of School: Private Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Physics, engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 5.00 UW Rank (or percentile): Top 10% AP 0 Senior Year Course Load: Quite tough Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1530(730RW, 800M) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): IELTS7.5, TOEFL109 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Vice captain of a badminton club, best 8 in the prefecture Captain of an English club A member of a student council Research on astronomy at a university, presentation at the Astronomical Society MUN (national level) Staircase painting at the school festival I submitted Art portfolios. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Two silver medals and one fighting-spirit award from the national olympiads. A full scholarship from a private foundation 1st place in a national unified test Letters of Recommendation Physics teacher English teacher I don't exactly know what they wrote, but they are probably quite nice. Interviews MIT: The interviewer was nice. We talked about sustainable energy. Cambridge: It was all about solving problems Stanford: It wasn't the best, I guess. Essays I thought both Common App essays and supplementals were not so bad. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Cambridge UTokyo Waitlists: None Rejections: MIT EA Caltech RD UCLA UC Berkeley Yale RD Harvard RD Stanford RD Additional Information: I was a little bit disappointed with the decisions from the US schools, but I am generally satisfied with the overall results:D MIT was my dream school, but how I use my time at university is more important than where I go, I guess."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Georgia Tech EA2 (current first choice) Rutgers EA + Honors + 20k a year SDSU UIUC CS + Philosophy CU Boulder UCI (tied with SB as second choice, still choosing

between these three italicized options) UCD UCR UCSC UCSB (very close second choice, lowkey might end up attending here) Cal Poly Slo Cal Poly Pomona San Jose State ^^^ All direct admission to CS :D -",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Indian, Male, High Income, California, Competitive Public HS Intended Major(s): Computer Science at all schools Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.0 UW 4.76 W, Rank is 3/631 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 AP Classes Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Lit, AP Gov/Macro, AP Physics 1, ASB, Data Structures Standardized Testing SAT/ACT: 34 ACT one attempt AP/IB: All 5's except APUSH and AP Spanish Lang Awards: Buncha Esports Awards CyberPatriots Platinum Semifinalist AP Scholar w/ Distinction NHS Extracurriculars: ASB Secretary Job as a Coding Instructor for kids Crypto research at local uni, nothing published Founded and ran a summer basketball league President of Esports Club + Member of Varsity team VP of STEM-based volunteer club Web Dev Internship at startup company CyberPatriots Team + Treasurer of Club Technical Lead of international competition, developed their website Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) Common App PS: Talking about my experiences as an extroverted ASB member and introverted gamer and how that shaped me, ended up changing it for my RDs but submitted this for earlies (ig it was good enough for Georgia Tech tho) Supps: LOWKEY TRASH LOL UC PIQs: Spent a June - November solely on these so pretty awesome Interviews: None Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) - Acceptances: Georgia Tech EA2 (current first choice) Rutgers EA + Honors + 20k a year SDSU UIUC CS + Philosophy CU Boulder UCI (tied with SB as second choice, still choosing between these three italicized options) UCD UCR UCSC UCSB (very close second choice, lowkey might end up attending here) Cal Poly Slo Cal Poly Pomona San Jose State ^^^ All direct admission to CS :D - Waitlists: UC Berkeley EECS (will attend if I get off the waitlist, we all know that ain't happening \ud83d\ude02\ud83d\ude02\ud83c\udfb6\ud83c\udfb6) - Rejections: UCLA UCSD Northeastern USC Northwestern Yale Brown Harvard Stanford Reflection Lowkey I am not happy with my results, because of those around me. People around me (other valedictorians) are going to UCLA CSE, Harvard CS, Stanford CS, etc. However, at the end of the day, comparing myself to these people doesn't get me anywhere, and I am absolutely thrilled about GTech. This inherent sense of comparison is natural and I'm sure I'll get over it soon enough though. The reason I would say I am not holistically happy about my college applications process is moreso the fact that I can't stay near home (in good conscious). If I got into SD or LA, I would instantly choose it over GTech due to proximity. However the disparity in ranking between my best instate options (UCI #31 and UCSB #24) to Georgia Tech (#6) is too large to give up cause I'm scared of living without my mommy. Most of the negative feelings that come with the process went away once I dissociated from external outcomes. Regardless of whether or not I attend a good or bad school, I am still the same person that grew, learned, and developed into a better human being throughout high school. An admissions officer not



seeing my capabilities doesn't invalidate those capabilities that I myself am aware of and proud of. I know I'll do great wherever I go, and I'm VERY glad that I did the things I did out genuine interest rather than for the purpose college applications. The only advice I would give to people applying in the next few cycles, PLEASE STRIVE FOR AUTHENTICITY. If your results don't end up going how you wanted them to go, you will still have experiences, lessons, and a sense of purpose to be happy about. If you do things just to get into college, to pad a resume, and to put on an activities list, you render your personal value to your college applications. Do things because YOU want to them, because YOU care about them, because they are things that will push YOU forward. Doing this will allow you to create a sense of personal identity beyond your resume rather than vesting that personal identity in the outcome of college admissions. Also, DON'T SACRIFICE YOUR SOCIAL LIFE FOR COLLEGE APPS! I think this is the thing I am most happy about; I never sacrificed fucking around with my boys and spontaneously doing random shit throughout high school. For me, experiences always came before school (luckily my grades were still good) and they made high school unforgettable. I genuinely enjoyed all of high school because I had a life outside of my classes and extracurriculars. DO NOT get obsessed with the idea of acceptance, remember that there is so much more to life than where you go to college or what your grades look like. Obviously there is nuance to this argument, don't fail school \ud83d\ude2d\ud83d\ude2d, but remember that we only get to experience high school once. I just want to thank this sub, A2C, and even chanceme for helping me sm throughout highschool! I am never gonna be seen here again ngl, wish all of you reading this the best

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UPenn (RD) \ud83e\udd73 Cornell (RD) \ud83e\udd73 Binghamton (EA) (Honors College + Presidential) Stony Brook (RD) (Presidential) University at Buffalo (EA) UAlbany (EA) RPI (EA)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Black (Caribbean) Residence: New York Income Bracket: Middle Class Type of School: Predominantly Minority Public School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 97.333/107.542 Unweighted/Weighted Rank (or percentile): 2/481 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Physics C: Mechanics, AP Physics C: E&M, AP Gov, AP Psychology, Honors English Standardized Testing SAT: 1530 (730RW, 800M) AP/IB: AP Chem (5), AP World (5), AP

Physics 1 (5), AP Physics 2 (5), AP Calc AB (5), AP Stats (5), AP US History (5), AP Lang (3, didn't report) Extracurriculars/Activities Robotics (Team Captain and President) Mathletes (President) Science Olympiad (Vice President) Chess Club (President) National Honors Society (President) Math Honors Society (President) Science Honors Society Covid Research at Research Program at Local University Mark Cuban AI Bootcamp Volunteering at Local Library Awards/Honors Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal RIT Computing Award University of Rochester Humanities and Social Sciences Award AP Scholar with Distinction Drone Robotics Competition National Championship Award Letters of Recommendation Honors Pre Calc and AP Calc AB teacher (10/10): Had her for two years and had a good relationship with her. From what my counselor told me she wrote one of the best letters of recommendation that she has seen in a while. Honors Algebra II, AP Stats and Mathletes Teacher (9/10): Probably the best teacher relationship I have and again my counselor told me that he wrote a really good letter of recommendation. AP US History teacher (6/10): Didn't have as good of a relationship with her but she was the best teacher to get for a humanities letter of rec for schools that required one. Director of STEP Program at local University (10/10): I have been attending this program since I was in 7th grade and have done a lot with them including spending a lot of time on robotics and volunteering at a lot of events they host. I have a good relationship with the director of the program and she wrote me a really good letter of recommendation that I submitted to schools that took outside or other recommendation letters. Interviews MIT (10/10): Had probably one of the best interviews for MIT. While it was on the shorter end of around 30 minutes, I was able to connect with my interviewer on the topic of my research. He had a degree in public health and epidemiology so he fully understood my Covid research and stated how I explained it and conducted it was perfect. Harvard (8/10): It was a virtual meeting so we were unable to make a physical connection but he grew up in a town near mine so we were able to make a connection in that sense. He asked a lot of questions but my responses to them led into a lot of good conversations between us. Princeton (7/10): Definition of standard interview. Nothing really special in the interview happened. We had some good conversations but it again ended short at around 30 minutes. Cornell CAAAN (8/10): I don't know if this counts as an interview because it was only around 15 minutes and it was just for me to ask questions but it went good because I asked a lot of questions that sparked conversations about Cornell. Essays Main personal statement was about my journey in STEM and I related it to a quote from a motivational card my grandmother gave me when I was young. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UPenn (RD) Cornell (RD) Binghamton (EA) (Honors College + Presidential) Stony Brook (RD) (Presidential) University at Buffalo (EA) UAlbany (EA) RPI (EA) Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon (RD) Johns Hopkins (RD) RIT (RD) Rejections: MIT (EA Deferred -> Rejection) Harvard (RD) Yale (RD) Princeton (RD) Columbia (RD) Northeastern (RD) Thoughts: Kinda disappointed I

wasn't able to land a HYP or MIT but I am really happy that I landed two really solid options. Still conflicted on where I will attend but I am going to visit both schools on their admitted students days and will decide from there. Was kinda stressing out before Ivy day bc I was hit with back to back rejections from Northeastern and MIT and then back to back waitlists from Johns Hopkins and Carnegie Mellon but it all worked out in the end \ud83d\ude0c."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: -Ohio State (EA, Psychology) -Purdue (EA, Psychological Sciences) -UIUC (EA, Middle Grades Education) -UC Riverside (Psychology)",

"answer": "A: Demographics East Asian male, LGBT, income 200K+, competitive public high school, in state WA, no hooks \*\*Intended Major(s)\*\*: Psychology, Education Studies (some variations depending on school like Elementary Education, Cognitive Science, etc.) Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.64 (at time of submitting apps, I have 3.67 now), no W GPA Rank (or percentile): school doesn\u2019t do class rank 8 APs (AP Hug, AP World, AP Stats, AP Physics 1, AP Lang, AP Gov, AP Psych, APES) Senior Year Course Load: AP Gov, English, Band, Data Science, Personal Finance, Retail Management, AP Psych, APES Standardized Testing SAT: 1470 (750 RW, 720 M) AP: AP Hug (5), AP World (no test), AP Lang (3), AP Stats (3), AP Physics 1 (2, not submitting) Extracurriculars/Activities Communications Officer for school UNICEF Club, been a member since freshman year, but applied to a board position in junior year. Virtual student tutor for kids with autism at nonprofit organization; gained 400+ volunteer hours over the span of 4 years and received 3 President Service Awards President and Founder of school Kpop Club Independent Psychology Research; nothing too crazy, uploaded 5 articles per year on various topics School Band; been in band since 4th grade, and during high school learned a few new instruments (french horn +mellophone -> bassoon + flute) Taekwondo; been doing since I was in 1st grade and have a black belt. I've been to 2 local competitions, where I placed 2nd and 3rd. Korean Translator for school newsletter, offered position in junior year Student Education Association Club, served as a tutor for middle school students at the local middle school (the school I went to) in my 9th and 10th grade. Club was discontinued after. Not rllly an EC, but I did list my CPR/AED Certification \*Awards/Honors Honestly, \u2019m kinda useless, I have none \ud83d\ude2d ig \u2019m CPR/AED certified, I have a couple taekwondo competition trophies, that\u2019s kinda it\u2026 Oh I do have 3 President Volunteer Awards from volunteering at a nonprofit organization for 4 years. Letters of Recommendation\* Sophomore English Teacher and my Club advisor: Although she\u2019s a 10th grade teacher, she\u2019s without a doubt my closest teacher, and

probably wrote me my best rec letter. I did very well in her class, and we have a relationship where I can regularly come to her for advice or even just to rant. She knows me the best, even when I don't always tell her everything I think about. She knows me both academically and personally. Since she knows me the best, I used her letter at every school that accepted Recs.

11th Grade Spanish 4 Teacher: I was so eager to take AP Spanish my senior year, I skipped Spanish 3 entirely and went from 2 - > 4. My teacher knows this and was thrilled to write my letter for me. I got an A in her class both semesters and was a consistent participant and engagement with her and her class. She knows me well academically, and somewhat personally. If a school accepted more than 1 Rec, I submitted hers.

10th-12th Grade Band Teacher: I've known my band teacher for the longest and I've established a really close relationship with him. It's become a tradition where I'll make his baby son some homemade stickers and my teacher has really appreciated it. I've also picked up multiple new instruments over my years and learned them to decent skill, which he also touched on. However, he has never written a rec letter and was unsure on how to submit it. I actually don't know if he did submit it, it says he did, but I don't see it on my applications... He knows me mostly personally, since band isn't really an academic class. If a school accepted more than 2 Recs, I submitted his.

Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: -Ohio State (EA, Psychology) -Purdue (EA, Psychological Sciences) -UIUC (EA, Middle Grades Education) -UC Riverside (Psychology) Waitlists: -Santa Clara (waitlisted, RD, Psychology) Rejections: -Johns Hopkins (ED, Psychology) -UC Irvine (Psychology) -UC Davis (Psychology) -UW Seattle (RD, Psychology) -UCLA (Psychology) -UC San Diego (Psychology) -Boston College (RD, Psychology) -USC (EA, Psychology, deferred -> rejected) -Boston University (RD, Psychology, did get guaranteed transfer admission though!) -Northwestern (RD, Psychology) -Brown (RD, Education Studies) -UC Berkeley (Psychology) -UMich (RD, Psychology) -UMaryland (RD, Psychology) Overall, I'm honestly sadder about the tragedy in my targets, not so much the genocide that happened with the reaches \ud83d\udc80\ud83d\udc80\ud83d\udc80 getting rejected from Santa Clara and UMD made me realize I would've never gotten into OSU, Purdue, and UIUC if I hadn't applied early, and idk how to feel about that- I'm still not really over UW Seattle, I know the acceptance rate went down from 40% to 10% this year, but it still sucks because I feel like EVERYONE around me got into UW, and I want to be part of that 10% too... but I simply am not good enough oh well !

\ud83e\udd37\ud83c\udfffb\u200d\u2642\ufe0f\ud83e\udd37\ud83c\udfffb\u200d\u2642\ufe0f I am really bummed because UW is such a good school, and it's instate, it would've been a major help for my parents to pay for (and also we don't have to buy exorbitantly priced airplane tickets when i wanna come visit :////). Also something that really makes me sad is all my best friends are juniors rn, and I promised them I'd come to visit them during breaks, come to their last band concert and their graduation, but now I really

don't know if I'll be able to, and that guilt is eating away at me. I also feel guilty because my parents paid so much money for my apps and college process, and they encouraged me to reach as far as I want and they were so hopeful. Not to mention the tutors that have helped me over the years and I just feel awful that I only got 4 acceptances out of 19 schools... Idk. As I said before, I know my grades suck ass, and I swear I'm not really sad about the reaches, I'm just sad about my targets ("targets"). Moral of the story, DO NOT apply to 29292929 reaches and UW should no longer be considered a target for anyone. Don't place all your eggs in one basket; I was hardcore banking on UW, and that's why the rejection broke me. I'm below average in all aspects and I should've known better \ud83e\udd37\ud83c\uddfb\u200d\u2642\u20e0f It's okay."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Illinois State University Cornell College (a liberal arts college, not the ivy league university lol) Roger Williams University Beloit College Temple University Towson University University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Boston University CGS (probably attending!!! full aid offer!!!)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Nonbinary Race/Ethnicity: Wasian Residence: Illinois, Chicago area Income Bracket: Lower class POOR, full aid needed Type of School: Public suburban Hooks: First gen Intended Major(s): Biology/pre-med, applied to any liberal studies program at big universities bc I like humanities too Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.6/4.2 Rank (or percentile): Top 5% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Pretty much all honors or AP, save for a few classes Senior Year Course Load: Took CNA course first semester which took up 3 periods, otherwise 3 APs, 1 dual credit class, rest filler Standardized Testing SAT I: 1400 (750RW, 650M) AP/IB: One 5, three 4s, one 3 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Biomedical research internship (actually did a lot of work, 8 weeks 8 hours a day at local med school) Different biomedical research with the same supervisor, recently published paper together President of Model UN club Vice President of local NAMI branch (volunteer) Science Olympiad all through high school Political volunteering (canvassing, phone banking, etc) Independent artist CNA course Work as a personal care assistant to my disabled aunt Worked at a haunted house for 2 years (2 months each year) (I listed it because it was a huge time commitment and something I was very passionate about) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. AP Scholar with Distinction 20+ Science Olympiad medals, regional to state level Art showed in local art show CNA certification Letters of Recommendation AP Stats teacher: 8/10, let me read it, super sweet and made me cry, but later noticed typos AP

World History teacher: 8/10, also my MUN coach, very close to her Science Olympiad coach: 7/10, not as close but she writes good recs Essays Personal statement: 8/10, spent about 2 months writing and revising, I think it ended up with a very unique and authentic voice. Made sure it sounded like me so the schools that accepted me genuinely wanted me. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Illinois State University Cornell College (a liberal arts college, not the ivy league university lol) Roger Williams University Beloit College Temple University Towson University University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Boston University CGS (probably attending!!! full aid offer!!!) Waitlists: Trinity College Reed College (current dream school, attempting to get off waitlist before BU deposit deadline, but unlikely) Rejections: Johns Hopkins University (EDI) New York University Liberal Studies (EDII) Northeastern University Bowdoin college Vassar College University of Pennsylvania Brown University Columbia University Additional Information: I applied to 20 colleges...evidently messed up 2 of those."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: McGill University University of Toronto with 50k scholarship Case Western Reserve University RD NYU (got accepted to Shanghai!) RD, didn't expect it at all but super happy",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Mixed (White+Asian) Residence: Switzerland Type of School: Private international Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Econ Academics GPA (UW/W): 5.9/7 UW, upward trend Rank (or percentile): N/A Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Full IB Diploma in last 2 years (3 HL, 3 SL) Standardized Testing SAT (not superscored): 1500 (800 RW, 700 M) AP/IB: Predicted 40/45 Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): DET - 155 Extracurriculars/Activities 1 - Created and managed a business selling physical music (vinyl, CD), 15000\$ in sales 2 - Fundraised for a NGO fighting against child labor in Cambodia, donated 4000\$ 3 - MUN, won award given to only 5 teams out of about 80 4 - Learnt Japanese for 4 years 5 - Unpaid internship at a bank There's more but I don't think they're that significant, they include volleyball, summer college programs, etc) Letters of Recommendation Asked my history and chinese teachers, didn't read the letters but I have good relationships with them and they know me well Interviews Georgetown interview - 9/10, went great, we met in person, interviewer was super nice and engaging, sold my profile well Penn interview - 5/10, very average, interviewer was boring and cut me off after 30 minutes, his questions were just what they had on the Penn website as examples word for word Essays Common app essay - I really liked this one, wrote about my vinyl collection and how it

shows how I've evolved throughout the years, 8/10 Supplementals drastically varied in quality, honestly I just wanted to get them done quickly for the most part. Georgetown was the worst by far, I liked Columbia and NYU the most. UC PIQs were mid IMO Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: McGill University University of Toronto with 50k scholarship Case Western Reserve University RD NYU (got accepted to Shanghai!) RD, didn't expect it at all but super happy Waitlists: UCSD Rejections: UCLA UC Irvine UC Berkeley Columbia RD Penn RD Georgetown RD Northeastern RD"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (All ea) Georgia State Fordham Loyola Maryland Hofstra Indiana University - Kelley DA. Honors College + 30k Aid Howard University- + 20k scholarship University of Florida",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: African-American Residence: GA Income Bracket: Full Pay Type of School: small non-competitive private Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM Intended Major(s): Information Systems/Science, Stats, IE, Sociology Academics: GPA (UW/W): 94%W, so I think like a 4.1 W? | 3.8 UW GPA Rank (or percentile): No rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 AP classes, junior and senior year, old school didn't offer ap classes so i just took honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Chem, AP Gov, AP Micro, AP Lit, Honors pre-cal, and a couple electives Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT II: 1380 (620M, 760RW) - March 2023 ACT: 34 Superscore (34E, 31M, 36R, 35S) - June 2023 AP/IB: \_\_\_\_ (#), \_\_\_\_ (#), None submitted, only took 2 junior yr and didn't do well \ud83d\ude80 Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): None Extracurriculars/Activities gonna keep it punctual #1 started blog related to AI, made articles, managed social media, and took on lots of other high schoolers nationally #2 Volunteered at one of the largest tech conferences for underrepresented minorities #3 Finance Intern #4 Varsity Lax #5 Part time job 1 #6 Part time job 2 #7 Internship for environment nonprofit #8 STEM Club #9 Volunteer at computer museum #10 Part time job 3 Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 NHS #2 Collegeboard African-American Recognition Award #3 Honor Roll (This is all my awards lmao) #4 #5 Letters of Recommendation AP Lit teacher (?), Econ Teacher (?) IDK, never read them. only knew my teachers for a year so the relationship prolly isn't that strong, but i assume they vouched for me Interviews Georgetown Interview- Went awesome IMO, we talked for so long Northwestern Interview- Was virtual, but seemed pretty good Essays I hope my essays are good lol. I wrote my personal statement about overcoming my learning disabilities, and my supplemental essays mainly centered around creating equity in tech

and using advancements in technology to help minority and underresourced communities Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: (All ea) Georgia State Fordham Loyola Maryland Hofstra Indiana University - Kelley DA. Honors College + 30k Aid Howard University- + 20k scholarship University of Florida Waitlists: UNC Chapel Hill Washington and Lee Rejections: Carnegie Mellon ED1 USC deferred - rejected Columbia Emory UGA \ud83d\ude2d Notre Dame Dartmouth Duke Brown Northwestern WashU Ga Tech \ud83d\ude2d\ud83d\ude2d UPenn Rice Georgetown Additional Information: Never expected these results. How did i get into florida oos but not uga in state? I might transfer, but idek. where should I go?"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Yale (Defer REA --> Accepted!) Princeton Brown Johns Hopkins (Hodson Trust Scholarship 55k/yr!!) \u2014> Committed!! Duke WashU (Ervin full tuition scholarship!!) Emory (accepted to Atlanta, Woodruff full ride scholarship through Oxford campus!!) Rice (Trustee Scholarship 20k/yr!) Case Western Reserve University (Nord Scholar + 45.5k/yr scholarship!!) Williams Amherst University of Rochester (25k/yr!) Trinity (Global Health Gateway, research scholarship) William&Mary (Monroe research scholar) Duke Kunshan (in China, half tuition scholarship!) Boston College Fordham (full tuition Fordham University scholarship!)",

"answer": "A: Background: NYC metropolitan area, male, Spain/Ireland (or how I like to say 'Spirish') background. Both parents went to college, legacy status at BC, ~300k income. Intended major: Linguistics!!!! Wherever linguistics wasn't offered, comparative literature or French/Romance Languages. Want to double major in public health and go premed but didn't include this in apps. Academics: GPA: 96.7 UW, 102.8 W (we use 100 point scale, on CollegeBoard's 4.0 scale I have a 4.0uw) SAT: 1560 (800 Math, 760 EBRW) APs: 13 APs, 5s on all exams so far (WH, Chem, AB, Spanish, Lang, USH) and taking French, Spanish Lit, Stats, Bio, Lit, Gov, and multi calc this year! Rank: N/A but I'd guess either 4 or 5 out of 330ish at competitive public school ECs ELL (English language learning) director at immigration org in my city. Ran the ELL department, tutored ELL students of all ages, looked over volunteers and students each week. There is a lot I did with this and this was a major part of my four years in high school. Students and later class representative as part of Spain's Ministry of Education International Immersion program. Spanish language and culture classes run by Spanish diplomats, as well as some fun cultural immersion activities (like presenting on a Spanish news channel + meeting some big figures in Spain's government!). I graduated from the program the summer of my junior year. Linguistics club president! Member sophomore and junior year and then ran it senior year. Super fun club to geek out about



languages :) NSLI-Y virtual Turkish program. Somewhat selective US State Department program to learn critical languages for US foreign policy. I recommend this a million times over to anyone who loves foreign languages - 10 week course and I even got some Turkish sweets sent in the mail. Part-time job at tutoring company. Pretty standard high school job that I held for most of junior and senior year. English teacher at a sleep-away camp in Spain! Two week camp where I was one of the camp counselors in charge of the English learning activities. A lot of fun but definitely a test to how easily I can handle loud 5-11 year olds for hours at a time... Native American language revitalization project! I was an intern at a Native American org and worked on documentation research for Apache and Lakota language families and even helped compile a children's book in Lakota! GeoBee organizer for my town's middle school. Covid led NatGeo to shut down their GeoBee which was a huge bummer because I loved that so much growing up, so a few friends and I decided to set up the geo bee at our school again and as a geography lover it was a lot of fun Warehouse associate! I worked as a warehouse associate over the summer after my junior year which was definitely interesting and I learned a lot about packaging/deliveries/returns/shipping. Varsity track and field. I ran track in the summer and did sprinting and jumping events. I wasn't too crazy at it but I decided at the last minute to cram it on this list! Awards: Congratulatory citation from my state's Congress. Signed by governor + a few state reps and it was awarded due to my first place selection in an essay contest that led to a 3k donation to org in EC#1 on my behalf! Certificate of completion of course in EC#2 along with a CEFR C1 distinction in Spanish (awarded due to same course) Volunteer award from town volunteer foundation for work with EC#1 org. One youth recipient per year. Seal of biliteracy in Spanish + French as well as NSLIY certificate of completion for Turkish course. English department award + book award (both from school) Interviews: Honestly don't feel like elaborating on these so I'll give each one a quick score. I can respond to comments if anyone is curious about a specific one listed. Princeton - 9/10 Yale - 7/10 Harvard - 7/10 Duke - 6/10 WashU Scholars - 8/10 Emory Scholars - 8/10 Letters of Rec ( if I had to guess my strongest section ) AP Spanish 10/10 - We were super close, I would talk with her a lot inside and outside of class, and on last day of class she hugged me and told me I was her favorite student she's ever had and one of the reasons she is so happy she became a teacher. She then emailed my mom like a three paragraph long note that made her start crying. If I had to guess, I'd imagine that the letter talked about my independent study in Spanish Lit, love for languages, and personal attributes. AP English 9/10 - She loved me and I was really good at her class. I was one of two students out of 40+ she had that she gave an award to and I would often conference with her. I would imagine that she wrote about the ELL inequality research paper I conducted in her class, other minor writing assignments, and my general academic strength. CEO of immigration center in EC#1 10/10 - I don't think additional recs are always worth it but I think in my

situation this one helped a ton. She likely spoke about me becoming the youngest ELL director the organization has seen, the work I had done with this organization, and especially about one of the ELL students I had been working with for over 4 years now and had helped through a lot of pretty major life situations. I think this gave a great deal of context about the impact of EC#1 that couldn't be conveyed with 150 characters. Essays I think my essays were strong but this is ultimately quite a subjective section. CommonApp: I wrote my CommonApp about my complicated relationship with Spanish growing up and how I ultimately went from seeing language as a skill that needed to be perfected to a gateway into connection and community. Supplements: I absolutely despised writing my PS but loved supplements. Topics included homonyms, pigeon vs. paloma, and my grandmother cooking a cat. Decisions!! Acceptances: Yale (Defer REA --> Accepted!) Princeton Brown Johns Hopkins (Hodson Trust Scholarship 55k/yr!!) \u2014> Committed!! Duke WashU (Ervin full tuition scholarship!!) Emory (accepted to Atlanta, Woodruff full ride scholarship through Oxford campus!!) Rice (Trustee Scholarship 20k/yr!) Case Western Reserve University (Nord Scholar + 45.5k/yr scholarship!!) Williams Amherst University of Rochester (25k/yr!) Trinity (Global Health Gateway, research scholarship) William&Mary (Monroe research scholar) Duke Kunshan (in China, half tuition scholarship!) Boston College Fordham (full tuition Fordham University scholarship!) Waitlists: Vanderbilt (didn't accept spot) Northeastern (no) Rejections: Harvard Parting thoughts + special opportunity for rising seniors!! I am so so grateful for how this process went but it will be a very challenging choice. Going into the process, merit aid I knew would be a big factor because my family is full pay on paper but 90k/yr isn't exactly affordable. Right now I'd say my main four are Johns Hopkins, WashU, Emory, and Yale, and this month is going to be super difficult in regards to making the final selection... I also really benefitted from all the resources on both this subreddit and A2C throughout high school and looking back I kind of enjoyed this whole process. If any juniors are interested in having me guide them through this process for free , I am accepting PMs and will likely work with 10 throughout the application cycle. I will close this offer May 1st."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Cambridge Imperial College London (bio) University of St Andrews University of Edinburgh Boston University UNC Chapel Hill University of Toronto University of British Columbia St Francis Xavier University",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: International Income Bracket: Not eligible for FA (full-pay) Type of School: Private feeder school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): legacy at

Stanford, Harvard, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Imperial (although UK schools don't count it) Intended Major(s): biomedical engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 95/100 Rank (or percentile): school doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: 9 AP's (2 junior year, 7 senior year), all honors classes Senior Year Course Load: AP Calculus, AP Statistics, AP French, AP Psychology, Physics, Chemistry, English Standardized Testing SAT I: 1580 (790RW, 790M) AP/IB: Biology (5), Computer Science Principles (5), the rest were during senior year 2013 Calculus BC, Chemistry, Statistics, French, Psychology, Physics 1, Chemistry, English Language and Composition Extracurriculars/Activities summer research project at global top 5 university swim instructor varsity crew volunteer hospital swim instructor for kids with disabilities president of school coding club lead saxophone in band canoe trips in summer leader in training at overnight outdoor summer camp ski instructor founder of coding education website ran programming workshops during covid for local girl guides regional shot put medalist self-taught ai programmer consulting projects with walmart for ai grocery implementation blogger for towards data science (17,000 views) advanced space academy graduate lifeguard mezzo soprano soloist in choir gsa and pride committee at school school yearbook photographer and layout designer Awards/Honors canadian equivalent of eagle scout (canada cord) top 10 in several global hackathons distinction in several math/physics contests school music award academic distinction Letters of Recommendation AP Bio teacher- I've known her since I was 6 when I started at my school. She knows me pretty well and has my best interests at heart. 9/10 English teacher- Didn't have a social science rec so had to ask her at the beginning of senior year. She likes me and says I've written some of the best essays she's ever seen from high school students. 7/10 Interviews Stanford 2013 dude was weird. Shared his rubric with me so I knew what I was being marked on, then proceeded to ask me a bunch of questions and wrote down answers. No follow up on my answers, ended quite abruptly. 6/10 Dartmouth 2013 loved this one!! My interviewer actually went to my high school and we did a lot of the same things in high school. She said she thought I was a great fit and that I'd love Dartmouth. Welp. 8.5/10 Essays I put a looooot of time into my essays. I'm quite the formal-style writer so I'm not sure if that had any negative impact on my applications in terms of being able to hear my authentic voice. I tried to get creative with them as well. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Cambridge Imperial College London (bio) University of St Andrews University of Edinburgh Boston University UNC Chapel Hill University of Toronto University of British Columbia St Francis Xavier University Waitlists: Wellesley College Rejections: Harvard Stanford Yale Dartmouth Cornell UC Berkeley Caltech MIT (EA deferred 2012 RD rejected) Imperial College London (biomed)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: EA: UNC Chapel Hill EA: Auburn (11k/year) EA: NC State (Deferred \u2014 Accepted+Honors) EA: Clemson EA: Texas A&M EA: University of Tennessee (13k/year)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Suburb of Raleigh, NC Income Bracket: ~150k~ Type of School: Private Catholic High School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Nah Intended Major(s): Engineering, Chem, Energy Science/Sustainability Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/4.6 Rank (or percentile): No official rank, but around 35/370 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 APs, 1 DE, mostly honors over regular Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Lit, Econ H, AP Physics 2, AP Gov, Theology H (required), Lab Assistant (pass fail elective) Anatomy dual enrollment (weighted as AP) Standardized Testing SAT I: 1440 (730RW, 710M \u2014 ACT: 32 (34E, 29M \u2014 35R, 30S) AP/IB: 5- World, US. 4- CSP, Chem. 3-Lang, Physics 1 Extracurriculars/Activities Team Captain of XC team. Organized unofficial practices, 2020 4A state champs, received Crusader (Coach\u2019s) Award, NCHSAA Scholar-Athlete team recognition, ranked 82nd in state. Team Captain of Distance Track Program (Indoor+Outdoor). Basically same as XC, meaning we ran year round. 134th in state as a junior for the 3200 Event Coordinator- Small family business. Basically was a cashier for a mobile bar vendor at seasonal events. Not too many hours Boy Scouts. Earned Eagle rank, 42 camping nights and 87 service hours, positions as chaplains aide and assistant senior patrol leader, built four benches for police department and raised 500 lbs of food. Lead Altar Server for my church. Usually once a month, helped train younger servers NHD Sacrifice for Freedom Program: WW2 in the Pacific student and teacher institute. Researched and eulogized a NC soldier from WW2. Spent a week in Hawaii exploring historical sites, published a profile online. Biogen-MIT Biotech in Action Summer Lab. 2 week virtual course where I consulted with field experts, learned about Alzheimer\u2019s and made a prototype for those with Friedrich\u2019s Ataxia. Executive officer of History Club. Planned trip to state capital, led school ceremony honoring 9/11 victims by placing 2996 flags, spoke at school Veterans Day ceremony, competed in NHD competitions Foster volunteer for SPCA. Fostered 17 cats over high school that needed a temporary home for various reasons. JV Baseball freshmen and sophomore year. Also competed in summer ball. Left to pursue track. Awards/Honors Eagle Scout AP Scholar w/ Distinction National Merit Commended Scholar National Honors Society A/B Honor Roll Letters of Recommendation APUSH + Econ H + History Club Teacher: Very close to this guy. He was the assistant coach for the cross country team. We also did the NHD program together and I excelled in his classes. I did get caught giving a friend my essay to copy, but he said he moved on from that. Chem +

Lab Assistant Teacher: Also close to her. I went from having a B- in her class first semester to an A second semester. She probably rushed writing my recommendation though as she had a young child and I asked kinda late. College Counselor: Met for the first time the start of my senior year. Seemed nice enough, never really did much with her though. Interviews MIT: (5/10) I was able to highlight some good things in my profile but also struggled under some questions. Failed to feel like a conversation. Essays Looking back at things my essays were pretty low quality. My writing just comes off as very bland. I wrote about traveling across 46 states and 3 countries for my common app essay. A lot of my supplements talked about lessons from building a houseboat with my grandpa, my rock collection, or my bond with my dad over cooking. There were a few others I used too. I tried to highlight what made me interesting. I also tried to discuss my ambition of getting a STEM undergrad and going into patent law. I HATE WHY US ESSAYS \ud83e\udd2e Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: EA: UNC Chapel Hill EA: Auburn (11k/year) EA: NC State (Deferred \u2014> Accepted+Honors) EA: Clemson EA: Texas A&M EA: University of Tennessee (13k/year) Waitlists: RD: Georgia Tech (Deferred at first) RD: UC Berkeley Rejections: REA- Stanford \ud83d\ude2d RD: MIT RD: Duke RD: UPenn (VIPER) RD: Harvey Mudd EA:UVA EA: Purdue Additional Information: Overall \u2014m sorta disappointed in my results. Didn\u2019t get into a single one of my reaches or California schools (used to live there, would have given an arm to go to college in Cali). \u2014m also disappointed in my schools college counseling program. I had 3 different counselors over my time and was let down by a school that claimed to be college prep. Right now \u2014m stuck between acg engineering at state, petrol engineering at Texas or chemistry at UNC. I might also try to transfer next year. Or try for a T10 for grad school if I do go into patent law."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Rutgers University New brunswick (EA) (Applied 1st choice: Business School 2nd Choice: School of Arts and Sciences and 3rd Choice: School of Environmental and biological sciences or something like that) (Rejected: business School Waitlisted: School of Arts and Sciences Accepted: The science school idk the name was kind of disappointed by this until I found out that Rutgers got a lot more competitive this year) (Most likely will try to get a 2.8 gpa and transfer to the business school Sophomore year if I do end up choosing Rutgers) SUNY Binghamton University (EA) (Accepted to the business school with a 6.5k annual merit scholarship) University of Delaware (EA) (Accepted to the business school with a 10k annual merit scholarship but rejected from the Honors college most likely not attending) University of Penn State (EA) (Accepted to Penn State Harrisburg but reject from University Park most likely not attending) The

College of New Jersey (RD) (Accepted to the business school with a 1k annual merit scholarship most likely not attending because the school isn't really known for business) University of Connecticut (RD) (Accepted to UConn Stamford but rejected from the Storrs campus most likely not attending)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Caucasian Residence: New Jersey Income Bracket: 100-150k Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s) : Finance or Accounting Academics GPA (UW/W): UW-3.9 W-4.0 Rank (or percentile): My school doesn't do this # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Honors Biology (Freshman) Honors Chemistry (Sophomore) Honors English 2 (Sophomore) Honors Physics (Junior) Honors English 3 (Junior) AP Environmental (Senior) AP Literature (Senior) Senior year course load\*: 2 classes listed above Sociology (CLEP) Marketing 1 Calculus Business Law and Ethics Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1280 (640RW, 640M) ACT: ## (##E, ##M, ##R, ##S)- N/A SAT II: \_\_\_\_ (###), \_\_\_\_ (###), N/A AP/IB: \_\_\_\_ (#), \_\_\_\_ (#), ... N/A Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Started a club (president) 2 years #2 Varsity Swim 2 years #3 Lifeguard Job (summer) 3 years #4 Soccer Referee Job (Fall) 4 years #5 Teach kids with disabilities soccer (Volunteer) 3 years #6 Teach Kids with disabilities Tae Kwon Do (Volunteer) 2 years #7b Go to sporting events and help out disabled War Veterans by providing refreshments and helping them navigate the stadium (Volunteer) 2 years #8 Member of Investment Club 1 year #9 Member of Hiking Club 2 years #10 Member of Key Club 2 years Note: Extracurriculars were tough with the covid year I basically did nothing freshman year Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 Honor award (All 4 years) #2 NHS #3 Varsity Swim #4 #5 Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) Letter #1: History teacher (one of my favorite teachers but unfortunately she's a history teacher) 7/10 Letter #2: Physics teacher (All the teachers I wanted to write my letter were retiring so I had to settle with my physics teacher who is a little incompetent at times but is an honors class teacher so I guess that looks good?) 5/10 Letter #3: Guidance Counselor (I don't know if this is true with all schools but my school requires that you get a recommendation letter from your guidance counselor I don't really have a relationship with her so I have no idea what she could've wrote \ud83e\udd37\ud200d\ud2642\ufe0f) 4/10 Letter #4: Organizer of the Tae Kwon do volunteering ( I know her because I used to do Tae Kwon Do with her sons for many years so when I heard she was starting these classes to teach children with disabilities Tae Kwon Do I was excited to join in) 7/10 Letter #5 Organizer of the soccer volunteering (Been volunteering with the organization for 3 years and I can't say enough good things about it but my relationship with her

isn't as close as the Tae Kwon Do organizer) 6/10 Note: I don't know if I may have underrated how good my letters were but I feel like this may have been a weak point in my applications I got really unlucky that 3 of the teachers I wanted to do were retiring) Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Lehigh: Did an interview and questionnaire felt like it went good but could've been better not much else to say about it Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) My essay was about perseverance and overcoming my 3 largest personal problems throughout life I know they say don't write about all your problems but because I overcame them to become a better person today I felt like it could've only helped me Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Rutgers University New Brunswick (EA) (Applied 1st choice: Business School 2nd Choice: School of Arts and Sciences and 3rd Choice: School of Environmental and biological sciences or something like that) (Rejected: business School Waitlisted: School of Arts and Sciences Accepted: The science school idk the name was kind of disappointed by this until I found out that Rutgers got a lot more competitive this year) (Most likely will try to get a 2.8 gpa and transfer to the business school Sophomore year if I do end up choosing Rutgers) SUNY Binghamton University (EA) (Accepted to the business school with a 6.5k annual merit scholarship) University of Delaware (EA) (Accepted to the business school with a 10k annual merit scholarship but rejected from the Honors college most likely not attending) University of Penn State (EA) (Accepted to Penn State Harrisburg but reject from University Park most likely not attending) The College of New Jersey (RD) (Accepted to the business school with a 1k annual merit scholarship most likely not attending because the school isn't really known for business) University of Connecticut (RD) (Accepted to UConn Stamford but rejected from the Storrs campus most likely not attending) Waitlists: Bucknell College (RD) (I believe I would've gotten in had I ED and I almost did but I was afraid of being bound to one school) (list complete name) (list complete name) Rejections: Lehigh College (RD) (Another school where I think I would've gotten in had I ED but the campus wasn't really for me) Maryland University (EA) (list complete name) Additional Information: \*I applied to every college under business which may have been a mistake for the ones that I didn't get into or didn't get into main campus for applying undecided may have been better for those schools \*My choices are now down to SUNY Binghamton and Rutgers which is the hardest decision of my life if Bucknell accepts me off the waitlist before decision day that will just make my decision so much more difficult I will go to the accepted students days for Binghamton and Rutgers and that will play a big factor into which one I will choose and I would also like input from you guys if you have actually decided to read this far which I doubt you did \ud83d\ude2d"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Claremont Mckenna Middlebury Emory WPI UCF Sewanee Rejections: UF Brown (ED) FUHHHHHHHH Penn Vanderbilt Northeastern Cornell UVA",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Black/white Residence: FL Income Bracket: ~\$160K Type of School: public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Intended Major(s): comp sci Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/5.2 Rank (or percentile):12/820 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 16 AP/2 DE Senior Year Course Load: AP Gov, AP Stats, AP Euro, AP Macro, AICE Psych, DE English, DE Artificial intelligence Standardized Testing SAT: Ass- just went test optional Extracurriculars/Activities Basically I played club and hs soccer; created a club at school; did debate; interned at an AI startup; did independent research; volunteered at elementary schools; taught my self graphic design and created logos for people. Awards/Honors 1 College board African American scholar 2 capstone diploma 3 Florida all-academic team 4 AP Scholar with Distinction 5 Random school award Letters of Recommendation LORs were good I think. Knew one teacher for basically my whole life and I had the other one for 2 years in a row. Just ask teachers that you have a good connection with and you\u2019ll be good. Essays My personal essay was good. Spent a lot of time with the teacher that wrote my LOR working on it. It was a pretty interesting and fun story(8/10). The supplementals were horrible. Didnt even start them until like 5 days before each deadline. Some were better then others but overall they werent too bad(6/10). Decisions Acceptances: Claremont Mckenna Middlebury Emory WPI UCF Sewanee Rejections: UF Brown (ED) FUHHHHHHHH Penn Vanderbilt Northeastern Cornell UVA Waitlists: Grinnell(this shi in the middle of no where, im not submitting that loci) Additional Information: These schools need to lower the damn prices."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: scripps college tulane ucla",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: pacific islander Residence: ga Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): tulane legacy Intended Major(s) : computer science Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 3.9 uw # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 14 ibs / 1 ap? idk my school exchanges some year 2 math classes with an ap Senior Year Course Load: ib lang/lit, creative writing, ib cs, ap calc bc, ib french, ib world, ib bio Standardized Testing ACT: 35 Extracurriculars/Activities: web design intern i help update the website of a local literary magazine\u2014started as a copy editor but i get to initiate more executive



changes now \ud83d\ude01 lab assistant i help maintain the research lab at a nearby college! i\u2019m usually cleaning equipment and assisting lab users, sometimes i place and record orders and prepare samples for experiments girls who code club president i supervise and contribute to a continuous web design project that provides cs resources for students. truly a labor of love and learning :) literary team writing captain i mainly make slides and open meetings (and kind of lead writing activities though those are mostly self-directed). most importantly i\u2019m (finally) the literary analysis competitor and secured some awards this season! research intern paid \$\$<3 cs research at another nearby college cashier @ a local market yk. ringing up rich people literary magazine i help develop and initiate magazine layout\u2026stressful times band camp counselor i supervise a band and instruct the keyboard players\u2014lessons are pretty much abt piano basics and song development piano student recreational but i consistently spend a good amount of time practicing + i perform at annual recitals depop seller i sell clothes i no longer wear! basically listing, packaging, and shipping items\u2014communication w/ customers is v important too \ud83d\udc4d Awards/Honors: state championship in literary analysis national honor society school science fair winner Essays/LORs/Interviews: essays: don\u2019t have much to say but i was v happy with them! focused yet personable i would say \u263a\ufe0f lors: cs teacher: sponsors girls who code\u2014got to know her sm better when i became pres and started taking cs bio teacher: not that close but i like her a lot and did well in her class :) lang/lit teacher: sponsors lit team + i had her for two years in a row and she likes me enough! i can\u2019t imagine what her letter would be like but she not-so-subtly values college prestige over anything else, so i would think she tries to help her students get good results counselor: we\u2019re relatively close bc i\u2019ve cried in her room multiple times \ud83d\ude2d Decisions (all rd) Acceptances: scripps college tulane ucla Rejections: uc berkeley note: i feel like i formatted this so wack but here we are i\u2019m a little self-conscious abt my profile but proud nonetheless! not a well-rounded list as i was considering the schools above and a gap year\u2014still deciding atm but leaning toward ucla :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UMD UT Dallas UNC UMass Purdue NC State Emory Rejections: Penn (ED) Georgia Tech UIUC Brown Vanderbilt Northwestern Cornell UChicago (ED2) MIT Harvey Mudd USC UMich (deferred and then didn't even submit a LOCI, so this was expected)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: NC Income Bracket: ~\$180k Type of School: decent public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none Intended Major(s): computer science

(but at this point idek anymore) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.6 Rank (or percentile): 2/~300 of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 APs Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics, AP CSA, AP Calc AB, AP Music Theory, English, Econ, Piano Standardized Testing ACT: 36 (36E, 34M, 36R, 36S) Extracurriculars/Activities 1 Piano for ~7 years, classical and jazz, performed at community events & school club 2 Founder & President of school Computer Science Club 3 Youth group stuff (mostly just participation but some leadership) 4 Community service for local organization 5 Music production, wrote and produced album 6 Programming (self taught a bunch of languages, worked on personal projects) 7 Worked for family business (video editing, social media management, web dev, whatever) 8 Peer tutoring 9 2-week summer program at a university (nothing super prestigious) 10 week-long summer community service trip Awards/Honors 1 National Merit Semifinalist 2 Junior Marshal 3 2nd place in a local piano competition 4 AP Scholar with Distinction 5 Random honor societies Letters of Recommendation LORs were fine but probably nothing special. Teachers definitely like me but I didn't have a super special relationship with any of them. Essays I genuinely don't know what the hell makes a good essay at this point. If I really had to rate them, I would say they were fine but probably nothing crazy or really special. Maybe 7.5/10? I think that my RD essays (even though I wrote all of them over winter break lol) were decent, since I had a much clearer view of what I wanted to do in college and what I was interested in. I talked a lot about psychology, philosophy, how I'm interested in the ethics of engineering, etc., and I think I had a pretty good "community" essay. They might have been good but obviously not good enough to get me any crazy results lol. Decisions Acceptances: UMD UT Dallas UNC UMass Purdue NC State Emory Rejections: Penn (ED) Georgia Tech UIUC Brown Vanderbilt Northwestern Cornell UChicago (ED2) MIT Harvey Mudd USC UMich (deferred and then didn't even submit a LOCI, so this was expected) Waitlists: WashU CMU (lol) Additional Information: Pretty much deciding between Emory and UNC at this point. Purdue would be a decent option but not sure it's worth it for the cost (they didn't give me any money). Considering how mid my ECs were (I put almost no effort into "building a profile" for colleges during high school), I think I did pretty well. I'd really appreciate any thought/advice. I've planned on doing CS but I'm very open to other areas of study (business, econ, data science, philosophy, etc.), especially since I didn't really get into any top CS schools. How do UNC and Emory compare in terms of opportunities and job prospects for data science and business, or going to law school or getting a masters? Is Purdue good enough in CS that it would be worth going there instead? I'm going to visit Emory and see how I like it, but it does seem pretty nice so far. I'd like to get out of NC and Atlanta is a great city without being insanely far. My only concern is that Emory is super medicine-focused and I might be out of place there. Also I'd be missing out on UNC's sports, although I'd probably appreciate the more academic vibe at Emory. Anyway thanks for reading and good luck to everyone else out there on

the college journey!! It's often very confusing and exhausting but hopefully we will all end up somewhere we enjoy."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Purdue UC Santa Barbara w/ Regents UC Irvine UC Davis TAMU Engineering UTD Waitlists (i got so many i lost count at a certain point): UMich Gtech Harvey Mudd UCLA Cornell Columbia Dartmouth CMU MIT (Really surprised by this one, thought I was auto-reject)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Indian) Residence: Texas Income Bracket: 250k+ Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): CS / Astrophysics / Astronomy Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.98/5.35 Rank (or percentile): Top 2% of ~500 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 APs (Couldn't take as many due to band + soccer) Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, Computer Science 3, AP Physics 1, AP Gov + Macro, AP Lit, Band Standardized Testing SAT I: 1560 (780RW, 780M, first attempt) ACT: 36 (36M, 36S, 35R, 35G) AP/IB: AP Human Geography (5), AP World History(5), AP CS (5), APUSH(5), AP Calculus AB (5), AP Lang(5), AP Biology(4), AP CSP(4) Extracurriculars/Activities (Vague to prevent doxxing) Astrophysics Research @ HYPSPM - Studied data-driven astronomy under professor and co-authored paper on redshift. Preprint accepted to arXiv, and currently awaiting publication @ IEEE. Computational Astrophysics Research @ State School - Worked with group to research dark matter concentrations and presented findings. Science Fair Competitor - Competed in Sci Fair for 4 yrs, built smart sprinkler systems and machine learning projects. Co-Founder of 501(c)(3) Nonprofit - Worked w/ Amazon software engineers to build an app that was aimed to alleviate food insecurity in the area. Embedded Systems Engineer & Workshop Instructor - Used Arduino to build scenes depicting Hindu Mythology for cultural festivals. Held workshops over summer to teach kids about the basics of Arduino. Head Section Leader (Marching Band) + Principal Oboist (Concert Band) - Led saxophone section to state marching finals. Principal oboist for award-winning concert band. Principal Oboist for Youth Orchestra - Principal Oboist for top youth orchestra in area. Sectionals under UNT Professors + performances at renowned halls. Piano - Classical pianist for 11 years. 14+ Superior Ratings across multiple competitions. Boy Scouts - Senior Patrol Leader, led outings and summer camps. JV/Varsity Soccer - Played right wing and left back positions. Received silver star award for discipline and leadership. Weightlifting / Calisthenics - Didn't include this on activity list but wrote about it in supps. My stats are 225 bench + 305 squat @ 160 bw + 3 consecutive muscle ups but no handstand Imfao

Awards/Honors Top 20 Nationally for C# Programming Competition (BPA) 3rd @ Texas Science & Engineering Fair for Behavioral Sciences Oboe State Soloist + All-Area + 4x All-Region Eagle Scout USACO Gold Letters of Recommendation Math Teacher - 8/10. Knew teacher well and was consistently a top student. English Teacher - 7/10. Strong student and talked to teacher a decent amount. Professor from #1 EC - 8/10. Worked extensively with the professor regarding my research. Interviews MIT - 10/10, clicked with the interviewer really well and we talked about a lot of the non-academic side of my app(sports, scouting and music). Dartmouth - 8/10, pretty standard interview and was able to connect regarding our passion for research. Princeton - 8/10, interviewer was a student-athlete too so we had a solid conversation about time management. Portfolio I submitted a music portfolio of 3 oboe pieces. Overall, the portfolio came out pretty well, and my private lesson teacher said it was strong. Essays Personal Statement - 7.5/10. I struggled to find a topic that resonated with me but ended up writing about overcoming health issues with extracurricular activities + the community I found in these activities. Those who read the essay said it was strong and told a great story. Supps - 7/10. A lot of the supps were rushed and didn't have much personality to it. I felt as if they were generic and on the safer side. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Purdue UC Santa Barbara w/ Regents UC Irvine UC Davis TAMU Engineering UTD Waitlists (i got so many i lost count at a certain point): UMich Gtech Harvey Mudd UCLA Cornell Columbia Dartmouth CMU MIT (Really surprised by this one, thought I was auto-reject) Rejections: UCSD (Accepted to college but rejected for 1st + 2nd choice) UT Austin (Auto Admit for Liberal Arts but rejected for CS and appeal was rejected. This one hurt the most) Yale Harvard Princeton Stanford UC Berkeley UIUC Duke Additional Information: During my junior year, I took 5 AP classes along with band + soccer. I was consistently sleeping for four hours and abused energy drinks. I sacrificed a social life and my mental health in hopes of a better future aka getting into a good college. Majority of those who saw my results thought that there was a major red flag (negative letter of rec) or poor essays. This can't be the case given my waitlists to top schools like MIT (waitlist rate of 2%). I don't attend a school filled with olympiad winners or isef qualifiers, so acceptances weren't being \"stolen\" by more deserving applicants in my area. I think that my results shed light on the harsh reality of applying CS as an Asian Male, and the randomness of the application process. I know many people with the same demographics who ended off better with objectively worse apps. I think my shortcomings came down purely to being unlucky, and this arguably makes the results even more painful. Right now, I'm uncertain on where I'll attend or if I'll even be attending college. My advice to any high schooler stressed out about college: spend more time w/ family, friends and enjoy life a little bit more. You can sacrifice a lot and still have nothing to show for your hard work."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: sdsu ucsb ucsd uc irvine uc berkeley (dream since freshman year) ucla (didn't even think id get in) got into all my uc's (phew!)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: asian Residence: social (far from any big cities suburb.. think bakersfield) Income Bracket: 200k+ Type of School: large semi-comp public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): lgbt & first-gen (not really but parents went to school in another country, part of schools FGLI college readiness program) Intended Major(s) : premed Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.94/4.38 Rank (or percentile): 224830/700 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 APs + 5 dual enrollments Senior Year Course Load: ap calc bc, ap stats, ap gov, ap lit, ap env. sci, ap bio ^ i had 7 exams the next two weeks after the UC's were due which i did not study for Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1460 (went test optional) AP/IB: calc ab (5), lang (5), did not submit the rest hoping it would look like i only took the core ap exams Extracurriculars/Activities medical club president sm fun we partner with local hospital & orgs to host workshops (cpr, suturing, dissections) & do some service projects (hosted blood drive!) had the largest membership according to our advisor v proud of this one therapy volunteer trying to not get doxxed but it's just farm animal fun for children with special needs but i also got to meet & help w/ my cc prof's kid! very cool coincidental moment b/c her class was child psychology! she offered to make a letter of rec but the class was virtual so i didn't ask her for one school newspaper editor in chief lowk fell off bc we refounded it after covid but did some interviews & articles youth leader in advocacy group abt social media safety, met weekly on zoom and got a stipend kinda did research with berkeley phd student but very informal tiktok poetry/film blog was covid hobby that i continued, basically just making edits & sharing my favorite writing & sometimes my own. 12k followers & 2 mil likes tiktok lana del rey fan page another covid baby, acc blew up for song-analyzing series, got a comment from spotify embraced the silliness of this one in the description. also told them i was top .05% of lana listeners on spotify wrapped 73k followers & 8 mil likes lesson planning work with school's social worker to create lessons (anti bullying, racism, mental health, etc.) used for all 2,800+ students anti-bullying workshop student leader i cry at each workshop we do but very personally impactful experience! nhs secretary the usual nhs stuff but got 20 more volunteers for the therapy center! asian heritage club social media manager got us 100 followers for our first year.. the tiktok experience comes in clutch Awards/Honors this

part is so ass \ud83d\ude2d school honor roll (\ud83d\udc80) state seal of bi-literacy (french) csf (\ud83d\udc80) Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) english (7.5/10) she\u2019s so smart with even smarter writing.. heard she gave good letters and i did really well in the class. gave her a \u2018brag sheet\u2019 that was good but i also wasn\u2019t that close with her \ud83d\ude2d biology (8/10) love him he\u2019s super sweet and i\u2019ve had many classes with him and he\u2019s part of the college readiness program. brag sheet also pretty good in all honesty i think i have a problem with authority figures bc im scared of all my teachers and so i get nervous talking to them and didn\u2019t get as close as i should\u2019ve \ud83d\ude1e im also too scared to ask them to let me read the essays so it\u2019s all a guess. Interviews \u2026 i ghosted my upenn and princeton interviewers \ud83d\ude2d authority figure issue again \ud83d\ude2d\ud83d\ude2d\ud83d\ude2d i sold\u2026 Essays started my PIQs the week of\u2026 however i had been thinking abt them for a long ass time (down to the hook, topics, and conclusion) and i\u2019m lwk strong at timed writes so they were pretty good if i do say so myself\u2026 common app: all those exams and finals after the ucs killed me and i was burnt out by this time.. deep down also did not think i\u2019d get into any ivies so i started common app essay four days before jan. 1. \ud83d\ude1e please learn from me. idea was lowkey nice, talked abt this dessert from my culture called \u201cmix-mix\u201d in the language and how i was a mix of very contradictory personal experiences & identities. this could\u2019ve been so good but i had no time to edit, i mourn \ud83d\ude1e. supplementals were rushed \ud83d\ude05 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) all RD bc\u2026 procrastination\u2026 Acceptances: sdsu ucsb ucsd uc irvine uc berkeley \ud83d\ude0d (dream since freshman year \ud83d\ude04) ucla \ud83d\ude0d (didn\u2019t even think id get in) got into all my uc\u2019s (phew!) Waitlists: sigh none Rejections: yale \ud83d\udc94 i wanted to post myself to the ken carson song brown \ud83d\udc94 open curriculum upenn \ud83d\udc94 my med club\u2019s org is based there and they said we\u2019re their best chapter.. i forgot to mention this princeton \ud83d\udc94 my dad wanted me to go here columbia \ud83d\udc94 no city girl moment (and i really liked my why essay) Additional Information: i turned in each ivy either 2am or the day after bc common app let me \ud83d\udc80 my princeton supplementals accidentally had a paragraph of my personal statement REUSED bc i took from my PIQs for both\u2026 my why brown essay had a very obvious typo in the one-sentence prompt bc of last minute edits\u2026 may this post be a cautionary tale i have no clue how i managed to get into the uc\u2019s like that but i will not complain! when ucla came out i kinda realized that i should\u2019ve had a little more faith in myself and tried harder for the far reaches instead of self sabotaging.. obviously the ivies are still near-impossible but now i must bear the weight pondering what if i wasn\u2019t so dumb after college apps season i had a little self reevaluation and mini crisis\u2026 lots of googling and reddit

(\ud83d\ude00) and i realized i showed a lot of traits of adhd so i got an appointment w/ a psychiatrist and now im on vyvanse! if only i had this BEFORE college apps \ud83d\ude1e anyways\u2026 berkeley or la \ud83e\udd14"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Texas at Arlington RD Johns Hopkins University RD University of Southern California RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: North Texas (Originally from South Texas) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen Intended Major (s): Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering Academics: GPA: 104.1852/100 Weighted (School did not do unweighted or on 5.0 scale sadly) Rank: 1/364 "\u2191" of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9 Honors, 18 AP's Senior Year Course Load: Practicum of Culinary (I went to a Public Magnet School based on career paths), AP Research, AP Government, AP Macroeconomics, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics Standardized Testing: SAT/ACT: 1320 (Did not report) AP/IB: One 4 on Calc BC, a bunch of 3's and some 2's Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities: Awards/Honors: College Board AP Scholar, Honorary Thespian, Superintendent Advisory Council, QuestBridge Finalist, College Board Hispanic Recognition, Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar Essays/LORs/Interviews: English II Honors GT and AP Lang Teacher (taught me for both subjects): 10/10, she taught me as a freshman and sophomore and saw how hard I was willing to work to get a high grade in her class. She stated I was her hardest working student and saw me before I was even a top 5 student in my class. AP Biology Teacher: 7/10, she taught me as a sophomore during COVID and saw how hard I was willing to work as well as how much work I put in to study for this class. She gave me her award sophomore year for best AP Biology student. She most likely forgot about it last year but it should still be good. Theatre Teacher: 10/10, always bragged how I was the second Valedictorian in our theatre department since she's been there (first was my mentor who went to Brown!) and how I was a part of theatre since freshman year. She saw my growth and how hard I was willing to work. Stanford Interview: 10/10!!! I felt so good about this interview afterwards as it was my only in person interview and I really connected with the interviewer Princeton Interview: 7/10. Older lady who was incredibly impressed with my coursework and the rigor of my courses as well as my passion for theatre and working hard in school. Yale University: 5/10. Was not feeling the interviewer and I tried to be enthusiastic but his vibe was very off. I just wasn't feeling this interview even if I felt prepared. I'm sure he is a very nice person, but we just didn't bond. Decisions

(indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD): Acceptances: University of Texas at Arlington RD Johns Hopkins University RD University of Southern California RD Waitlists: University of Chicago RD Rice University RD University of North Carolina RD Rejections: Brown RD Columbia ED->RD Penn RD Princeton RD Yale RD Caltech RD Duke RD Stanford RD Note: I attend Johns Hopkins now! And I love it!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UNC Charlotte Furman University (a little scholarship, didn't like it) Embry riddle (some money, not sure it's worth the price) Jacksonville University (a good amount, almost in state tuition, still more expensive than UNCC) Catholic University of America (little money, didn't like the campus) Rejections: Georgetown University Brown University Cornell University Yale University Harvard University UNC Chapel Hill Hamilton University Purdue University",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender : Male Race/Ethnicity : White Residence : North Carolina Income Bracket : a number Type of School : small private (30 something ppl in my graduating class) Hooks : Recruited Athlete? Intended Major(s) : Physics or Flight Academics GPA (UW/W) : 3.9 UW 4.1W Rank (or percentile) : school doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc. : 12 Honors, 2 AP (I valued my mental health more lol) Senior Year Course Load : AP Calc AB, AP Physics 2, Band, EuroLit, Engineering Honors, Music Appreciation Honors Standardized Testing SAT I : 1330(630RW, 700M) (didn't submit) ACT : 34(33E, 35M, 33R 35S) Extracurriculars/Activities Did arts and crafts with underprivileged kids in NY during covid (over zoom) Percussionist in band, started my school's jazz band. NHS - 2022-Present Vex robotics - team driver Quiz bowl team member Varsity rowing, varsity men's team captain. 3rd place in the southeast region in a double, 22nd in the national championship. Student pilot trying to achieve my PPL Awards/Honors Multiple math awards from my school Rowing awards, dozens of medals Music awards Letters of Recommendation AP Calc Teacher, probably a really nice rec letter, grown to be one of my favorite teachers in the time that he's been here AP Physics teacher, I genuinely think of this guy as a really good friend college counselor, really friendly guy, interviewed me to write his letter lol Interviews Georgetown : I feel like it went really well, my interviewer and I connected and bonded over some common interests. I'm a UNC fan, and he was wearing a GU basketball jersey, so we talked basketball for a while. Essays I focused my essays more on my interests, and how I had grown to love space, physics, math, and aviation. My commonapp essay was about a race where my mistake caused my double to fall to sixth place around 500m off the start. We recovered and finished very close to first. I shaped it to push a message of perseverance and



sportsmanship. Decisions Acceptances: UNC Charlotte Furman University (a little scholarship, didn't like it) Embry riddle (some money, not sure it's worth the price) Jacksonville University (a good amount, almost in state tuition, still more expensive than UNCC) Catholic University of America (little money, didn't like the campus) Rejections: Georgetown University Brown University Cornell University Yale University Harvard University UNC Chapel Hill Hamilton University Purdue University Waitlists: NC State additional info: I really didn't expect much, I was just disappointed. I'm currently contemplating whether to go to UNCC, JU, or take a gap year, take classes part time and coach. I probably shouldn't have applied to such competitive schools"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: USC (EA) Northeastern (EA) UMich (EA) RPI (EA) Boston University (RD) Middlebury (RD) University of Washington-Seattle (RD) (but rejected from CS) UCSC, UCD, UCI JHU (RD) Northwestern (RD) NYU (RD) Cornell (RD) UPenn (RD) Duke (RD) Yale (RD) Caltech (RD) (so shocked)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: NY Income Bracket: 250k+ Type of School: Public (1300 kids) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): (write here) Urban Planning, CS for schools that didn't have urban planning Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW Rank (or percentile): no ranking # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11/7/0/2 Senior Year Course Load: AP Bio, Environmental Science, English Honors, AP French, Latin V Honors, AP Micro, AP Gov Standardized Testing SAT I: 1590 (790RW, 800M) AP/IB: 5s on 11 APs (self-studied AP Chem, AP Stats, AP Chinese, AP CSA) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Published independent research paper on upzoning in NYC, advised by USC/Harvard/UMich profs #2 Student representative on town walkability committee, wrote safe-streets/climate provisions in town development plan #3 Interned at MIT-IBM Watson AI lab to build deep-learning ICU patient survival prediction software, analyzed supply chain resilience with geospatial data, presented at research conference #4 Science fair project developing algorithms to measure/reduce gerrymandering, featured on Forbes #5 Applied machine learning to evolutionary biology in highly-competitive summer research program (one of Simons, UCSB RMP, UCD YSP, UCSC SIP), presented at research conference #6 President of school robotics club, launched partnerships and classes, expanded club and reached >250 people #7 Co-founded local math tutoring initiative/taught a geometry class, developed inquiry-based learning method that was spread to other classes,

reached >50 people #8 Math summer program (one of Ross, SUMaC, MathILy, PROMYS) #9 VP/co-founder of school linguistics club, taught lessons, organized talks from professors #10 Local youth orchestra, built computational sheet music generator Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 Alternate on US national geography team #2 MathCON national champion #3 Atlas Fellow, 10k scholarship #4 HMMT Theme round winner #5 Local programming comp 2nd place team Letters of Recommendation I asked my sophomore Calc BC teacher and my AP World/APHUG teacher, then the advisor of my school's research club for a supplemental LOR. Calc BC: 6/10 - Didn't know or like me very well, but could talk about my math work. AP World/APHUG 9/10 - liked me, and also knew a lot about my urban planning work/geography passions Research Club: 10/10 - Absolutely LOVED me, even involved me in discussions about creating a new data science class at our school Interviews Georgetown: 4/10 - My first interview and also my worst - at some point they mentioned how Georgetown lacked diversity and I replied "I don't need diversity" MIT: 6/10 - Super average interview. I definitely gave off stalker vibes with how much I knew about them Middlebury: 5/10 - I did absolutely no prep and it showed but they happened to also care a lot about languages Harvard: 7/10 - Very average question/answer interview until I got to ask questions, then suddenly some interesting conversation. UPenn: 9/10 - Instantly connected with them and bonded over the Asian-American experience, and public transit in NYC Yale: 10/10 - Got really honest and heartfelt. We were from the exact same area and talked a lot about culture and the future. Princeton: 5/10 - Dry. I tried to break out of the assigned questions but I absolutely couldn't; had an awkward talk about behavioral psychology; then I left with a really awkward goodbye. Duke: 7/10 - Went pretty well but they had to leave after just 40 minutes so I didn't get to everything I planned for. Essays (8/10) Spent basically all of senior fall on my essays, with a lot of copy-pasting; focused on my committee work, math teaching, and programming projects in supplementals. My personal statement was about making maps as a child, then building an election model, then my urban planning research, and how they all helped me tell stories; I personally don't think it's amazing or anything but everyone I sent it to thought it was really good. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: USC (EA) Northeastern (EA) UMich (EA) RPI (EA) Boston University (RD) Middlebury (RD) University of Washington-Seattle (RD) (but rejected from CS) UCSC, UCD, UCI JHU (RD) Northwestern (RD) NYU (RD) Cornell (RD) UPenn (RD) Duke (RD) Yale (RD) Caltech (RD) (so shocked) Waitlists: UCLA Georgetown (EA deferred) Brown (RD) Columbia (RD) Rejections: MIT (EA deferred) UChicago (EA deferred) Harvard (RD) Stanford (RD) Princeton (RD) UC Berkeley (RD) UCSB (lmao) Additional Information: After getting deferred from three places in December I started to seriously doubt my application's strength, so I applied to a ton of places; it worked out but I could've saved a lot of time if I held fast know your worth and don't worry too much about initial results!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Rose Hulman (27k aid per year) Georgia state (out of state tuition waiver)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender : Male Race/Ethnicity : Indian Residence : India Income Bracket : Won't qualify for aid Type of School : We send 2-3 kids to HYPISM a year (not every year though) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.) : First generation Intended Major(s) : Economics and mathematics with a minor in philosophy Academics GPA (UW/W): ICSE/ISC; 9th : 94% 10th : 98% 11th : 95% 12th : 99.2% (on gap year so not predicted) Rank (or percentile) : 1st in all four years of high school # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc. : None Senior Year Course Load : Math, Physics, Chemistry, Economics, English, Computer Science Standardized Testing : test optional (I gave the ACT october in 2023 but the servers failed and the exams didn't happen. I did notify all of my colleges.) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Started a program to teach underprivileged children. Taught nearly ~5000 of them and worked with ~1000 volunteers over four years. Was published in multiple news papers. #2 Had an internship at Apple (through my uncle) #3 Attended a prestigious math camp #4 Another prestigious camp for technology #5 Stanford university math camp #6 A huge fundraiser. Collaborated with ~12 NGOs and a state minister. #7 A research paper done with a ivy league professor #8 Attended a summer exchange program in Japan (funded by my school) #9 Tennis and video games #10 Self published a paper on wireless charging Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 Qualified the USAMO version of India #2 An award from my state government (very prestigious in my state) #3 John Locke Essay Competition - High Distinction in economics (top 5%) #4 A medal at an international math competition (not the IMO but yes very competitive still) #5 Another international award (won't tell for privacy reasons) Letters of Recommendation (Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) Counsellor : Extremely stellar. Known her since 7th grade. Math teacher : 8/10. He was very fond of me and always appreciated my math. Economics teacher : 8/10. Known her 2 years. Had good relations. English teacher : 1 million / 10. She is the best. Internship manager : Was my uncle's friend. I saw the LOR. Was pretty good. Described me very nicely. Research professor : Don't know but yes it was 7+/10 (Note: I tried to send as many LORs as the common application allowed me.) Interviews (Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) University of Pennsylvania : Had a great interview. Talked about a product I was interested in building. He already had a startup and said would that he would love to collaborate as our startups were in similar markets and would benefit each other. Yale : SHE WAS CRAZY HOT. Kissing her wouldn't have

been enough. I was smitten. The interview was fairly good. Essays (Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Kinda shit essays. My dad is undergoing his cancer treatment so the mental toll is really high. Although I wouldn't count that as an excuse. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Rose Hulman (27k aid per year) Georgia state (out of state tuition waiver) Waitlists: Trinity College Caltech Rejections: UofPenn (Wharton) - deferred from ED then rejected Cornell Dartmouth Yale Duke Hamilton Northwestern Sewanee (never got my decision) Tufts Additional information #1 In the additional information section, I had put in my AIME, AMC, and other international/national math exams that I gave. #2 I had explained my dad's conditions that he was suffering from cancer and it was a reason why I took a gap. #3 I also explained why I was test optional and also attached links to the emails that verified that the ACT cancellation was not because of me. I tried to give the ACT twice. Once it got cancelled due to the G20 summit. The other time server issues. Verdict My essays weren't up to the standards. I'll probably try for a good grad school. I am all to blame for even though I had been seeing a therapist and all the issues regarding my dad's cancer."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Some safeties with NM scholarships NC State (EA) Virginia Tech (EA) Umass Amherst (EA) Purdue (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) UT Austin Turing (EA) (committed!) Rice (RD)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian/White Residence: Arkansas Income Bracket: 150-200k Type of School: Medium-Sized Uncompetitive Public (class of about 500) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Underrepresented State? I come from a more affluent region though. Intended Major(s) : Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, 4.36 W Rank (or percentile): N/A, but unofficially top 1% (tied for #1 after junior year) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 APs; 10th - Bio, Calc AB, World; 11th - US GOPO, Chemistry, Physics I, Calc BC, CSA, Lang; 12th - Lit, Physics II (also taking Multivariable Calculus online) Senior Year Course Load: AP Lit, AP Physics II, Virtual Economics (first semester), TA for Calculus Teacher, Multivariable Calculus (online). Didn't take too many classes because I had taken all of the ones I wanted to already (except Stat, which was only afternoon) and was offered a return position to my internship for the school year, which I do instead in the afternoon. Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. ACT: 36 (36E, 36M, 36R, 36S) AP/IB: 5 (9) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Minecraft Server Owner and Developer: Ran Minecraft Servers. Accumulated 25,000+ unique

players across all servers and was peaking 80 players online at a time. Managed staff teams of up to 20 members, developed custom game modes using Skript and eventually Java, created virtual webstores for funding (didn't report revenue because it wasn't much - most came from one really P2W server in a short span - made almost \$1,000 in a couple weeks). Paid Fortune 500 Software Internship: Worked at a local company as a software engineer. Worked full-time during the summer (40h/w) and now part-time during the school year (10-20h/w). Computer Science Club President: Mainly pushed competitive programming and local competitions to students. Hosted sessions in the morning for students to prepare for upcoming contests. Also did other various club activities, such as game nights and working on a school app. Tennis Team Captain: I was pretty trash not gonna lie (peaked UTR 5.5), but I really enjoyed playing and spent a lot of time on this. Started my freshman year, and improved a decent amount for how late I started. Got to varsity as a sophomore, and played at the conference tournament for my team my Junior and Senior years. Won some school awards too. Minehut Hackathon: Led one of my servers to win a competition hosted by the server host I use. Coded a pretty cool Wipeout obstacle course game mode and composed some custom note block music to go along with it too. Listed as an activity because I spent a couple months working on it. Quiz Bowl Team Captain: Been doing Quiz Bowl since 4th grade. Made state finals my sophomore year, and was an all-star player last year and this year. Just a fun thing I enjoy. Mu Alpha Theta President: For most of my high school years, this club did absolutely nothing (I kept losing the election, finally got President as a senior), but this year I made it my goal to turn it into an actual math club. Got my school signed up for some invitational competitions, and we also got signed up last minute to proctor AMC for the first time in at least a decade (was 1q away from AIME only having a weekend of prep, so sad). Also did some tutoring through this + paired tutors with students. SAT Math Bootcamp Tutor: Invited by schoolhouse.world to host an online bootcamp. Was a pretty cool opportunity, I tutored 12 students in 8 75m sessions spread across 4 weeks. Worked another part-time job: Worked for a local startup for a few hours per week, more in the summer. Didn't do anything too significant, mainly manufacturing. Started freshman summer, quit when I got my SE internship. Band: Did this my freshman year. Made All-Region Band and Orchestra 2nd chair. Quit because I severely disliked marching band specifically and didn't have much room in my schedule. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Local Coding Competition related award National Merit Semifinalist National Honor Society USACO Silver - Did this for the first time for fun this past December and decided to add it because I didn't have anything better. During EA had AP Scholar with Distinction instead \ud83d\udc80 Honor Roll Type Award \ud83d\udc80\ud83d\udc80 Also ended up winning 3 local coding / math competitions recently, and sent that information to schools in which there was ample time for it to be read. Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) AP Calculus

Teacher - Main recommendation #1. Had her for Calculus AB and BC, she sponsors Mu Alpha Theta, and I am TAing for her. Could speak well to my abilities as a student and is my favorite teacher I had in high school. Ranked me in the top 2 most brilliant students she has ever taught. I would guess 8-9/10. AP Computer Science Teacher - Main recommendation #2. Had him for Programming 1 and AP Computer Science A. Knew this teacher pretty well and had been on trips with him for coding competitions. Also sponsors the Computer Science Club (as expected), and knows about all of the things I am doing with that. Could speak well to my programming abilities and other characteristics. Also one of my favorite teachers and would guess 8-9/10. 10th grade English Teacher - Used her recommendation for MIT and uploaded it for a couple other schools too that took more letters. Was my favorite humanities teacher and could speak to my personal characteristics + writing abilities. I believe she also liked me a lot too, and I have no idea what she wrote about, but would guess 7.5-8.5/10. I had a couple other supplemental letters of recommendation, including one from a director at my internship and one from a former director of advanced programs in our district, but I had a hard time picking between which ones to use and switched back and forth for certain schools. Would guess the letter from my internship was extremely important for Turing. Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Harvard - Really cool and super cracked guy. Gave me a lot of advice and I learned a lot from talking to him. I was able to emphasize my passion for STEM and talk about everything I wanted to. 8/10 MIT - Also a great conversation. Didn't come from my region, but related to her a lot and was able to talk about everything I wanted to. 7/10 Princeton - Was a nice conversation and learned a lot about the school. Didn't get to talk about myself and my activities much, but nothing went wrong either, just pretty average. 6/10 Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Personal Statement - Wrote about a challenge I faced while working on my Minecraft Servers (online bullying \ud83d\udc80). Thought this essay gave great insight into my role as a server owner and the interpersonal skills I gained along with the hard skills (coding). Also showed how I grew from Minecraft to doing more with computer science and how it helped me find my passion for programming. 7.5/10 EA Supplements - Quality varied here. Was meh for most schools, worse for ones I didn't care about as much. Looking back on these I could have improved them a lot. 6.5/10 RD Supplements - I am not a naturally gifted writer, but I poured so much time and effort into these essays - particularly MIT and Stanford. Thought I did a good job of showcasing my personality, interests, and passions. 8.5/10 The trend I noticed is the more effort I put into my essays, the worse I did. Maybe because I was too nerdy (can't help it), or could have just been a coincidence. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Some safeties with NM scholarships NC State (EA) Virginia Tech (EA) Umass Amherst (EA) Purdue (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) UT Austin Turing (EA) (committed!) Rice (RD) Waitlists: Columbia (RD) Rejections: MIT (RD) - Ouch, expected but still hurt Stanford

(RD) Harvard (RD) Princeton (RD) Additional Information: Made a maker portfolio for MIT showcasing my servers and some code. I thought the video was pretty cool, but don't have it uploaded anywhere. Final Reflections: Before applications started, I thought I was screwed because of a lack of awards + not knowing about olympiads. Then I had a perfect EA and way overestimated my chances in RD, which overall was pretty disappointing (besides Rice). Doesn't matter though because I survived the CS bloodbath and landed one of my top three choices (Turing)! Still shocked I got in there of all places, I thought that would be the most difficult one for me to get as I don't have any great awards or anything crazy going for me. I guess they really saw my passion for coding and STEM in general through my activities + underrepresented state probably played a huge role. I realize now I was too boring/common of an applicant for my RD schools though. Even owning Minecraft servers couldn't save me, I am too much of a typical nerd (I wrote about my playlist of Calculus parodies and my blackpenredpen merch \ud83d\udc80). While I am disappointed that all the work I put into writing my essays RD didn't reap many rewards, I am extremely happy with my overall results - I probably only would have picked MIT or Stanford over Turing. I would have loved to have known about some opportunities such as olympiads early on throughout high school, as I find them really fun, but I wouldn't change anything about the things I ended up doing. I just followed my passions and did what I wanted to, and it all worked out in the end. Hook 'Em!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Manhattan School of Music Mannes School of Music UMich SMTD USC Oberlin Conservatory Boston Conservatory New England Conservatory",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: Los Angeles Income Bracket: 200K Type of School: Public Charter Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Classical Composition Academics GPA (W): 3.8 Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 Senior Year Course Load: Taekwondo, AP Macro, AP Gov, AP Precalc, AP Lit Standardized Testing SAT I: 1300 (690RW, 610M) Extracurriculars/Activities L#1 Pianist in High School Conservatory, did ticketed performances, performed with large ensembles, daily instruction for about 2 hours. #2 Attended a summer program in Boston, where I recorded and composed 3 new works, one was premiered. #3 Principal Bassoonist of school orchestra. #4 Taught English to Ukranian youth online. #5 Member of Tri-M music honors society. #6 Jazz Pianist in premier school Jazz Band. #7 Soon-to-be black belt in Taekwondo. #8 Jazz Pianist in a recorded studio album. #9 Produced electronic music, over 1 mil views on youtube.

Awards/Honors #1 Finalist in MTNA National Composition Competition #2 2nd Place in national Reno Tahoe piano competition #3 Winner of school's annual composition award Letters of Recommendation (didn't read any of these) One from a private teacher, I've had him for 9 years now, I assume it was great. Another from the principal of the school who used to be my instructor, he knows me really well and is super supportive of me. Another from my old dual enrollment history teacher, mostly for the purpose of telling schools I can write. Essays Common app essay was about growing up in a religious cult, and me and my family's experience leaving and starting anew. Decisions Acceptances: Manhattan School of Music Mannes School of Music UMich SMTD USC Oberlin Conservatory Boston Conservatory New England Conservatory Waitlists: Peabody Institute Rejections: Curtis Institute of Music Juilliard Additional Information Most music schools have a prescreening round before they invite you to audition. I passed the prescreening round for Peabody and Juilliard and was invited to audition. At Curtis I was not."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: All were RD Texas Christian University - TCU SCHOLAR 20k/yr 4yrs University of Texas Arlington - Presidential Scholar 10k/yr 4yrs Baylor University - Distinction Award 19k/yr 4yrs Cornell College \ud83d\udc80- Presidential Scholar 35k/yr 4yrs University of Texas Austin - Full ride + Housing (CS Turing Scholars waitlist) Duke University",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender : Male Race/Ethnicity : Hispanic Residence : TX Income Bracket : <20K Type of School : Public Hooks : First Generation, Low-Income, Rural, Minority Student Intended Major(s) : Comp Sci, Econ Dual Major Academics GPA (UW/W) : 3.9 UW Rank (or percentile) : 2/68 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc. : 5 Honors, 4 AP, 20 Dual Credit (Associates Degree of Liberal Arts) Senior Year Course Load : AP Calc AB (HS Course), Intro to sociology (DC), Intro to Computer Security (DC), Intro to AI (DC), Intro to Archeology (DC), Intro to Computer Science(DC) NOTES : My HS offered 5 APs total and my senior year was mostly electives. I definitely emphasized this in my applications additional info session, but harped on me taking college courses to supplement that. Standardized Testing SAT I : 1490(760RW, 730M) ACT : 32(28E, 35M, 35R 31S) AP/IB : AP LANG(4), AP WORLD (4), APUSH (4), AP CALC AB (IP) Extracurriculars/Activities JOB - I've had a local grocery store job since the fall sem of my Junior year and have been consistently working 10-20hr/wk Speech and debate - 2018-Present (Team Captain 2020-Present) 10 State Individual Titles, Runner Up State Champion Team award. Our program was without a coach since my freshman year so I emphasized organizing practices, growing, and managing the team throughout my first three years as a major point in my essay.



Student Council - 2020-Present (President 2022-Present) Trumpet in Band - 2018-Present (Section Leader 2020-Present) NHS - 2022-Present (Vice president of Scholarship, President) UTA UBMS - 2021-Present (School captain 2021-Present) UIL Math Team - 2018-Present (Team Captain 2020-Present) Few Regional Awards and Regional Team awards. UIL One Act - 2020-Present (Lead roles and Stage Manager) Awards/Honors Hispanic Scholarship fund Scholar from Youth Leadership Institute Citgo Distinguished Scholar (Regional Award) Numerous state awards from Speech and Debate Including TFA, UIL, and TAPT awards in Extemporaneous speaking, Congressional Debate, and Cross Examination Debate. Letters of Recommendation I had a LOR from the head manager of my grocery store that she said went into my school/work balance and how I connect with customers. I also had a LOR from my HS math teacher whom I've taken 2 courses with and is the sponsor for our UIL Math Team. LOR talked about breaking down complex math during practice and the ability to connect and teach underclassmen through my leadership roles. Other LOR from another math teacher that I admit could have been stronger. Interviews Duke University : I had an interview with an alumni from a local town and we spent time connecting over shared culture, living in the area, and feeling kind of out of place due to heritage. I asked a lot of specific questions about heritage groups on campus and how campus life had shifted over the last 20 years. Essays I focused on my essays alot in my application starting my personal statement in the middle of summer and most supplementals in August. The personal statement went over feeling stuck in a rural town and how the isolation had caused me to delve deep into personal interests. I talked about my love for music, personal connections, and learning and how coming from a rural town helped formed my mindset. Decisions Acceptances: All were RD Texas Christian University - TCU SCHOLAR 20k/yr 4yrs University of Texas Arlington - Presidential Scholar 10k/yr 4yrs Baylor University - Distinction Award 19k/yr 4yrs Cornell College \ud83d\udc80- Presidential Scholar 35k/yr 4yrs University of Texas Austin - Full ride + Housing (CS Turing Scholars waitlist) Duke University Rejections: ED1: University of Chicago Rest are RD University of California: Davis University of California: Los Angeles University of California: Berkely University of California: San Diego Yale University Columbia University Northwestern University Rice University University of Southern California Dartmouth University Brown University Additional Info: I don't think my application was super impressive, but compared to my schools profile I know contextually it looked alot better. Schools average SAT and ACT is a 910 and 17 respectively, and we only offer a few higher level classes. I applied with my test scores to every school I applied to. Most of my courseload was done through a local college and I emphasized the lack of resources my school had through my essays."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: San Diego State: Bus Admin (Accounting) Cal Poly Slo: Bus Admin San Francisco State: Bus Admin (Accounting) San Jose State: Bus Admin UC Davis: Managerial Economics UC Santa Cruz: Proposed Business Management Economics UC Santa Barbra: Pre-Economics and Accounting UC San Diego: Business Economics UC Riverside: Pre-Bus UC Berkeley: Economics University of the Pacific: Accounting University of San Francisco: Accounting Santa Clara University: Leavey School of Business-Accounting",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian/Chinese Residence: CA Income Bracket: low income Type of School: Public High School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen Intended Major(s) : Accounting/Economics Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.95/4.27 Rank (or percentile): School doesn't do rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9 Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc, Ap Gov, Econ H, Chinese Native 3, Reg Eng, Reg Physics, Yearbook Standardized Testing No standardize testing Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. BuildOn Club: Pres (2 yr), SVP (1 yr) Finclusion: Outreach Coordinator (1 yr) Jetson: Intern (1 summer) - received award recognized Old Navy: Associate (1.5 yr until store closed) Summer Camp: Counselor (1 summer) Waymo Cohort: Intern (1 summer) Green Careers: Intern (1 summer) Comet: Intern (1 summer) Job readiness: (1 summer) Awards/Honors Jetson Certificate: Best Research Letters of Recommendation Calculus teacher (wrote my Common App and Berkeley letter) English/Club Sponsor (wrote my Common App letters) Interviews None but have been selected for the Fiat Scholarship Interview at Berkeley Essays Common App: Perseverance, overcoming challenge, and learning about yourself UC App: Leadership, educational opportunity, academic subject, overcoming a challenge Decisions (Reg for all) Acceptances: San Diego State: Bus Admin (Accounting) Cal Poly Slo: Bus Admin San Francisco State: Bus Admin (Accounting) San Jose State: Bus Admin UC Davis: Managerial Economics UC Santa Cruz: Proposed Business Management Economics UC Santa Barbra: Pre-Economics and Accounting UC San Diego: Business Economics UC Riverside: Pre-Bus UC Berkeley: Economics University of the Pacific: Accounting University of San Francisco: Accounting Santa Clara University: Leavey School of Business-Accounting Waitlists: UC Irvine Rejections: University of Southern California UC Los Angeles"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: ASU CS EA + \$17.5k scholarship Pitt Industrial Engineering EA + \$20k scholarship IU

Kelly Finance EA + \$9k scholarship Penn State Industrial Engineering EA Purdue Integrated Business Engineering EA Ohio State Industrial Engineering + \$13.5k scholarship EA University of Florida Industrial Systems Engineering EA Babson College Business Entrepreneurship (Deferred -> Accepted)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Indian Residence: NW Chicago Suburbs, IL Income Bracket: >200k Type of School: Semi-Competitive Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Engineering/Business (I applied to a lotta different majors depending on the school, but I am interested in both fields and I feel like my ecs match) Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.6uw(ea) 3.65uw(rd) 4.61w(ea) 4.69w(rd) Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 AP 11 Honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics C, AP Stats, AP Gov, AP Lit, Adv. Topics in CS Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: N/A ACT: 35 (35E, 35M, 36R, 34S) AP: BC - 3, AB subscore - 4, Lang - 4, Micro - 4, Macro - 4, Physics 1 - 2 (not submitted), CSA - 3, Euro- 3, CSP - 3, World- 4. Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities Co-Founder & CEO of a five-figure startup related to technology. (8 hours x 45 weeks) FBLA Nationals Qualifier 2023, and qualified for state in 2022. (2h x 24w) NHS Secretary, helping my team fulfill their hour responsibility (2h x 36w) Football- Varsity Captain 1 year, team made state semis (14h x 23w) STEM Instructor- Taught 30 students STEM related concepts like coding and robotics at a local tutoring center (7h x 40w) Volunteered to help other startups, helping them attain \$15000 in funding (4h x 36w) Taught 80 students aged 6-14 STEM concepts at a community college (40h x 10w) CEO of a four figure startup related to arbitrage and finding resale opportunities (2h x 50w) Member of IL State Senator's Youth Advisory Council (8h x 3w) Member of Schools Finance Club Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 1st in National High School Pitch Competition FBLA #2 in state jr year, national qual 2nd Place in District Pitch Competition NHS AP Scholar w/ Honor Letters of Recommendation AP Lang Teacher- I would always participate in his class and would frequently attend office hours, but he was among the most popular teachers for letter of recs so probably around a 8/10. AP Physics Teacher- She's the NHS sponsor, and she really likes the work I'm doing with my NHS group, but I wasn't very talkative in her class and could've been a better student so probably a 7/10. Interviews I declined interviews for most schools (which in hindsight was probably a really bad idea), but I still had a couple. Princeton- went really well, he said he would put in a good word for me so probably an 8.5/10 Dartmouth- kinda mid, only lasted around 20 minutes but informative, probably a 6/10 Essays My essays were above average, but not the greatest. My common app essay was about my startup and the hardships we faced, which I feel was really cliché and didn't help my application stand out too much. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: ASU CS EA + \$17.5k

scholarship Pitt Industrial Engineering EA + \$20k scholarship IU Kelly Finance EA + \$9k scholarship Penn State Industrial Engineering EA Purdue Integrated Business Engineering EA Ohio State Industrial Engineering + \$13.5k scholarship EA University of Florida Industrial Systems Engineering EA Babson College Business Entrepreneurship (Deferred -> Accepted) Waitlists: Wisconsin-Madison CS (Deferred -> Waitlisted) Northeastern Industrial Engineering (Deferred -> Waitlisted) Rejections: UIUC CS+Econ/ Industrial Engineering EA USC Comp Sci/Business Administration (Deferred -> Rejected) Georgia Tech Industrial Engineering EA Princeton Operations Research Fin Engineering RD Vandy Econ RD Emory Informations Sciences and Operations Management RD Columbia Financial Engineering RD Dartmouth Economics RD Yale CS + Econ RD Duke Econ RD WashU CS+Econ RD Northwestern Industrial Engineering RD Brown Econ RD Rice Econ RD Stanford Econ RD UPenn Wharton RD NYU Finance RD Additional Information: Brutal outcomes, but happy to still have the choice between a couple schools. I am between Babson (Entrepreneurship), Florida (Industrial Systems Engineering, but easy to change), and Indiana (Finance). If money is not a factor, what should I choose? Each school has its own pros/cons, and I have not been able to make any progress."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Texas A&M (w/ 4k per year merit scholarship) UT Austin Rice (w/ 30k per year merit scholarship) MIT Caltech 9. Final Notes This has all been very unexpected. I thought not doing any research or internships/jobs or passion projects would drastically hurt my chances at these top schools, but everything ended up working out in the end. Even if I didn't get into any of my top schools, I would've still been satisfied bc honestly I'm proud of what I've accomplished throughout high school and the impact I've made on my community. I think that's the best outcome you can hope for. So when I opened my first decision of March, Caltech, I was absolutely in shock, then MIT and Rice rolled in too. Lucky to have gotten into my top choices first before getting any rejections. I'm so grateful to have gone so far in my college apps journey, especially given there are so many more qualified applicants.",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White + Hispanic Residence: Texas Income Bracket: 80-100k Type of School: Early College Public School Intended Major(s): AeroE + CS or Business Hooks: Majority Hispanic Low Income Area, Math State Champion, did MITES Semester. 2. Academics GPA: 3.97/4.00 (unweighted) 4.58/4.90 (weighted) Rank: 1/95 SAT: 1560 (760 EBRW, 800 Math) ACT: 35 / 36 Superscore APs: HumGeo (4), Calc BC (self study) (5), Physics1 (5), APUSH (3), Stats (4), Chem (5), CompSciPrinciples (5), Physics2 (self study) (5), English Lang

(4), US Gov (self study) (5) 3. ECs/ Summer Activities Texas Math & Science Competitions, MITES Semester, 1 Week Aerospace Camp at UTSA, FIRST Tech Challenge, Science Bowl, NHS, Senior Class, Anchor for School's Morning Announcements, Volunteer Competitive Math tutoring at our Junior High and Elementary. 4. Awards: 9 Math State Titles in various Texas Math & Science Competitions AP Scholar with Distinction National Hispanic Recognition (College Board) USNCO Nats Qualification AIME Qualification 5. Letters of Recommendation: Sophomore AP Physics 1 Teacher + Science Coach: 10/10 Participated the most in his class and led our science team. Junior/Senior English Comp/Lit Teacher + Senior Class Sponsor: 9.5/10 Very chill teacher, was the senior class treasurer and helped manage I funds for our senior trip this year: (Math Coach: Additional Letter for MIT): 10/10 I submitted an additional letter of recommendation from my Math Coach who is an MIT Alumni. 6. Interview: MIT: 9/10 he was super chill and it lasted 2 hrs!! We connected a lot and he seemed very enthusiastic about the school. We talked about competing in some of the same competitions in high school. This was the only interview I got, I didn't opt in for the optional Rice interview. 7. Essays Wrote about visiting Caltech for my Personal Statement and it offering me a view of academics outside of my region of Texas and how it gave me confidence to leave out-of-state for college as I find my own community wherever I go. My other essays focused on how my dad's work in construction inspired me to get into engineering, Minecraft, leading my math teams, and participating in MITES to name a few. 8. Decisions Rejections: Stanford Harvard Waitlists: UC Berkeley Acceptances: Texas A&M (w/ 4k per year merit scholarship) UT Austin Rice (w/ 30k per year merit scholarship) MIT Caltech 9. Final Notes This has all been very unexpected. I thought not doing any research or internships/jobs or passion projects would drastically hurt my chances at these top schools, but everything ended up working out in the end. Even if I didn't get into any of my top schools, I would've still been satisfied bc honestly I'm proud of what I've accomplished throughout high school and the impact I've made on my community. I think that's the best outcome you can hope for. So when I opened my first decision of March, Caltech, I was absolutely in shock, then MIT and Rice rolled in too. Lucky to have gotten into my top choices first before getting any rejections. I'm so grateful to have gone so far in my college apps journey, especially given there are so many more qualified applicants."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: MIT RD Princeton RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White/Mixed, International Residence: Middle East, Spent 2 years working in the US Income Bracket: \$100-150k Type of School: Private, Boarding School, International Hooks: International Student, Non-Traditional (in my mid-20s due to conscription) Intended Major(s): PoliSci & International Affairs Academics GPA (UW/W): IB, roughly 3.85 UW Rank (or percentile): No Ranking, but probably top %5 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: IB Curriculum, 3HL, 3SL, TOK + EE Senior Year Course Load: Mathematics HL English Lang & Lit HL Global Politics HL Economics SL Biology SL Arabic Ab Initio TOK + EE Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1550 (780RW, 770M) IB: 42/45 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 National Youth Leadership Program My country's most exclusive youth leadership program, 2.5% admission rate. Networked & acquired entrepreneurial tools that I applied to project creation. #2 Co-founder, School's Mission Trips' Executive Committee Planned and led 2 flagship missions in disputed areas, for 200 students + staff. Built schedules, liaised with speakers, and led tours. #3 Cultural exchange program between ethnic groups in my country and in the USA Forged connections with members of the American fellows; Explored my identity, and Led sessions. Including an all-expenses-paid trip to NYC. #4 Debate and MUN Club Represented my school in international tournaments, organized special preparation sessions, and Mentored younger students. Won Honorable Mention. #5 The Program for the Advancement of Mathematically Talented Youth Studied in the selective Mathematics Enrichment Program for 4 years (6th-9th grades). Practiced math for 3hrs daily. #6 Volunteering in an NGO Planned and taught English lessons to 30 at-risk children in an elementary school in one of my country's most underprivileged villages, teaching in several languages. #7 Martial Arts (Club) Practiced martial arts for 8 years. Participated in national summits, Competed in tournaments, and performed in end-of-year regional shows. #8 Peer Advisor Volunteer Offered emotional support and guidance to students; oriented new students with campus life; met weekly with the school's counselor for mentoring. #9 Factory Worker, Tour Guide, and Salesperson in a family business Operated factory machinery; Served customers; Oversaw preparations of special orders; Guided educational tours and activities about bees on the farm. #10 School's Theater Production, co-lead role Played the co-lead role in front of 300 people in our school's production. Assisted in the production and advertisement. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 Honorable Mention, National MUN Conference (TIMEMUN), won in the largest committee (84 delegates) #2 + #3 Military Awards Letters of Recommendation School Principle (10/10) - Had developed a very close relationship with him, was my TOK teacher, and supervised our school mission trips. We are still in touch (7 years later) and he wrote me the best letter I ever received. Global Politics teacher/ EE Supervisor (7/10) - Had a close work relationship

with him, wrote me an elaborate letter and I'm pretty happy with it. Math teacher (7/10) - My favorite teacher, wrote some funny anecdotes about our time in classes. Interviews Had interviews with Stanford, Princeton, MIT, and Dartmouth. All went relatively well. Essays Personal Essay - Wrote about my solo journey to find my great-grandmother's grave in South America. Reflected on how this experience was transformative for me and what I learned about my family and identity. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: MIT RD Princeton RD Waitlists: Brown RD Dartmouth RD Rejections: Harvard REA - Deferred -> Rejected Stanford RD Yale RD Duke RD NYU RD Barnard RD Additional Information: It was important for me to write this for all those who might not apply straight out of high school, are international, or think they are not the typecast for these universities. As a non-traditional student applying in my mid-20s, I was taking this entire process as an experiment. More than trying to find ECs that will look good to the admissions, I was reflecting on what is the common denominator between the different life experiences I had, and what was the ideology behind the big life decisions I made. I developed perseverance and practiced trusting the process. More than anything, I think that I decided to just be who I am, do whatever I wanted in high school, and find the institution that will value that. I intentionally refrained from glorifying any of the schools to avoid fixation, and I am very happy about that. Good luck to everyone still waiting on final results or applying next year!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Chapman, LMU, SDSU, Cal Poly, Tulane, UW, Colby College, Middlebury, NYU, BU, USC, Duke, Umich Where I'm going most likely: USC! I got a nice scholarship and got into the legal studies program so I will graduate law school in 2 years:)",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Income: Upper-Middle class Race/gender: White male School: Competitive bay area high school Major: Political Science Academics: UW/W: 3.7/4.1 APs: 8 and 5 honors (passed all exams) ACT: 33 EC'S: Statewide Junior State of America Position and President of high school chapter On the Model UN board and taught at my local middle school. Also won best delegate at 3 conferences (Stanford MUN, BMUN, DMUNC) and many other awards. Mock Trial Captain and been on the team since freshman year; won county 3 years in a row Worked at a veterinarian office and had an amazing position, that I got promoted to at 16 Interned for an attorney and helped him with research projects and other office tasks. Speech and debate coach and former student for a company. 300+ service hours; lifetime CSF member, and presidential service award Made over 10k on Depop and talked about it in some essays Essays: I think they were very good. My NYU admissions officer sent my a

personalized note on my acceptance letter complimenting my common app:) PM me if you want to read any! Results: Rejections- UC Davis, UCSD, UCI, UCSD, UCLA, UC Berkeley, UCSB, Vanderbilt, Pomona College, Brown Waitlist: UC Santa Cruz\2026, Northwestern, UVA, Cornell, Notre Dame Acceptances: Chapman, LMU, SDSU, Cal Poly, Tulane, UW, Colby College, Middlebury, NYU, BU, USC, Duke, Umich Where I'm going most likely: USC! I got a nice scholarship and got into the legal studies program so I will graduate law school in 2 years:)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Denver RD: accepted with Chancellor Scholarship of \$36k/yr Loyola Marymount University RD: accepted with Arrupe Scholarship of \$16.5k/yr Sarah Lawrence RD: accepted with Presidential Scholarship of \$42k/yr Fordham RD: accepted with full-tuition Fordham merit scholarship of \$260-270k over all four years Wellesley RD: yay! Scripps RD: also yay!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Mixed (white/Dominican) Residence: Suburban, live in the Midwest in a semi-major city Income Bracket: 200k+ Type of School: private college prep Hooks: URM, full-pay (does this matter anymore?), legacy at harvard Intended Major(s): Cognitive Science / Psychology Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.34/4.33 (no idea how the school weights this) Rank (or percentile): n/a # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 3 Honors, 3 AP (we are only allowed to take 3 a year for jr/sr year) Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc AB, AP Spanish, English Honors, Bioethics, Urban Issues & Design, Programming in Java Standardized Testing SAT I: 1540 (790RW, 750M) ACT: didn't take (failed the PACT miserably) AP/IB: 5 on AP Eng Lang, 4 on AP Physics 1 Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): n/a Extracurriculars/Activities (Here's what I put on the common app:) #1 School theater (Lead actress in 5+ shows) #2 Founder/leader of mixed affinity #3 Leader of Hispanic Culture Club #4 Leader of latinx affinity #5 Member of school's diversity exec board #6 Copy editor for school's diversity magazine #7 Member of climate/culture advisory board at school #8 Track and field head manager 3yrs #9 Volunteering at a homeless shelter for 10+ yrs #10 Student ambassador (give tours, etc) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 National Merit Commended Scholar #2 National Hispanic Recognition Program #3 AP Scholar #3 Listed that the school gives out no awards. (they made us do this) Letters of Recommendation Physics teacher: came into her classroom so much outside of class, got to know her really well and she saw me work super hard even though i didnt excel the most. super sweet person. probably 7/10 English teacher: funny guy, i wasn't the most participatory member of that class but got great grades on all essays and it was clear i did the work and beyond. also



came in to convince him not to take a book by a dominican author off the syllabus and he listened to me, so there's that. 8/10 prob Interviews Harvard: didn't really click with him but I did get to talk about what I wanted. He remarked that he would not get into Harvard today, and encouraged me to not make it my top priority (???) idk. probably didn't hurt me Stanford: so weird. interviewer visits my city on occasion for work and tried to convince me i was describing my neighborhood wrong. he did ask why stanford and i felt like i gave a good answer. but not sure what he was on coming into that interview. Scripps: AMAZING she was studying what i wanted, younger and current student, we clicked great and she said she knew i was an excellent candidate at the end. Brown: ik this was a video but I did a room tour, talked about moving a lot as a kid and finding the importance of making your own space/home, i liked it but maybe it was too basic. 6.5/10 Essays Common app: wrote about how theatre helped me come out of my shell and take action in my community. i liked it a lot but what does that mean. honestly maybe 7/10 I wrote a lot about my mixed identity and how I managed to turn self-doubt and clouded identity into purpose and improving my community. plus i tried to throw in a lot about my desire to run my own lab someday i would say on average they were 8/10. i spent so much time on those shits. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Denver RD: accepted with Chancellor Scholarship of \$36k/yr Loyola Marymount University RD: accepted with Arrupe Scholarship of \$16.5kyr Sarah Lawrence RD: accepted with Presidential Scholarship of \$42k/yr Fordham RD: accepted with full-tuition Fordham merit scholarship of \$260-270k over all four years Wellesley RD: yay! Scripps RD: also yay! Waitlists: Barnard RD Rejections: Harvard: deferred REA and rejected RD (yk what they clearly have their own problems so whatevs) Brown RD: fuck them! regretted not EDing so bad. lmk if you think it could have changed my result. Stanford: i honestly was hoping for them just because of the environment. plus ending on a rejection hurt. i know this is a stupid question but i honestly want to know what I could have done differently, or if i was simply just not the 'institutional priority' this year. last year my school sent tons of kids to t20s... just want any kind of explanation."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: CSULB CSUN UC Berkeley (committed) Additional: idk wtf happened, I think maybe my ec's were iffy, cuz I had my essays read over multiple times before submissions, perhaps my story wasn't enticing enough \ud83e\udd37\ud83c\uddfe\u200d\u2640\ufe0f. But honestly, the admissions process was really hard this year, so always be realistic with the admissions process, you're competing against hundreds of thousands of students with similar stats, so make sure to have a good range of schools to apply to!!! I'm really happy about Berkeley tho!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Black/African  
 Residence: west coast Income Bracket: lower middle class Type of School: public  
 Hooks: immigrant, low income Intended Major(s): Neuroscience, Human biology,  
 computational psych Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.84, 4.3 Rank: School doesn't  
 rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11 AP's, 4 Honors, 3 DE. Senior  
 Year Course Load: 5 APs, 1 honor, 1 elective Standardized Testing: Test optional AP/IB:  
 Reported 1 Taken, 4s (1), 3s (5) Extracurriculars/Activities USC Neuroscience  
 Perspectives: research on bilingualism Family Responsibilities CBO (won't say name for  
 security reasons): did summer program and got connections with biomed companies  
 Girls Who Code Intern at online Health internship program: did research on ex vivo lung  
 perfusion Neuroscience club at Stanford Academic Decathlon School medical research  
 club Reading volunteer library volunteer Awards/Honors CBO National finalist Local  
 scholarship recipient Girls who code certification AP Scholar USC certificate for  
 research Letters of Recommendation AP Research: 9/10. I'm pretty close with them tbh  
 AP Chem teacher: 5/10, did not really get to fully connect Counselor: 8/10, pretty close  
 :) Interviews Princeton: 6/10. It was ok, it was loud inside, and it was raining lol  
 Stanford: 8/10, was pretty good, did it over facetime Brown: did the video :) Results  
 Waitlists: UCSD UCSB Rejections: SDSU UCLA Swathmore Williams JHU  
 Northwestern WashU Princeton Stanford Brown Yale Columbia (deferred --> rejected)  
 Acceptances: CSULB CSUN UC Berkeley (committed) Additional: idk wtf happened, I  
 think maybe my ec's were iffy, cuz I had my essays read over multiple times before  
 submissions, perhaps my story wasn't enticing enough  
 \ud83e\udd37\ud83c\uddff\u200d\u2640\ufe0f. But honestly, the admissions process  
 was really hard this year, so always be realistic with the admissions process, you're  
 competing against hundreds of thousands of students with similar stats, so make sure  
 to have a good range of schools to apply to!!! I'm really happy about Berkeley tho!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 ASU UT DALLAS MSU UMASS AMHERST(16K PER YEAR) UCSC(5K PER YEAR)  
 UC DAVIS ROSE HULMAN( 30K PER YEAR) RIT(28K PER YEAR) CWRU(20K PER  
 YEAR) Purdueeeeeeee! Northeastern UW Madison",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian(Indian)  
 Residence: Intl (Some major city India) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen,  
 Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Long tongue Intended Major(s): CS/DS mostly + Related  
 stuff( Info systems/tech etc) Academics GPA: 39/45 IB Senior Year Course Load: Math  
 AA HL, Physics HL, CS HL, ECO SL, SPANISH B SL, English SL Standardized Testing:  
 SAT:1480 (740 ,740) Extracurriculars/Activities: Founder of an NGO-won local awards

Sports Captain Published research paper abt sth niche(Best EC proly) Investment club president Internship at a big finance firm Internship at a tech firm Worked with a professor to research abt sth niche Editor for an online student journal Courses and stuff Awards/Honors: (Weakest part of application) Some small academic awards and some random olympiad(not a prestigious one) Essays/LORs/Interviews: Common app essay( 8/10)- Worked a decent amount on it, connected a sport i play with my struggle in learning and founding the ngo. Got it proof read by several people(friends accepted to nyu,duke etc) and counselor. Supplementals (3-4/10)- Most supplementals i wrote literally on the day of deadline or a 1-2 days before it, barely got it checked and many of them have grammatical errors lol. LOR'S (7/10) - I picked teachers who are known to write good LOR'S, however only one of them knew me well enuf on a personal level. LOR from the professor I worked with(9/10)- Worked a lot with him and he knew a lot of personal stuff about and he is a great writer too. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) ALL RD Acceptances: ASU UT DALLAS MSU UMASS AMHERST(16K PER YEAR) UCSC(5K PER YEAR) UC DAVIS ROSE HULMAN( 30K PER YEAR) RIT(28K PER YEAR) CWRU(20K PER YEAR) Purdueeeeeeee! Northeastern UW Madison Waitlists: CMU COLBY TULANE UCI Rejections: GATech NYU UMICH UCLA UCB UWASH WASHU UIUC( this one hurt, really worked hard on essays for this) Additional Information: Considering how hard i worked over high school,I am pretty happy with all my decisions tbh, the ones I didnt get in i really didnt have any hope for. In hindsight i would have applied to lesser safeties(to save application fees),and also would have applied to some colleges in early round. But however everything worked out well in the end. I am considering Purdue ,UW Madison and NEU for now, however the hefty scholarships of Rose Hulman and RIT has made me not rule them out just yet. Please give suggestions if you can as to which school I should attend."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Local CSU Other CSU that takes anyone with a pulse UCR (Chancellors, 5k a year) UCSC (Regents, how?, 10k a year) UC Davis UCSD, admitted into first choice college UCLA UCB (berkeley, we refer to it as ucb around here)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian \ud83e\udd21 Residence: CA (not the bay) Income Bracket: no finaid Type of School: Public (Not competitive) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): (write here) Bio/Chemistry/\ud83e\udd21 studies Academics GPA: (UW/W): 3.9ish, 4.8 UC Fully Weighted Rank (or percentile): Not considered Number of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10+ AP, rest were mostly honors Senior Year

Course Load: 1/2 AP classes, 1/2 regular classes - slight decline in rigor but it's OK  
 Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported.  
 SAT I: 1500 (got really lucky) ACT: N/A SAT II: 1460 (did some \ud83e\udd21 things before the test with my car, yes I did worse) AP/IB: Mostly 5s, one 4 and one 3 Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities (I'm being pretty vague & understating here because I don't want to get doxxed - if you want info/have questions, pm. if you think you recognize me, no you don't) List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc . Varsity Sport/Team Captain Summer Research Program - nothing like RSI but decently selective Volunteering - (was kind of forced to do this for reasons) School Council Leadership Thing CC Classes + research project Musical Instrument - nothing special School Club Leadership Thing temporary job (got a real job after apps but that's irrelevant to my results) Tutor - led somewhat impactful project Some Random Certification Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. School Athletics Award Musical Instrument Award You expected a nobel prize here huh? Letters of Recommendation N/A Interviews N/A Essays PIQs: 6/10 tbh. I didn't start my first one until September when I was forced to for a school assignment, and wrote my last 2 the week the application was due. closest i've ever come to having a panic attack was the night of Nov. 29th. PIQs were straight to the point - no flowery writing, no yapping, no 10 dimensional essay that requires literary analysis. Most of my PIQs were way under max word count too. I probably couldn't write a Common App essay to save my life (a reason for me not applying to any privates). Don't be like me. Write your essays early. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Local CSU Other CSU that takes anyone with a pulse UCR (Chancellors, 5k a year) UCSC (Regents, how?, 10k a year) UC Davis UCSD, admitted into first choice college UCLA UCB (berkeley, we refer to it as ucb around here) Waitlists: UCI (#1 uci hater lol) Cal Poly SLO (declined offer) Rejections: none Additional Information/Personal Comments: Had some interesting family situation come up around time of application, wrote about 3 sentences in additional comments about it. yes, this post is 100% real If I ever have kids in the bay area & they go through college apps - I'm moving to another part of California. If I applied with these stats/ECs to a UC while going to a tryhard Bay Area school like Lowell/Monta Vista/Gunn/who knows what, you would've seen me doing TAG at a local CC. It's about your ECs as much as it is about where you go. this is considering acceptance rates at California high schools are somewhat similar (despite the students being of drastically different quality). if you're a junior/underclassman - I loved reading this forum as a junior lol. stay off chanceme it's full of \ud83e\udd21 & neurotic hs kids, coming from a \ud83e\udd21 themselves"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: NYU(Main Campus)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: cis female Race/Ethnicity: Turkish  
Residence: Turkey Type of School: small private school(attending on full ride merit)  
Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): woman in stem,  
firstgen Intended Major(s): neurosci, molecular biology, human biology Academics GPA  
(UW/W): 99,4/100(reported as 99 because common app didn't let me report it w the 0,4)  
Rank (or percentile): 1/89 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 0. school offers none.  
just the tr curriculum Senior Year Course Load: adv math, adv physics, adv chem, adv  
bio, spanish, english, turkish lit, philosophy, history, astronomy and aeronautics,  
religious education(mandatory here), PE Standardized Testing Test optional, only had a  
DET(i got 155) Extracurriculars/Activities(very vague)(worded very fancy on common  
app) Art - helped/tutored some of my friends who wanted to get better, had an ig art  
account MUN - I carried this club for like 3 yrs. I adopted like 10 juniors. I was mostly  
the one people went to when they wanted their caucuses/reso/position paper checked.  
Science/Math Olympiads - Joined experiment, math and science competitions nationally  
and internationally, placed x4, created a mathematical model to reduce CO2 emissions.  
Comm Service - In the executive board of one of TR's biggest youth clubs where we  
developed projects for the betterment of society, raised goods for earthquake victims  
Comm Service(at skl) - Organized a campaign to collect books to provide understaffed  
schools with a library Foreign Language - was just a hobby tbh. taught myself  
korean(and some japanese during my sophomore summer but i forgot almost  
everything by now.) tutored my younger cousin on english. also got 99/100 on DELE  
StuCo - Class rep for a year, class prez for 2 yrs, organized events like earthquake  
fundraisers and new years parties, was on Honor Board Robotics - Only for a year  
though. I didn't rly like it but we did competitions like FLL and Teknofest. Got 1st place in  
FLL regionals robot category iirc. Dance - Did contemporary dance for 2 yrs. Planning to  
continue in college but i had to quit due to senior year. Awards/Honors List all awards  
and honors submitted on your application. #1 Immerse Essay Competition Runner Up in  
Medicine(Won a 50% scholarship)(intl) #2 Biogenesis Intl Biology Olympiad Bronze in  
Anatomy and Physiology #3 National finalist for a selective science/leadership program  
#4 Local experiment competition in chem most creative approach award #5 FLL Robot  
Competition 1st Place Letters of Recommendation Counselor(7/10) - super sweet and I  
love her but our counselor changed every year so I never really developed a  
relationship with any of them. still, having known me for a few months, i trust that she  
did a good job. Biology teacher(10/10) - She has known me for like 8 yrs i think??  
SHE'S THE SWEETEST PERSON ON EARTH I LOVE HER SO SO MUCH AND WE  
DID MY BRAG SHEET TOGETHER. She's more of a counselor to me than a biology  
teacher lol. MUN Advisor/Eng teacher(10000/10) - He's known me since I was 13 and  
he used to be a meme among my middle school class. I see him as my second dad and

I wish I could share my acceptance w him the moment I got it but he was abroad. He knows almost everything abt me. Mr. K if you're seeing this ily. Interviews URochester(6/10) - my first interview and I was AWKWARD. 6 points purely because my interviewer was super sweet and I still follow her on instagram I hope she has a great life. Princeton(7/10) - I was kind of awkward but less than Rochester. And my interviewer was so slay honestly. She also told me a few things abt Princeton and her major. We bonded over art. Stanford(9/10) - I think I expressed myself the best here. After the interview somehow our chat turned into criticizing Turkey's education system. I felt understood. Brown Video(??/10) - I... don't know what to say about it. I cringed after making it. Essays Common app(10/10) - It was basically about how my aunt used to scold me for coloring outside the lines and how I ended up not liking coloring for a while only to find out I didn't have to color inside the lines. Was a metaphor for you don't have to fit inside a box/live your life a specific way. I loved it. Other essays(8/10) - I think the strongest part of my app were essays. I put a lot of effort into them. Except for Columbia where I struggled a lot for some reason. I also kind of half-assed NYU optional and I think it turned out a little cheesy. The rest I really liked. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: NYU(Main Campus) Waitlists: none Rejections: Ivies except for Cornell and Dartmouth(didn't apply to those two) USC JHU URochester Stanford Additional Information: I didn't really expect any acceptences although I wasn't really seeking aid. I mean who wants a TO no ap international? Apparently NYU does. Even though I had a cheesy ass essay. And I also submitted my English test score preeetty late after the deadline. So I'm shocked yet grateful. Go violets ig? <3"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Emory(Oxford College) full price Tulsa(NMSC full ride) Florida(OOS) UW Madison-In state SLU-not considering Case western-spring semester start I am fortunate to come from an upper middle class family where cost isn't a huge factor and everything would be paid for at every school. However, money is still an important piece of my decision process. I've visited most of the schools, and I loved Emory's campus. I do prefer a smaller campus feel, but I'm not opposed to state schools either. Not too keen on SLU or the spring semester start at Case. Please help, any advice is appreciated!!!",

"answer": "A: Rejections: Washu RD Northwestern RD Duke RD Vanderbilt RD Acceptances: Emory(Oxford College) full price Tulsa(NMSC full ride) Florida(OOS) UW Madison-In state SLU-not considering Case western-spring semester start I am fortunate to come from an upper middle class family where cost isn't a huge factor and everything would be paid for at every school. However, money is still an

important piece of my decision process. I've visited most of the schools, and I loved Emory's campus. I do prefer a smaller campus feel, but I'm not opposed to state schools either. Not too keen on SLU or the spring semester start at Case. Please help, any advice is appreciated!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: All UCs (incl. UCLA, Berkeley, Regents Scholar @ UC Davis) UW Seattle (w/ 3.5k merit scholarship) Smith (w/ half tuition merit scholarship + internship provided) Kenyon (w/ 35k per year merit scholarship) Oberlin (w/ 35k per year merit scholarship) Dartmouth Penn Brown Columbia Princeton Stanford Reflections I am honestly in shock about how everything turned out. After getting the first (and only) rejection from Yale, I thought it was over. I also did all of my RD supplementals in like a three week period so that wasn't looking good either. Also, getting to know a bunch of super talented writers through the programs I was in made me have like serious imposter syndrome and I convinced myself that all of my writing stuff was stupid. I also convinced myself that any college would only want to accept one or two writing people, and since I wasn't the best then they wouldn't want me. So I guess this is a testament to not psyching yourself out. I'm so so so grateful that I was accepted where I was, because I know there are so many people who are more qualified than me that were rejected. I think it helped a lot that I wasn't a STEM applicant. PM me if you have any questions.",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Wasian Residence: NorCal (not bay area) Income Bracket: not eligible for aid Semi-competitive, medium-size public high school Hooks: Legacy at Columbia, Gay/Lesbian Intended Major(s): English, Creative Writing, Linguistics Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.4 Rank (or percentile): not ranked number of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: total (inc. senior year): 6 Honors, 9 APs Senior Year Course Load: 4 APs, 2 Honors Standardized Testing SAT: 1520 (760 EBRW, 760 Math) / 1540 superscore (760 EBRW, 780 Math) AP: Calc AB (5), English Language (self study, school does not offer) (5), Stats (5), APUSH (5), Bio (5) Extracurriculars/Activities started youth writing program @ local library editor at popular online teen literary magazine founder/president of school creative writing club actor/tech for local youth theatre company musician w/ local youth symphony editor-in-chief for school literary magazine competitive summer writing program reporter for school newspaper volunteer musician (virtual) for local hospitals/retirement homes principal musician for freshman orchestra Awards/Honors Scholastic Gold Medal for writing (national) semi-finalist national poetry ambassador YoungArts Merit for writing AP scholar w/ distinction School award, nom. by English teacher Letters of Recommendation Sophomore English teacher: LOVE HER 10/10 History teacher (2

years): she's so sweet I talk with her all the time 9.5/10 Stats teacher: I was one of two people who ever participated in his class idk 9/10 Interviews Dartmouth: 8/10 he was veeeeery candid and tbh it seemed like he didn't like Dartmouth Harvard: 8/10 it was good but I felt like we didn't fully connect Penn: 9/10 I think we understood each other Princeton: 9/10 I had fun Essays I'm a writer so they were probably good. My CommonApp essay was about how fanfiction got me into writing and how I learned to be proud of that. In my supplementals I tried to emphasize interdisciplinary work and art, especially how creative writing made me interested in linguistics. Decisions Rejections: Yale REA Waitlists: UMich EA Northwestern Harvard UChicago Cornell Acceptances: All UCs (incl. UCLA, Berkeley, Regents Scholar @ UC Davis) UW Seattle (w/ 3.5k merit scholarship) Smith (w/ half tuition merit scholarship + internship provided) Kenyon (w/ 35k per year merit scholarship) Oberlin (w/ 35k per year merit scholarship) Dartmouth Penn Brown Columbia Princeton Stanford Reflections I am honestly in shock about how everything turned out. After getting the first (and only) rejection from Yale, I thought it was over. I also did all of my RD supplementals in like a three week period so that wasn't looking good either. Also, getting to know a bunch of super talented writers through the programs I was in made me have like serious imposter syndrome and I convinced myself that all of my writing stuff was stupid. I also convinced myself that any college would only want to accept one or two writing people, and since I wasn't the best then they wouldn't want me. So I guess this is a testament to not psyching yourself out. I'm so so so grateful that I was accepted where I was, because I know there are so many people who are more qualified than me that were rejected. I think it helped a lot that I wasn't a STEM applicant. PM me if you have any questions."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UNC (EA) NC state (EA) UMDCP (EA) Georgia tech (EA) UIUC (EA->deferred, RD->accepted)",

"answer": "A: **\*\*Demographics\*\*** Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: indian Residence: NC Income Bracket: 120k Type of School: highly competitive public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none Intended Major(s): computer science **\*\*Academics\*\*** GPA (UW/W): 3.9/4.8 Rank (or percentile): school doesn't do rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 5 APs (school mainly offers college level classes and not many AP) Senior Year Course Load: APES, AP Chem, Data structures & algorithms, Machine learning, linear algebra, multivariable calc, astrophysics, some english classes **\*\*Standardized Testing\*\*** List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1550 (780M 770RW) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): n/a **\*\*Extracurriculars/Activities\*\*** List all extracurricular involvements,



including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. keeping this vague #1 prestigious summer research program #2 robotics program 1 #3 robotics program 2 #4 volunteering #5 president of cs related club #6 mentored some students in cs #7 Research (self study) #8 Teaching assistant #9 environmental club #10 led a class on non-newtonian physics Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 intl robotics awards #2 robotics state champ x2 #3 hackathon winner #4 state science fair 1st place #5 national merit Letters of Recommendation physics teacher (8/10): had multiple classes with him and was a TA for him, probably put in a good word for me research mentor (6/10): mentored me over the summer but I didn't have the best relationship with him bc he was pretty busy + idt he ever wrote a rec letter before for college applications bc he was asking me a ton of questions abt the whole process Interviews mit (6/10): was sick during the interview but my interviewer and I had some shared interests however I think I came off as pretty awkward Essays personal statement(8/10): I think I had a pretty unique idea , maybe could have executed better but I was satisfied and I had it reviewed by a few ppl who said it looked good supplementals(7/10): I think my ea supps were kinda rough since I procrastinated (started 2 weeks before deadline) a lot but I felt pretty solid about RD supps since I spent a lot more time Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UNC (EA) NC state (EA) UMDCP (EA) Georgia tech (EA) UIUC (EA->deferred, RD-> accepted) Waitlists: CMU (RD) Columbia (RD) Rejections: mit (RD) Cornell (RD) UMich (EA-> deferred, RD->rejected) Stanford (RD) Princeton (REA) UT Austin (RD) UWash (RD) \*\*Thoughts\*\* Even though CS was an absolute bloodbath this year, I am pretty satisfied with my results and my overall tenure in high school. I tried to balance doing stuff for college and stuff that actually interested me (mainly robotics lol), and i honestly didn't start thinking about college til the second half of junior year. i didn't really meticulously plan out a path to the top schools and design my life around college which i feel like really helped me just enjoy life throughout the whole application process. My advice for future college applicants is to try and just enjoy high school as much as you can - for sure keep college in mind, but please don't make it your whole purpose in life or else you'll hate yourself. besides, admissions is really random and you can't control everything, so don't bother trying to. in jean-luc picard's words, \"it is possible to commit no mistakes and still lose. that's not weakness. that's life.\" So yeah, don't sweat it, just do what you enjoy and you'll end up fine. Thanks for reading, and cya!

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: NONE",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: asian Residence: central asia Income Bracket: <15k\$ Type of School: public, very competitive (u need to take a test to get in) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): very underrepresented country in the US Intended Major(s) : psychology + enviro science Academics ok i\u2019m an exchange student here in the us for my senior year, so: GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW; 4.25 W in the US, 4.0 at home (school there doesn\u2019t do weighted gpa) Rank (or percentile): top 10% (school does only decile %). graduating as Valedictorian at school at home # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: no APs back at home Senior Year Course Load: 2 APs, weren\u2019t allowed to take more cuz i arrived late to the US school (originally planned taking 5APs, but counselors said to suck it up\u201d\ud83d\udc4d\ud83c\udfffb\u201d\ud83d\ude07) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: test optional AP/IB: taking AP Psych exam this year Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): 8.0 for IELTS, L&R were 9s Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Environmental project co-founder (won grants from the US embassy in our country, traveled to different states with the project implementation) Mental Health project founder (got like millions of views & thousands of subscribers) Involvement in the international mental health project (posts reached an audience of 80k+ people all over the Asia + Europe), worked with EU, UN and other big organizations merit-based exchange program winner in 2 different countries, AR less than 5% Musical Instrument player since age 8, 15h+ per week commitment, did major performances in my country Research project for environmental sustainability at NY Science Video editor, YT channel, commitment of 5+ years Reviewer for movies and books, more than 500 reviews on media Volunteering (in education, environment & mental health) Course Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Merit-based exchange program winner (<5% AR out of 5k ppl) Grant for #1 EC from the embassy Grant for #1 EC from other embassy merit-based cultural program winner (<5% AR out of 10k ppl) essay contest winner (<5% AR out of 500 ppl) Letters of Recommendation Counselor: amazing woman, i did lots of stuff for my school, so she wrote it all probably. super warm relationships since freshman year Calculus teacher: i participated in lots of olympiads, mentored 50+ students on math. she said she wrote about it in the LOR. i love her for realzz English teacher: super nice and sweet. i also participated in lots of competitions and won them too overall i think it should be good. Interviews Princeton: 9/10. was awkward at first, but it went well. she said that i\u2019m a great fit for school Dartmouth: -infinity/10. they ghosted me, even the admissions office \ud83d\udc80 Essays i think i write nice essays in general. this one was written in 6 months and was about my identity & feeling of not belonging, and how my communities helped me to understand my own values. i would\u2019ve written it differently now ofc, but overall solid 7. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: NONE Waitlists: Columbia University (RD) literally



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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Purdue (EA) Georgia Tech (EA2) \ud83d\udc80 UT Austin (Priority) (ECE) TAMU (RD) UMich (EA) UW Madison (EA) UW Seattle (RD) (Pre-sciences) Cornell (RD) \ud83d\udc80",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: South OOS for publics Income Bracket: Upper-Middle Type of School: Non-competitive public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Geographic (?) Intended Major(s): Computer Science \ud83d\udc80, CompE Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.3 Rank (or percentile): 3/430 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 AP ,7 before Senior Year Senior Year Course Load: AP Lit, AP Music Theory, AP Calc AB, DE CS1, DE CS2, DE Calc2, Orchestra, school elective Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1570 (770RW, 800M) ACT: 36 (35R) AP/IB: Five 5s Three 4s Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 League of Legends player for high school \ud83d\udc80 #2 FBLA/DECA/HOSA Type club with state and national level awards and leadership at high school #3 Small social media #4 School club president #5 Language school student and volunteer #6 Cello Player for school. #7 Summer Camp Volunteer #8 Service club VP #9 Service club exec role #10 Piano hobby Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 EC#2 award at nationals #2 National Merit Semifinalist / National Rural and Small Town Recognition #3 EC#1 award state level #4 Math contest award #5 School student of the month award Letters of Recommendation Physics Teacher: Had only for one class, but had good relationship and did very well. A newer teacher so I'm not sure how colleges think of that. 8/10 Math Teacher: Taught me every math class in high school and great relationship 9/10 English Teacher: 7-8/10 Interviews Princeton: 8/10 recently graduated in computer engineering, and shared a lot of same interests. MIT: 5/10 Just mid. \ud83d\udc80 Essays Personal: used common format, pretty mid tbh 6/10 Supplements: they were so bad lmao, just basically searched stuff that I'm interested in about the schools and stuffed it in. 2/10 \ud83d\udc80 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Purdue (EA) Georgia Tech (EA2) \ud83d\udc80 UT Austin (Priority) (ECE) TAMU (RD) UMich (EA) UW Madison (EA) UW Seattle (RD) (Pre-sciences) Cornell (RD) \ud83d\udc80 Waitlists: UIUC (EA defer) Columbia (RD)\ud83d\udc80 (started essays Jan 1st 10 PM submitted 11:59 PM) UCLA (RD) UCB (RD) UCSD (RD) Rejections: Stanford (REA) The other ivies (RD) Rice (RD) (forgot to get interview) USC (EA defer) MIT (RD) Duke (RD) (This year pre-screening for interview does matter) Reflections: so basically if you do something unique, have good academics, and not be in the bay area or something, it perhaps works out."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UMich (EA, Creative Writing) USC (EA, Creative Writing) Wellesley College (RD, English, likely attending!!!) UCD (RD, Sociology) UCI (RD, Gender Studies) UCSD (RD, Literature: Writing) UCSB (RD, Feminist Studies) UW Seattle (RD, Disability Studies) Waitlists/Deferrals: Penn CAS (Deferred then rejected) Columbia (Waitlisted) UCLA (Waitlisted) UCB (Waitlisted) Vassar College (Waitlisted) Wesleyan University (Waitlisted) Amherst College (Waitlisted)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female (uses she/they pronouns) Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: International, but goes to school in a distant Midwestern area Income Bracket: Would rather not disclose, but I only applied for aid for Harvard and Yale. Type of School: First 3 years - private single sex school in Canada. Senior year - private art school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): I'm autistic and have ADHD but they probably aren't very positive hooks in the eyes of AOs oops. Intended Major(s): English/Creative Writing, Gender Studies/Sociology/Disability Studies Academics GPA (UW/W): 94/100 before senior year, 4.0/4.0 in senior year. No weighted. Rank (or percentile): Not provided Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 APs, 1 Dual Enrollment Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc, Dual Enrollment US History, Ecology, two poetry courses, some music courses. Standardized Testing SAT I: 1540 (770RW, 770M) AP/IB: 5 in AP Lang, Stats, Psych TOEFL: 120 Extracurriculars/Activities 1 Choir key member (almost became head but I transferred) 2 Writing (poems, music reviews, queer novels, around 500k online views) 3 Co founder and head of a neurodiversity related alliance - first ever in high school history, pushed for a more accommodating environment, got invited to provincial school board panels, designed a disability studies course) 4 dept head of a medium sized neurodiversity NGO (featured in national media multiple times, pretty major impact within three municipalities) 5 Kenyon Young Writers Workshop 6 YYGS: Literature, Philosophy, and Culture session (took a queer music class and a writing class) 7 Pioneer Academics, a psychology concentration (wrote a paper about autism and music therapy) 8 Lab RA at a social psych lab in a very reputable university (helped with writing papers, collecting data, and conducting experiments) 9 Founding director of a climate NGO (no longer a part of it so I put it at the bottom) 10 Hobby in Egyptian Hieroglyphics and culture In the add. info section I wrote more about music (some awards, experiences in different instruments, past commissions, etc.); linked a website with some of my poems and music; talked about experiences in some other advocacy stuff like indigenous rights, women's and queer's rights, the ADA; linked my disability studies course curriculum Awards/Honors 1 New York Times Student Editorial Award, Runner-Up 2 John Locke Essay Comp, High Commendation 3 Harvard

International Review Academic Writing Contest, Gold Medal 4 Write the World Nature Poetry Competition, Runner-Up 5 Scholastic poetry silver key Letters of Recommendation AP Stats teacher (11/10): Everybody was kinda scared to approach her for a rec because they thought she\u2019s a little tense, but we got along very well and she likes me a lot. Didn\u2019t really had much outside of class experiences with her but we were great in class. Counselor said the rec was glowing, one of the best she\u2019d seen in years. Gender Studies teacher (8-9/10): was very active in her class. We talked a lot about creative writing, neurodiversity, and gender studies. I wrote my gender research with her help, wrote the disability studies course with her, and did a school-wide queer- neurodiversity awareness campaign as a class project. So we were great both in and out of class. Neurodiversity club advisor (8/10): she\u2019s not a teacher but we were very close, since I spent a lot of time on neurodiversity awareness and stuff. So she can really comment on my passion for advocacy. Interviews MIT - It was okay. Wasn\u2019t the best but it wasn\u2019t terrible. Penn - above average good. Talked a lot about writing, neurodiversity, and social justice. Middlebury - probably the chilliest one, mainly talked about writing. Essays I grinded them so hard. For my main essay I talked about finding anchors of identities through writing and advocating for minority rights. In my supplementals, I connected my interest in literature and music and my passion for spotlighting diverse voices with the community programs each school offers. I also talked about how I hope to use language as a tool to make changes. All in all I was trying to say that I\u2019m passionate about deconstructing what is discriminatory and not inclusive, and reinventing social constructs. Decisions Acceptances: UMich (EA, Creative Writing) USC (EA, Creative Writing) Wellesley College (RD, English, likely attending!!!) UCD (RD, Sociology) UCI (RD, Gender Studies) UCSD (RD, Literature: Writing) UCSB (RD, Feminist Studies) UW Seattle (RD, Disability Studies) Waitlists/Deferrals: Penn CAS (Deferred then rejected) Columbia (Waitlisted) UCLA (Waitlisted) UCB (Waitlisted) Vassar College (Waitlisted) Wesleyan University (Waitlisted) Amherst College (Waitlisted) Rejections: Harvard, MIT, Yale, Northwestern, Duke, Cornell, Middlebury, Williams Final thoughts : This was such a great journey. Sure, I was a bit disappointed when ivy day turned out to be a rejection party, and for a second doubted whether I should\u2019ve written and done so much about autism, queerness, and my passion for social deconstructions, and whether being autistic made me less \u201cdesirable\u201d as an applicant, but I\u2019m all happy now. The more I think about it, the more I realize that I don\u2019t regret a single thing I\u2019ve written or done, nor do I regret being myself. If I\u2019m rejected for showing my true self, then so be it. I should be going to a school that understands, appreciates and celebrates every part of me, including my identities, my passions, and my shortcomings. And for that, nowhere else is more perfect than Wellesley to me. Now, I\u2019m really glad that going through this process made me more sure of who I am.

And congrats to everyone, no matter where you\u2019re going, you\u2019re going to crush it and have the best 4 years of your life."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Case Western (RD) Georgia Tech (EA -> RD) RIT (RD) SUNY Binghamton (EA) UConn (RD) UNC Chapel Hill (EA) UVA (RD) Yale (REA -> RD)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White / Hispanic Residence: New York Income Bracket: 250k Type of School: Average Public School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major : Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 102 W 96 UW Rank (or percentile): School doesn't rank Num of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 14 AP, 4 Dual Enrollment at HS, 1 Taken at local CC Standardized Testing SAT: 1560 (770RW, 790M) AP: Calc AB, Calc BC, Comp Sci A, Psychology, Language (5); Physics 1, Physics C, Comp Principles, Statistics (4) Extracurriculars/Activities Co-Founder, Competitive Programming Team: First coding club at school, we competed and won against several other schools. I personally taught almost all members. Founder & Course Developer, Intro to Computer Programming: Course made for introducing younger students to coding. Taught across school district and neighboring districts. Researcher & Author: Paper on Type Validation in LR Parsers (unpublished) Teaching Assistant, AP Comp Sci A: Taught lessons at extra help periods and ran study sessions for AP Exam. Head of Defense and Vice President, Mock Trial: Trained many new members, achieved first-ever win in school history with defense team. Representative, Leadership Committee: Part of 5% of class selected to meet with staff and admin to discuss school policy. President, National Math Honor Society: Fairly basic role. Captain, Varsity Tennis: Also a fairly basic role. Percussionist: Played with group and performed at venues of over 500 people. Invited by school orchestra to play for several concerts. Supervisor, Local Grocery Store: Worked for around 2.5 years and promoted, overseeing around 80 cashiers and managing store closing. Awards/Honors Round 2 Qualifier (Top 20% of 20,000), Meta Hacker Cup First Place (1 of 200), 2023 (fairly local school) Hackathon College Board National Hispanic Recognition National Merit Commended Scholar AP Scholar with Distinction Letters of Recommendation Comp Sci Teacher: 8/10: Also the advisor for the Coding Club I started. Very close, mostly touched on my technical abilities in programming and engineering. Psychology Teacher: 8/10: Also the advisor for Mock Trial. Very close with him, so I'm assuming the letter was fairly personable. Mostly touched on aspects of leadership. Principal: 10/10: He did a letter of recommendation for a scholarship where I could read it, I'm assuming he sent the same one to colleges. Very personal, and outlines the contributions I had on my schools

developing computer science curriculum. Interviews Yale: Great interview, I connected with my interviewer and the conversation went longer than expected. Lot's of shared interests and experiences. Stanford: Also a great interview, many shared interests and relating about our high schools but nothing too deep conversation-wise. Essays Personal Statement: I'd honestly give my ps a 9/10; it wasn't incredibly written, but it had a clear narrative about how I influenced my schools computer science curriculum. Supplementals: These varied, however I'd give them all a 6 / 10 average. Many were finalized the night before deadline and didn't have anything too crazy content-wise. Decisions Acceptances: Case Western (RD) Georgia Tech (EA -> RD) RIT (RD) SUNY Binghamton (EA) UConn (RD) UNC Chapel Hill (EA) UVA (RD) Yale (REA -> RD) Waitlists: Carnegie Mellon (RD) Northeastern (RD) Rejections: Vanderbilt (RD) Stanford (RD) Additional Information: I am so grateful to have found the college application communities on Reddit (results, chanceme, a2c) as I honestly couldn't have done it without the help of everyone :) If anyone cares to know, I am deciding between Georgia Tech and Yale, however I am leaning more towards Yale now!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Clemson EA - Accepted Indiana University EA - Accepted Penn State EA - Accepted SUNY Binghamton EA - Accepted SMU EA - Accepted Umiami EA - Accepted Umich EA - Accepted Georgia Tech EA - conditional transfer pathway? UT Austin RD - Accepted Wake Forest RD - Accepted Emory RD - Accepted to Oxford spring admit",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: New York Income Bracket: High Type of School: Elite public(top 100 in country) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Ga tech legacy Intended Major(s) : Finance Academics GPA (UW/W): 95 UW, 97 W Rank (or percentile): School doesn't rank of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Only 3 honors, 10 APs, 1 dual enrollment Senior Year Course Load: Honors calc(not AP), physics(regular not AP), AP Gov, AP Lit, dual enrollment German, AP Macro/Micro Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. ACT: 33(33 E, 30 M, 36 R, 31 S) AP/IB: All 5s, two fours Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Robotics Teacher - teaching kids at a summer camp. Wrote my common app essay about this, because I was an assistant then the teacher got fired mid session and I got thrown into the position. Owned my own vending machine business, \$2000/year Model UN Treasurer, won a ton of awards, was pretty dedicated. German club president, arranged a bunch of charity events/drives, ended up raising around \$7000 during my tenure. Nordstrom - worked as a customer service representative, didn't need to do it because



my family has money but I wanted a job. German honor society president, arranged pen pals between middle schoolers and german speakers, monthly visits to a german senior citizens center, spoke at state capitol about learning German. Counselor for a summer camp for children with disabilities, worked a ton here, got 300 hours for community service. Theater, was male lead in couple plays/musicals. Police explorer, learned how to be a cop basically, kind of just stood at events with a flag. German school - went to German school for many years, ended up graduating as salutatorian in a class of 50 people. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Best delegate awards from Mun, had 4 Salutatorian of the German school Police Explorer award some AP award Letters of Recommendation (9/10) Teacher recommendation, had such a great relationship with her, she retired and we still stay in touch. I was extremely outspoken in class. (8/10) Teacher recommendation, she knew I was extremely dedicated to my ECs, and also has a track record of writing recommendations to people who get into Ivys(Yale, Upenn, Cornell, Duke) (9/10) Counselor recommendation, usually these are boring however my guidance counselor was my theater director throughout high school, so she actually had a deeper personal connection to me than her other students. Interviews No interviews lol Essays (8/10) Was about teaching robotics, just showed how hard I worked and maturity. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Clemson EA - Accepted Indiana University EA - Accepted Penn State EA - Accepted SUNY Binghamton EA - Accepted SMU EA - Accepted Umiami EA - Accepted Umich EA - Accepted Georgia Tech EA - conditional transfer pathway? UT Austin RD - Accepted Wake Forest RD - Accepted Emory RD - Accepted to Oxford spring admit Waitlists: Tulane EA - Defer-> waitlist Richmond EA - Defer-> waitlist Rejections: UGA EA - Defer->rejection UNC EA - rejected UVA EA - rejected UF RD - rejected UIUC EA - rejected Boston College RD - rejected USC EA - defer -> rejected"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Several local schools, including one full ride Arizona State University (Rolling) (21K a year scholarship) Ithaca College (EA) (30K a year scholarship) University of South Carolina and their Honors College (EA) (Tuition reduced to in-state and 2K extra off) Penn State and their Honors College (EA) (Still haven't gotten any financial info :/ love PA in-state options) Syracuse University (RD) (30K a year scholarship + Honors College Invite) Colorado College (EA) Brown University (RD)!!! My dream school. I am STILL IN SHOCK.",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: PA Income Bracket: Middle of middle class Type of School: Small, rural, uncompetitive high

school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Small town and LGBTQ+(?) Is that a hook? Intended Major(s): Psychology, pre-med (did not declare pre-med on any college apps) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, 4.35 W Rank (or percentile): 11/155 (This is not very representative though, as the ranking is very tight and those who placed higher than me took study halls instead of general elective courses) of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 Honors classes, AP Lang (school only offers 2 junior year and 8 total) Senior Year Course Load: AP Lit, AP Euro, AP Bio, Dual Enrollment statistics, choir, student media, honors German 3 Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1530 (760RW, 770M) superscored ACT: Did not take SAT II: Did not take AP/IB: Lang (5) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): None Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. 1 Senior Patrol Leader + Numerous positions in my Scouts BSA troop. Led my troop through online activities while in quarantine. Led my Eagle Project at my local childhood church, using D2 Biological Solution to clear debris and growth off over 80 headstones, including 2 Revolutionary War veterans and several Civil War vets. Huge local impact. I elaborated on this EC in my additional info section. 2 President of my student media team at school (also a graded class): Doubled numbers post-COVID and started back up the school website, newspaper, and slideshow. Note: If you're going to list a class-related activity, please make every effort to emphasize the work you did outside of class. 3 Cared for my grandma with dementia, including watching her when she'd otherwise be home alone, calming her down when she gets frantic, driving her places, etc. Huge time commitment and very impactful for me 4 President of chamber singers (by audition) at school; PMEA choir festivals 5 Cross country (JV/V 10th grade, varsity 11th and 12th) 6 Managing my grandparents' online presence for their catering business, as well as working as a caterer. Helped them find ways to retire. 7 School musical -- supporting and lead roles for three years 8 High selective local Rotary scholarship camp, focused on mental health and leadership through service. 9 Gardening extensively in the summer with rare veggies and selling said vegetables locally 10 I have a song on Spotify, etc. lol. Three more songs in progress After much debate, I evicted NHS from my list of ECs. Awards/Honors 1 Eagle Scout with Bronze and Gold Palms 2 State Journalism Champion (first in my school's history) 3 Regional-level theater award for best supporting actor (first in my school's history) 4 Qualified for all-state choir 5 Commended Scholar/National Small Town and Rural Recognition (only one in my school to get both) Letters of Recommendation AP Lang/Student Media Teacher - 9.5/10: Oh my goodness this letter made my whole family tear up. She talked about how I stuck with student media even though I couldn't be graded member of the class and transformed the media team, as well as a lot of amazing stuff about my personality. Love her <3 Civics/AP Euro Teacher - 6/10: This wasn't up to par because I thought she would give me a great letter of rec but I later found out a lot of it was just

copy and paste. She did, however, add in a paragraph about how I wasn't afraid to be wrong and was very open-minded. It wasn't a bad letter by any means! just not at the level the others were at. Choir teacher/my literal second mom - 9.5/10: She's taken me across the state of PA to choir festivals, she's given me courage to be who I am, and... the letter is just so amazing. She talked about how she entrusts me with her children (I babysit for her) and it was just so great. Peer rec - 8.5/10: My vice president of student media. Her writing style is very unique. Her final sentence was \"Your campus deserves an [NAME] so someone can get through their college experience, just like how he helped me get through my high school one.\" We're so close and I'm so grateful she agreed to write one for me. NOTE: I sent this peer rec not only to Dartmouth (which wanted one) but also Harvard, Stanford, and Northwestern. Some people may have seen this as unprofessional. I really had hope it would help me. All I can say is look at the results below and do with them what you will. Interviews Bowdoin College (4/10): This interview was my first and it was super shaky with online connection. I talked a little too quickly and accidentally made my words come across as if I got burnt out easily. Overall it went well, but we didn't connect much and the interview was fairly short. Stanford University (8/10): I felt super confident after this one. I made sure my Bowdoin interview mistakes weren't a problem here, and I really connected with my interviewer! He said he would \"only put good things in for my admission file.\" Brown University Video Response (#/10): I really can't rate this. It could have been 5/10, it could've been 10/10; I'm too biased to give a good rating. I recorded it on my phone (in one take) in the cemetery I did my Eagle Project, showed two examples of my work, and then launched into a conversation about how the church the cemetery is connected to believes \"call homosexuals will go to hell\" yet I decided to serve the church and complete my project there because I knew it would benefit the community more than the church itself. Closed it all out by saying I learned how accessible making an impact is from it all. A lot of my friends said it was a little scatter-brained. I was coldddd though, I had been in a freezing cemetery for an hour lol Essays Personal Essay (9.5/10): It was about how I dealt with myself and the people around me discovering I had perfect pitch when I was 16. I delved a lot into my childhood synesthesia and how it translated into my interests today. I talked about dealing with other people's opinions and deciding to prioritize myself while responding to people how I wanted to respond. As for my other essays, I'd like to think they were pretty good. I talked a lot about growing up queer in a rural, non-accepting area, caring for my grandparents, gardening with emphasis on local impact, and discovering something life-changing in a book I read. Of course, I forced myself not to go back and look at them because that just leads to terrible looping thought patterns lol. I spent so much time writing them, but I notably didn't go back and rewrite as much as I probably should have. I'd give them, overall, an 8.5/10. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Several local schools, including one full ride

Arizona State University (Rolling) (21K a year scholarship) Ithaca College (EA) (30K a year scholarship) University of South Carolina and their Honors College (EA) (Tuition reduced to in-state and 2K extra off) Penn State and their Honors College (EA) (Still haven't gotten any financial info :/ love PA in-state options) Syracuse University (RD) (30K a year scholarship + Honors College Invite) Colorado College (EA) Brown University (RD)!!! My dream school. I am STILL IN SHOCK. Waitlists: Northwestern University (RD) Dartmouth College (RD) Tufts University (RD) Northeastern (EA) (Deferred --> Waitlisted | haha yay corrupted admissions processes) Rejections: Amherst College (RD) Bowdoin College (RD) Harvard University (RD) Stanford University (RD) Additional Information: To all the rural applicants reading: There IS so much hope for you guys. Colleges are great at looking at everything in context and measuring relative achievement. I also think my class rank should prove to prospective applicants that T20s will not throw away applications just because their class rank is not up to par, even without context."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Oberlin Conservatory Vanderbilt University & Blair School of Music",

"answer": "A: Okay this title is very clickbait... I had pretty unique circumstances. If you know me irl, No You Don't. \ud83e\udd70\ud83e\udd70 Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Black Residence: South US Income bracket: not eligible for aid Hooks: None (except URM if that counts) School: Noncompetitive, medium sized public high school Intended majors: Instrumental Performance (classical), English Did an audition for every school I applied to. Bachelor of Music programs require prescreening material due by December or January, and if invited, mostly live auditions in February.) Academics Weighted GPA (9-11): 3.02 - I believe the highest weighted GPA at my school is 4.1 or 4.2 Semester/semester weighted average breakdown (my school adds 10 points to each AP course): 9: 61.5/71.5 / 10: 95.7/91.8 / 11: 85.5/89.1) Class rank: 196/482 Number of APs: 7 in grades 9-11, 4 for senior year Test Scores SAT: 1270 (690 R+W, 580 Math). Only submitted to in-state public. AP Scores: Did not submit to any school. Extracurriculars: national youth orchestra and other competitive music summer programs competitive youth orchestras/music performance programs in my state teaching my instrument for nonprofits music honor society president paid performances yearbook writing for nonprofit Awards: Music finalist for state gov school Music grants/small competitions Letters of Recommendation: mid for schools which required junior/senior year core class teachers as I didn't have a particular connection with any of them. Honestly not sure whether or not they wrote something bad or good about me (however had to submit such letters for said T20 so I guess they were good letters!). I

had great sophomore teacher / elective class teacher recommendations. Essays: My PS was well-written but not very special, so maybe 7/10. I wrote about my journey as a musician. My supplementals were better though, maybe 8/10. Decisions: Acceptances: Oberlin Conservatory Vanderbilt University & Blair School of Music Rejections: In-state public. Its music school acceptance is contingent upon university acceptance. I was told that despite my sufficient audition, since I was rejected from the university, I was ultimately not admitted. Bard College and Conservatory (double degree program required for all students) Carnegie Mellon University (music performance BFA) Michigan SMTD & LSA (was basically told I would have been accepted if not for my grades) Oberlin College Emory University (does not have a music school, auditioned for scholarship) Northwestern Weinberg Did not pass prescreening: Cleveland Institute of Music Northwestern University Bienen School of Music Waiting on: Indiana University + Jacobs School of Music. Reflections: Yes, this was my entire college list. I did not apply to a single safety, despite having been extremely familiar with the college admissions process since freshman year (thus knowing that my chances at getting into lots of these schools were near-impossible). I still held out hope as I was auditioning for these schools & in contact with faculty for my instrument for most of these schools as well. I think my situation is very unique as most musicians at my level usually have excellent academic stats. I don't personally know any competitive candidate for these top music schools with grades as low as mine. I got very lucky, I could have very well been rejected from every school (I would have just applied to and attended one of my local state schools as they take applications through March). Oberlin and Vanderbilt happened to be my top choices as well. I definitely should have applied to more music schools where acceptance is not contingent upon university acceptance (such as Peabody/JHU and Eastman/URoch), but I guess it worked out well in the end. I also should have not fucked around so much in freshman year. Onto the next four though! I will probably be attending Oberlin."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: State Uni where I did research (EA) UW-Madison (for AMEP Program) (EA) U Maryland - College Park (Aerospace Engineering) (EA) Purdue University (Aerospace Engineering) (EA) UIUC (got into second choice which was Engineering Mechanics. My first-choice was CS+Physics) (EA) U Mich (Engineering Physics) (EA) Georgia Tech (Physics, but would do EE as well) (EA) UW-Seattle (RD) Harvey Mudd College (RD, likely attending!) Waitlists/Deferrals: Caltech (REA - Deferred -> Rejected) UC Berkeley (Waitlisted, pulled off) Cornell (Waitlisted) CMU (Priority Waitlist)",

"answer": "A: Updated post from earlier Demographics Gender: Male  
Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Indian) Residence: Midwestern US Income Bracket: 100-150k  
Type of School: Large Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): I come from a semi-rural state if that counts Intended Major(s): Physics, Math (possibly Aerospace/Electrical Engineering) Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.93 UW / 4.2 W (school does weighted weird and the maximum weighted GPA is a 4.3) Rank (or percentile): Unsure but in top 5% of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 16 APs (4 per year) and 13 DE courses (all in math, physics, or CS) Senior Year Course Load: AP Lit, AP Psych, AP HUG, AP Spanish, DE in upper-division math and physics courses as well as a lower-division CS course (DE Courses are not weighted, which is why my weighted GPA is lower than it could be) Standardized Testing SAT I: 1550 (750RW, 800M) AP/IB: 5 in AP Calc BC, Physics C (Mech + E&M), Econ (both), WHAP, APUSH, Bio, Chem, CSA and a 4 in AP Gov, AP Lang Extracurriculars/Activities 1 Math Team - Heavy EC where we rank top in state 2 Research Project at a T50 Uni (published work) 3 Science Olympiad (hard carried my team to top in state) 4 Instrument (Trombone) - I am the best in state 5 Diving - Spending 20 hours per week although I am not good at it 6 Another research project (also published) at the same uni 7 Community Service for the city 8 Tutor for neighborhood kids for ACT Math 9 Political discussion hobby 10 President of Poly Sci Club Awards/Honors 1 National-level research award 2 Top-ranked mathlete in state (top 10) 3 AIME Qualifier (fumbled AIME though lol) 4 Computational Biology Competition where I was a semifinalist (top 3%) 5 National-level CS Competition where I was ranked in top 8% Letters of Recommendation AP Physics Teacher (10/10) - I was the only student that she wrote for and I had a great connection with her. While most other ones seem over exaggerated, I genuinely had a good connection and she talked about me a lot with other teachers and even in the class (she said I was better than all the seniors in the class as when I took AP Physics as an underclassman lol) APUSH Teacher (8/10) - I was very attentive and the teacher really liked me. I sat in the front and everybody knew he liked me. I also asked him for help a lot and eventually became his TA. Interviews MIT - I thought it went great. He said I was a good interviewee. Princeton - It was a good interview. Not much else lol. Stanford - I really liked this one. I thought I hit it off with my interviewer and I also got some good laughs with him. We talked about a variety of subjects but mostly about exploration. Harvard - My interviewer was from my high school, so we talked a lot about that, my instrument, and the sport scene (including math team and science oly). Essays I spent so many hours on the essays. All my supplementals were curated and had good writing, and my main essay was the cherry on top. I wrote about some artifacts we keep in our house for my main essay. My supplementals were strong and detailed my major and had lots of connections to other topics I was interested in. Decisions Acceptances: State Uni where I did research (EA) UW-Madison (for AMEP Program) (EA) U Maryland - College Park (Aerospace Engineering) (EA) Purdue University (Aerospace Engineering)

(EA) UIUC (got into second choice which was Engineering Mechanics. My first-choice was CS+Physics) (EA) U Mich (Engineering Physics) (EA) Georgia Tech (Physics, but would do EE as well) (EA) UW-Seattle (RD) Harvey Mudd College (RD, likely attending!) Waitlists/Deferrals: Caltech (REA - Deferred -> Rejected) UC Berkeley (Waitlisted, pulled off) Cornell (Waitlisted) CMU (Priority Waitlist) Rejections: Harvard, Princeton, MIT, Stanford, Yale, Caltech, UCLA, Northwestern Additional Merit Awards: U-Mich Engineering Scholarship of Honor (25k/yr), GaTech Stamps Semifinalist (175 kids selected from 32k EA2 applicants), Harvey S. Mudd Merit Award (10k/yr), University of Maryland Presidential Scholar (8k/yr), UW-Seattle Purple and Gold Scholarship (6k/yr) Final thoughts : I thought this process was quite fun honestly. Yes, I did not get into a lot of colleges, but I'm still happy for my results. After seeing and looking at all my colleges, I noticed that HMC would be the one college where I fit in almost perfectly, not to mention that I would succeed there socially and academically (and have a strong starting salary!). I don't feel bad that I didn't get in, nor that others did, because top colleges pick a class based on how students are and how they fit into making the college fulfill its goals. Being the top student in the admitted pool in one place does not mean you'd even get in for another (take myself as an example), but it still shows that one can succeed no matter what. I'm excited to continue my life in California and I'm ready for what comes next!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Arkansas RD Colorado School of Mines RD CU Boulder RD Occidental College RD University of the South: Sewanee RD Southwestern University RD Fordham University RD University of North Texas RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: TX Income Bracket: Middle/Upper Class (but big family) Type of School: Public (but competitive af) Hooks: Legacy to Stanford Intended Major: Mechanical Engineering Academics GPA: 3.92 UW/5.1 W (out of 6) Rank: Top 25% (told u it was a competitive school, not even top 10%) Honors/AP: 13 AP, 10 Honors Senior Year Course Load: 8 AP's- including AP Physics C, AP Physics 2, and AP Calc BC Standardized Testing SAT : 1570 (780RW, 800M) AP: AP Human Geography (4), AP World History (4), AP Lang (5), AP US History (5), AP Physics 1 (5) Extracurriculars/Activities #1 Lion's Heart (volunteering)- Secretary, 100+ hours #2 Varsity Pole-Vaulting Captain #3 Self-taught Musician (piano, guitar) #4 Business Owner (SAT prep online community) Those are my main ones. Don't feel like listing all 10. Awards/Honors #1 AP Scholar w/ Distinction #2 National Merit Commended #3 National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award Letters of Recommendation APUSH Teacher- (8/10) Good relationship with teacher, he

was a fun guy. No idea what he wrote though. Probably good, but I don't know how sincere. AP Physics Teacher- (6/10) She literally joked about using ChatGPT to write it so IDK how much thought was put into it. She likes me though so it was probably still pretty good. Had some others from family friends that were good but probably didn't do much tbh. Interviews Interviewed for Princeton REA- Went great! Connected about interest in biomedical devices (I actually brought up the topic of brain stents randomly and she happened to be working on that exact technology at her company). Interviewed for Dartmouth RD- Went well, got to talk for a while and hear his stories about the school. Essays Spent LOTS of time writing essays (20 schools). Don't feel like getting into specifics- my personal statement was honestly not the best, but I didn't know what to write about (7/10). Most of my supplementals felt really good though (8-9/10). Acceptances: University of Arkansas RD Colorado School of Mines RD CU Boulder RD Occidental College RD University of the South: Sewanee RD Southwestern University RD Fordham University RD University of North Texas RD Waitlists: Oxford College of Emory RD Colorado College RD UT Austin (CAP) RD Rejections: Princeton University REA Yale College RD Harvard College RD Vanderbilt University RD Washington University St. Louis RD Emory University RD Stanford University RD Dartmouth College RD Duke University RD Harvey Mudd College RD Additional Information: Nothing really, just oof. Was really hoping I'd get into at least one of my reaches. Oh well, there's always graduate school."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Pittsburgh (Honors + 15k scholarship) (rolling) Virginia Tech (ea) University of Maryland (spring start) (ea) University of Michigan (ea) William and Mary (rd)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: White/Asian Residence: VA Income Bracket: 200k+ Type of School: private catholic all-boys Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s): stats/data science Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.90 / 4.40 Rank (or percentile): n/a # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 13 APs 3 DE (all non-AP classes are honors (which is fake like there are no non-honors courses)) Senior Year Course Load: First Semester: AP Stat APES Religion AP ECON AP Lit AP CSA Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I:1530(770RW, 760M) SAT II:1530 (750RW, 780M) superscored to a 1550 (770RW, 780M) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 supreme court bot (got dockets and sent emails when new dockets were posted) #2 python study (juni learning, self-study) #3 tutor at my school #4 work at donut shop #5 helper at schools garden #6



secondary teacher at local public school #7 online sat tutor #8 online economics classes #9 student government (barely) #10 ebay seller (800+!!) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 national latin exam cum laude (11th) #2 commended (national merit) #3 Ap scholar with distinction #4 nsli-y finalist #5 Letters of Recommendation (Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) stats/match teacher: i've taken 2 years of classes with him now, he writes good recs. (7/10) english teacher: I've had him for like 2.5 years now and we know each other really well (7/10) Interviews (Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) washington and lee interview: casual, the interviewer was nice. had a nice conversation but nothing super important. Made me consider washington and lee a lot more Washu interview: v weird interview. basically was a 15 minute interview that ended quickly because i literally could not relate to the person who was interviewing me. she was in like business and law school and it was completely unrelated to my field Essays (Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) I think my writing and my ec's are the weakest part of my app. Common App essay: i wrote about why i tutor. It looked really good when i first wrote it, but reading it back it feels really hollow. 6/10 I had a lot of help with writing and i feel that my regular applications were a lot stronger than my early apps. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Pittsburgh (Honors + 15k scholarship) (rolling) Virginia Tech (ea) University of Maryland (spring start) (ea) University of Michigan (ea) William and Mary (rd) Waitlists: University of Virginia(ea) Washington and Lee (rd) Carnage Mellon (rd) Rejections: University of Chicago (ED) Washu (RD) Notre Dame (RD) Vanderbilt(RD) Additional Information:"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Cornell University RD Northwestern University RD University of Southern California EA Rice University ( Trustee Scholarship) RD George Washington University RD University of North Carolina Chapel Hill EA University of Michigan Ann Arbor( with scholarship) EA University of Maryland( Honors Colleges) EA \*Dickinson College RD University of Pittsburgh(scholarships + law school program) RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: African American Residence: DMV Income Bracket: 340k Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM Intended Major(s) : Political Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.91/4.7 Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 APS/ 2 Dual Enrollment/ 3 Honors Senior Year Course Load: APUSH, APES, AP Calc BC, AP Lit Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1520 (750RW, 770M) ACT: N/A

SAT II: N/A AP/IB: 1 5 and 2 4( hid the rest of mine) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Director of a youth political advocacy group that introduced a state wide bill to encourage more civic engagement from teens Project Led on a research project I proposed at my local state university concerning civic engagement Appointed official to serve as a Student member on a local county board Youth Advisory Board Member on a civic education group that made books about citizenships for local elementary schools Worked on an county executive race where I led phonebanks and created a youth led movement Worked on a national campaign in 2020 and this year 2024 Worked in both the Wisconsin and Virginia elections in 2023 specifically targeting college students Created a advocacy campaign to get immigrants out to vote for the 2022 midterms and later grew into a zone workshops to encourage poc teens to get into politics Worked as an intern at my States Assembly Track and Field as a thrower Created study material for immigrants studying for citizenship test Intern at an immigration law firm Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Collegeboard National African American Recongiton AP Scholar with Distinction Selected to serve as a Senate Page in my state Featured in news outlets for my advocacy work( NYT and more local ones) Upcoming Research Publication Letters of Recommendation Research teacher 9/10: She knew about my interests in immigration and poli sci which I think would lead to a better good rec Gov Teacher 8/10: I was hard working and we had a nice relationship Interviews Rice: 10/10 Ny interviewer was very nice Essays Common App: 9/10 How I challenged the misconception that I formed of myself that based on something I could never change. I related my journey to my interest in politics. Supplementals: 9/10 Using my family\u2019s experiences I talked about how I would use my poli sci degree to advocate for immigration reform Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Cornell University RD Northwestern University RD University of Southern California EA Rice University ( Trustee Scholarship) RD George Washington University RD University of North Carolina Chapel Hill EA University of Michigan Ann Arbor( with scholarship) EA University of Maryland( Honors Colleges) EA \*Dickinson College RD University of Pittsburgh(scholarships + law school program) RD Waitlists: Washington University in St.Louis RD Boston University RD \*University of Pennsylvania RD Columbia University RD Rejections: Duke University :( RD Vanderbilt University RD Northeastern ( imma pretend like this didn\u2019t happen) EA Additional Information: I wish I did less safeties and shot my chance at Harvard or Yale. My best advice: pursue what you want. I was also really vague so if you want additional details just PM me!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign CS + Bioengineering U of Maryland CS with Machine Learning, Honors College, 12K/year scholarship U of Minnesota CS, 25K/year scholarship, Honors College U of Arizona CS, 32/year scholarship U of Michigan, CS advanced select (COE), 15K/ year scholarship << Committed Purdue University CS U of Tennessee, Knoxville CS, 19k/year scholarship, Honors College Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute CS, 40k/year \*\*\*",

"answer": "A: When I did a college result post during the EA round, my boyfriend sent me MY OWN POST not realizing it was me. Yes, I am calling you out >:)  
Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: East Asian Residence: Southern US Income Bracket: 110-130K Type of School: Semi-competitive public (500 students in grade) Hooks: None Intended Major(s): Computer Science, CS + Biology Academics GPA (UW/W): 4/4.67 Rank (or percentile): Top 10 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 18 Senior Year Course Load: AP physics c mechanics and EM, AP macro, personal finance, engineering, two cs dual enrollments, painting Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1560 (780RW, 780M) ACT: 36 (35E, 35M, 36R, 36S) AP/IB: 5s: bio, calc ab/bc, stats, hug, gov, seminar, lang, apush 4s: cs (self studied), art history, European history Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/ Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 CS volunteering for 300 hours over 4 years. Lots of leadership, top volunteer #2 Mock trial, district champions, 3 years #3 Math tutor, 4 hours a week, 2 years #4 STEM Camp volunteering, 100 hours, 1 year #5 ACT tutor, 10 hours a month #6 Selective summer STEM program #7 Tutoring a friend, 2 hours a week #8 Instrument #9 Varsity tennis #10 Coding projects/clubs Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 USABO semifinalist #2 National Merit Semifinalist #3 MAO award #4 Computing award #5 Statistics award Letters of Recommendation No ratings but I had a great relationship with my teachers. They were both eager to write me a letter of recommendation. Interviews MIT: I was told I was qualified for MIT, but not to be disappointed if I didn't get in Princeton: It was okay Rice: Pretty good, I was told I was a good fit for Rice. My interviewer was very engaged and kind. Washu: Pretty good, but not anything amazing. Mostly informational Stanford: My interviewer seemed very interested in me and said I was a great fit for Stanford Essays I wouldn't put a number on it. My AP lang teacher said that it was \"one of the easier ones to read\" which sounds quite positive. I've been told that the story and way of telling it represents me perfectly. Supplementals were a little more vague than I would've liked. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign CS + Bioengineering U of Maryland CS with Machine Learning, Honors College, 12K/year scholarship U of Minnesota CS, 25K/year scholarship, Honors College U of Arizona CS, 32/year scholarship U of Michigan, CS advanced select (COE), 15K/ year scholarship

<< Committed Purdue University CS U of Tennessee, Knoxville CS, 19k/year scholarship, Honors College Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute CS, 40k/year \*\*Waitlists:\*\* Rice University Wake Forest Cornell University Carnegie Mellon University Vanderbilt University Notre Dame University Tufts University University of Chicago Rejections: Northeastern, Northwestern, Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, Yale, WashU, MIT, Duke Reflection: My biggest regret about the application process was not thoroughly researching colleges enough. I applied to so many colleges in the north, but I don't like the cold. Yeah, I wasn't really thinking with that one. See yourself attending/living there before you apply- do not let prestige cloud your vision. Shotgunning might not be a bad idea if you're a CS applicant and if application fees aren't a concern. Shotgunning will be incredibly exhausting, so you NEED to start at least a draft the summer before. I had my Common App essay done by the start of the school year, and I felt pretty comfortable with the deadlines. For future applicants, I'll probably sound like a broken record but do activities and ECs you actually enjoy. Don't gaslight yourself into doing something if deep down you know that you're just doing it for college apps. Admissions are so competitive at this point that nothing is a guarantee. If you fill your high school years grinding and doing activities you merely tolerate, it will be devastating if you don't make it where you aim. In reflection, I'm so thankful for my family and friends- they are the people who got me through high school. Thank you Mom and Dad for supporting my goals and offering advice, even when I was being difficult. And thank you to my friends for all the great memories. I'll always remember the tension right before a mock trial tournament, the pain of losing 8 Brawl Stars games in a row, and the peaceful nights spent stargazing (while definitely not trespassing ). I'm also super thankful for the chance to experience a healthy relationship, even if he couldn't even recognize me from a very telling college results post \ud83d\ude80 The way I see it, there's just so much more to high school than college apps. And there's so much more to life than high school. I'm so incredibly grateful for all the opportunities I've had as well as all those to come :) Good luck future applicants!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Western Carolina University (EA, safety) NC State (EA) Virginia Tech + honors (EA) UVA (EA) UNC Chapel Hill + honors!! (EA) Duke!!!! (RD)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: NC suburbs Income Bracket: <\$100k Type of School: Homeschool Hooks: First gen! Intended Major(s): CS, Mechanical engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, 4.5 W # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 16 dual enrollment courses at local community college (I think this is where the bulk of my transcript's credibility comes

from, along with really thorough course descriptions and good standardized test scores) Standardized Testing SAT: 1560 (780RW, 780M) ((after like a million attempts lmao)) ACT: 34 (35E, 32M, 35R, 35S) Extracurriculars/Activities #1 Web Game Development, 10hr/wk. My most consistent hobby throughout HS with most notable achievement being a couple games getting frontpaged on Newgrounds lol, nothing crazy #2 Family Responsibilities, 12hr/wk. Including but not limited to: home repairs, car repairs, yard work, helping younger sibling with coursework, taking care of my dad when he was going through severe illness, etc #3 Grocery Store Meat Department, 24hr/wk. Responsibilities included disassembling and cleaning heavy machinery, serving customers, preparing lots of raw meat #4 Math Tutoring App, 12hr/wk. developed to help sibling who struggles with mathematical concepts. Uses custom interactive lessons and quizzes, with cat-based theming #5 Amateur Machinist, 6hr/wk. Used G-Code to make custom parts and knick-knacks with CNC router #6 Queer Club Secretary, 3hr/wk. Literally just show up to meetings and get involved in school events Most of these were only a handful of months per year and not every year either, hence high hours. I'm rllly sporadic with what I spend my time doing lol Awards/Honors #1 Phi Theta Kappa member (get a >3.5 GPA at CC) #2 USACO Silver (lol) #3 CC President's list (get a 4.0 gpa with more than 12 credit hours in a semester, idk why this was lowest) Letters of Recommendation CC Econ prof: Definitely the most personal relationship I had with any of my profs, we talked all the time outside of class and knew each other on a pretty deep level for a student/prof relationship, super sweet guy too 8/10 CC Trig prof: We didn't know each other super well but he was really chill and I usually ended up teaching more than he did during class assignments lol, don't think he was super familiar with writing LORs but I trust him 7/10 Counselor letter (my mom): It's kind of hard to rate smth like this but we looked at a lot of advice online and my mom is naturally a pretty great writer so I think it went well, she focused on objective experiences/difficulties I went through along with a little motherly anecdotes sprinkled in 8/10 Interviews Duke (my only interview): Interviewer was super cool and reminded me a lot of some of my parents' friends, we literally talked about Duke for maybe 2 minutes total tho lol we just hit it off 9/10 Essays Personal statement: Wrote about my family's history on my dad's side (skills and property passed down generation to generation) and how with my grandfather passing when I was so little I felt very disconnected from my familial roots, learning to find the value in the time I did get to spend with him and the things I get remember him by. Went through revision after revision and in the end I think it was pretty good but nothing super crazy 7.5/10 Supps: very hit or miss depending on the school but for most of the schools I cared about I was quite proud of what I had Decisions Acceptances: Western Carolina University (EA, safety) NC State (EA) Virginia Tech + honors (EA) UVA (EA) UNC Chapel Hill + honors!! (EA) Duke!!!! (RD) Waitlists: Cornell (RD, deferred ED) UIUC (RD, deferred EA) Rejections: Yale (RD, as expected lol I just applied for funsies) Georgia Tech (EA) Vanderbilt (RD) Additional Information:

TBH i never even entertained the idea that i could get into a \"good school\" until pretty late into HS, I didn't even know what Duke was (other than the power company) until well into junior year!! I feel so incredibly lucky and thankful to be in the position that I am, and to any juniors or sophomores out there just know that you \*do\* have a chance even as homeschooled kid without any crazy opportunities and it's not too late!! The most money I spent throughout the entire process (other than app fees) was \$50 for an essay review and a few hundred on community college textbooks. I BELIEVE IN YALL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: suny binghamton wpi rpi case western (my only reach acceptance! love u cwru) penn state stony brook (ea) (likely committing!) //",

"answer": "A: // Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: asian Residence: new york Income Bracket: upper middle Type of School: noncompetitive Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s): engineering // Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 Rank (or percentile): 1/250 Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 taken when applying. not max courseload Senior Year Course Load: ap calc, stats, economics, physics c, comp sci, us gov, regular english // Standardized Testing SAT: 1540 (740 english, 800 math) AP/IB: chem, lang, apush, human geo all 5 // Extracurriculars/Activities all ec's are 11-12 unless otherwise noted 1 - president of science club (12) 2 - vp of diversity club 3 - founder of small business (9-12) 4 - captain science bowl 5 - columbia science honors program (12) 6 - math tutoring 7 - volunteering 8 9 10 - other school stem stuff // Awards/Honors 1 - local stem award 2 - local math award 3 - school stem award 4 - nhs Letters of Recommendation stem teacher // i think her rec was good. we gossip a lot lol . she's written for most, if not everyone from my school's past classes that have gotten into ivys and HYPsM. humanities teacher // i don't know. she's new and i felt like her class specifically aligned more with my major than the other humanities subjects. Interviews n/a :( Essays it was about being lgbtq and struggling with gender identity. i'm being vague for anonymity. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) // Acceptances: suny binghamton wpi rpi case western (my only reach acceptance! love u cwru) penn state stony brook (ea) (likely committing!) // Waitlists: johns hopkins carnegie mellon (my second dream school) cornell columbia umich (my third dream school) // Rejections: mit (my first dream school) stanford (my other first dream school) tufts princeton harvard nyu Additional Information: not much on application my notes ~ i enjoyed the activities i did in highschool. but i wish i'd done more. i wish i played an instrument, i wish i did a sport, i wish i hadn't let my slight mental struggles prevent myself from taking aps as an

underclassmen. i wish i applied to research programs, developed my non-academic interests more. i also wish i didn't move right before covid, but that wasn't really in my control. but it's okay we move we move LOL to the underclassmen -- please start writing your essays early. i don't think my essay was the best, simply because i started midway through september. i wish i started earlier. please don't let all of your ec's be about one subject. i wish i talked about my other interests (esp non-academic) in my ec section, but i didn't. i don't mean to say to not have fun and hang out with friends, but diversify your profile, make yourself interesting. and it's a bit funny i'm going to stony because i applied to stony with a pretty garbage essay, between then (oct 15) and jan 5 i changed it up by like 70% and one more thing! don't do ecs just to do them! as i said, i liked the ecs i did. i'm nerd LOL. liking the activites made it easier for me to write about them. did my writing work? evidently not but at least i didn't force it out. i have a lot of regrets, but i know i'll heal over time. college is just a fraction of our lives. i hold on, knowing that this too shall pass. to my fellow seniors, i'm proud of you, of us. ive edited this like 6 times now LOL but maybe in another life i'll go to a HYPISM!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: RD - William & Mary (Monroe Scholar + likely letter)! EA - Virginia Tech (no honors college tho \ud83d\ude2d)",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: F Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: VA/Southeast Income Bracket: Upper-middle class Type of School: Public, not competitive but also not uncompetitive Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): Not a hook but idk where to put it- parent battling a serious disease since sophomore year which led to more family responsibilities (taking care of them, chores, etc) and affected my time for doing schoolwork & mental health. Condition got significantly worse in my senior year. Intended Major(s): Computer Science, Engineering Academics: GPA (UW/W): 4.63 W (EA) 4.66 W (RD) My school doesn't really do UW/their scale is weird but i'm guessing around 3.9-4.0 Rank (or percentile): 7/300 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 16 Honors, 3 DE, 8 AP Senior Year Course Load: Multivariable Calculus III, AP Physics C, AP Biology, AP Computer Science A, DE English, DE American Politics, AP French, Orchestra Standardized Testing: SAT: 1570 (770RW, 800M) AP/IB: AP World History (5), AP Lang (5), APUSH (4), AP Calculus BC (4) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities: #1 CS Intern/Volunteer - volunteer programmer at a relatively well known company #2 Computer Science Honor Society Communications/Hackathon Organizer - reached out to elementary and middle school teachers throughout the region to implement computer science education #3 Women in STEM Club President -

spoke at fairs to advocate for female representation in STEM fields, taught science lessons to kids in elementary school #4 Governor's School - not an extracurricular really but went to my state's governor's school with a 10% acceptance rate #5 National Honor Society Board - spoke at NHS meetings, organized service events w/ local organizations, organized NHS induction #6 School Board Meeting Speaker #7 Math Tutoring Job - tutored twice a week in subjects from kindergarten math to Calculus BC #8 Community Service Group Leader - worked with my city's organizations & city council to participate in and provide community service opportunities #9 Managed School Instagram Account - managed my school's official Instagram account #10 Music (specifically violin) - weekly violin lessons, violinist and pianist in my city's youth orchestra, occasionally taught younger students violin, violinist in my school's orchestra, piano accompanist for my school's theater productions Awards/Honors: #1 National Merit Semifinalist #2 School award for being in top 5% #3 Won the Southeast United States champion for musical performance in 9 states #4 School-wide award for AP Calculus BC #5 AP Scholar with Honor Letters of Recommendation: Calc teacher - 8/10, they nominated me for the AP Calculus BC award and we had a good relationship French teacher - 9/10, been my teacher since middle school and has written me many LoRs for leadership positions and for gov school. Teacher sponsor for one of the clubs I lead CS teacher (only used this one when they let me submit 3) - 8/10, didn't know him as well as the other two but I really liked his class and he's an amazing teacher. I also talked to him a lot about my CS projects outside of school. Interviews: I had one for Cornell but that was non-evaluative, other than that I didn't get any Essays: Wrote about the family circumstance with the sick parent and how it taught me I can't control what life throws at me but how I react \ud83e\udee1 Decisions: Acceptances: RD - William & Mary (Monroe Scholar + likely letter)! EA - Virginia Tech (no honors college tho \ud83d\ude2d) Waitlists: RD - Johns Hopkins EA - UVA (sad about this one since it was my dream + in state too \ud83d\ude22) Rejections: EA - Yale RD - UPenn RD - Brown RD - Cornell Additional Information: nope"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: reed in-state school UMN (15k/yr scholarship and honors) wellesley williams smith vassar CMU BCSA for CS and piano performance northwestern (bienen and engineering) cornell STANFORD!",

"answer": "A: this is an update post to this one ! Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: asian Income Bracket: 100k Type of School: public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): n/a Intended Major(s): computer science, music (piano performance if applicable) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, 4.5



W Rank (or percentile): 1/~500 Number of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: full IB diploma Senior Year Course Load: all IB subjects Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1540 (740 RW, 800 M) AP/IB: IB math AA SL (7), IB CS SL (7) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. piano (16 hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr) - compete in regional, national, and international-level piano competitions, perform at community events and nursing homes, won over 70 awards viola (7 hrs/wk, 48 wks/yr) - principal violist in school's chamber orchestra & local youth symphony, lead groups during before-school practices and sectionals, develop fingerings and rhythm subdivisions for section president of science bowl club (7 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr) - served as junior and senior club president, oversee officer team and organize meetings for 20+ members, created and maintain STEM outreach program for neighboring elementary/middle schools, won over 15 awards volunteer at summer music camp (40 hrs/wk, 2 wks/yr) - taught 100+ students piano, viola, and chamber music, developed a curriculum to foster students' musical and collaborative skills public relations manager for national honor society (5 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr) - coordinated volunteer opportunities by contacting local organizations, promoted volunteer opportunities on social media, increased member engagement pianist in jazz band (5 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr) - participated in school's before-school jazz band, performed at competitions, swing dances, and local venues participant in girls who code's summer immersion program (20 hrs/wk, 2 wks/yr) - learned code Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. piano awards (listed in additional info. of common app) national merit semi-finalist (now finalist) science bowl awards (listed in additional info. of common app) female STEM scholar recognition award 1st in local hackathon Letters of Recommendation counselor (?/10) - science bowl advisor. i'm probably the only student she knows in my grade, and i talk with/email her on practically a daily basis. she also comes to my piano concerts! IB english teacher (?/10) - i went out of my way to talk a lot in class and ask her questions. i think we get along pretty well (she said i'm one of the best students she's ever had). she also comes to my piano concerts! math teacher (?/10) - for some reason i've had her all 4 years of high school. i really didn't talk much in class, but i've always been her highest-scoring student. she's known for writing good recommendations. Interviews princeton and stanford went well, but MIT and harvard didn't. Essays pretty good i think Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: reed in-state school UMN (15k/yr scholarship and honors) wellesley williams smith vassar CMU BCSA for CS and piano performance northwestern (bienen and engineering) cornell STANFORD! Waitlists: swarthmore Rejections: MIT princeton (deferred REA) harvard Additional Information: overall, a satisfying conclusion!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UCI UCSD UCSB UC Berkeley",

"answer": "A: Demographics Asian male, California resident, Uppder middle class, competitive public high school Hook: Not sure what constitutes as a hook, but I completed most of the lower division math courses before applying (calc 3, differential equations, linear algebra) Intended Major(s): Pure math, applied math, stats (just stuff in math and all within the same department) Academics Academic GPA (UW/W): 3.97/4.33 (NOT INCLUDING COLLEGE COURSES, 1 B junior spring) Rank (or percentile): Not ranked, top 9% of graduating class according to UCs # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 APs (2 freshmen, 1 sophomore, 2 junior) + 7 Community College Courses (2 additional APs in senior year + 2 community college courses) Senior Year Course Load: AP GOV, AP CSP, traditional third-year science course progression, music class, regular English, coding class(fall) and psychology class(spring) at community college Standardized Testing AP X Language (don't feel comfortable listing): 5 AP Psychology: 5 AP Chemistry: 5 AP Statistics: 5 AP World History: 5 AP Art History: 5 SAT: 1480 (790 Math, 690 Reading and Writing) Extracurriculars/Activities Varsity athlete 2 years Club sport 4 years (~top 5%, could probably get recruited to D3 but chose not to) Volunteer coaching 2 summers Self-studying online program 1 year Music Lessons 2 years Several other things that aren't that substantial (and to avoid doxxing). However, you should list as many things as you can so long as they don't harm your app (even putting things like hanging out or playing games is okay, just phrase it in a way that describes how it bettered you as an individual, like maybe it made you have a way to release stress or time manage). Awards/Honors National merit commended scholar HS Sport related award HS Sport-related awardrd Letters of Recommendation Will not rate since it's highly subjective. I will say that I asked my junior year math teacher and junior year English teacher for recs. I feel I stood out decently well to my math teacher and I had a good relation with my English teacher who's known to write good letters. NO INTERVIEWS Essays Will also not rate essays since it's subjective (like seriously, if everyone says that their essays were pretty good and rates it a calm 7, then what the dog is a 5 or even a 3?) That said, my EA personal statement and supplements were bad, and borderline harmful to my application due to being quite pessimistic (verified by people around me). UCs were okay but were written in 2 weeks. Other RDs were written also in roughly 2 weeks but the UCs and RDs were honestly not going to get much better with more writing/thinking time. UC PIQs, I chose greatest talent (self-reflection, but everyone has to do this at some point in the college process), significant challenge (lack of patience), academic subject (math and how I find it applicable and defines just about anything), community (talked about motivation to coach stemmed from my own experience being coached when I was younger and also

what I did as a coach to relate to swimmers) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UCI UCSD UCSB UC Berkeley Waitlists: Georgia Tech (Only EA, deferred -> waitlist) UCLA UC Davis Rejections: Caltech Harvey Mudd My own comments: I will likely not answer questions since this is a throwaway account and I want to avoid giving myself away as much as I can. A lot of the things here are definitely not easy for everyone to achieve but certainly not unique (especially among asians, doing a sport, music, and math is quite stereotypical). I felt compelled to post this because one, I feel like there's a lack of math posts (but that also probably has to do with a lack of math majors in general...). Two, throughout the process and likely for people who scroll through college reddit servers, there's a feeling that you need to hop on that grind and start churning through research, club leadership, code something, competitions, etc. While it may not be applicable to everyone, all I focused on was doing good in math since it was the one subject I felt decently happy doing and was good at and then just did whatever else I consistently enjoyed doing. I looked into a couple clubs but didn't want to spend my lunches grinding out more things, tried an olympiad once but didn't like it very much, and avoided courses that weren't my interest nor were very related to what I was doing (even if it harmed the look of my course rigor, looking at you AP Lit/Bio). In crude words, I stayed in my own bubble. I know not everyone can do this many college courses at a high level (and especially since a decent amount of them were online/asynchronous so I could save time) nor do I know if my essays did manage to come out as something genuine or unique. And yes, I'm sure I also got lucky and some people don't know what to do or feel that they're not good enough to do something. To that, I understand that feeling because I'm still unsure of what I'm doing and if you dig deep into a person's essays, I'm sure many of them will have shaky motivations. I offer encouragement to still seek out things until you can settle on something you can consistently do that you find minor enjoyment in without pulling your hair out. But I hope people can see that you can still be rewarded for doing the typical school things (get good grades, balance your life/health by doing a sport or going outside, having a hobby even if it's playing video games). And even if things don't work out, you'll feel a heck of a lot better knowing that you have good habits."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: College of Idaho (EA) (\$28k/yr presidential) Westminster University (EA) (\$32k/yr presidential) UNR (rolling) (full-ride + I think they owe me money tbh) UPittsburgh (rolling) Bryn Mawr College (\$45k/yr presidential) Mount Holyoke (spring admit ew) Smith College (committed!!)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: F Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: NV  
Income Bracket: 145k+ Type of School: Small public (graduating class ~25) Hooks: N/A  
Intended Major: Neuroscience Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/none Rank (or percentile):  
None AP/Dual Enrollment: 3 APs, 3 DEs Standardized Testing ACT: 35 (36E, 32M, 36R,  
36S) AP/IB: Human Geo (5), Psych (5), Chinese (TBD) Extracurriculars/Activities Guard  
co-captain (11-12) Part-time job, bobarista (11-12) Small business co-founder (10-12)  
Middle school guard club co-founder & teacher (11-12) (had to stop spring semester,  
updated schools) Summer volunteering for an outdoors recreation program for ppl w  
disabilities (12, 24 hrs) Environmental club member (10-12) School newspaper  
fundraising co-leader (11-12) Local uni bioengineering lab intern (12) Volunteer work  
over breaks (11-12, 50+ hrs) TAed 5 classes (3 in 11th, 2 in 12th) Awards/Honors List all  
awards and honors submitted on your application. Guard award (international) (9)  
Guard awards (state) (10-12) National Merit Semifinalist (11) Student of Month award  
(10) Book award (12) Letters of Recommendation Counselor: She led my college app  
prep class, so she got to know me pretty well. 7/10 English: Honestly best teacher I've  
ever had. I was pretty active in his class. 8/10 Physics: Chose to do neurosci DE  
classes instead of adv physics, but I TAed for him senior yr. Finished the LOR almost  
last minute. 6/10 Guard coach: I got to read this one bc she sent it to me. Pretty decent,  
recounted some of my activities. Using this for external scholarships. 6/10 Interviews  
Haverford 7/10 (recent alum): I think it went well for my first interview (was nervous as  
hell) Bryn Mawr 6/10 (senior): She was nice but ghosted me after Imao Vassar 7/10  
(recent alum): Pretty good, made me like the school better too Duke 7/10 (older alum):  
Most like a conversation, chill guy Smith 7/10 (older alum): Vibed, she had a lot of  
questions abt my activities, technical difficulties in the end made me feel very flustered  
tho Essays Personal: Wrote abt boba. Spent 2 months on it, reviewed by 4 ppl. 8/10  
Supps: I literally only wrote 4 essays (excluding why us essays) and recycled the hell  
outta them. I would say ranging from 5/10-8/10 Decisions Acceptances: College of  
Idaho (EA) (\$28k/yr presidential) Westminster University (EA) (\$32k/yr presidential)  
UNR (rolling) (full-ride + I think they owe me money tbh) UPittsburgh (rolling) Bryn Mawr  
College (\$45k/yr presidential) Mount Holyoke (spring admit ew) Smith College  
(committed!!) Waitlists: Pomona College Dartmouth (lowkey wanna withdraw but my  
mom insists...) Vassar (did not accept spot) Haverford (withdrew spot) Rejections:  
Williams (ED) WashU Amherst USC Swarthmore Vanderbilt Emory Duke Yale Stanford  
Additional Information: Looking back, I'm glad I didn't get in Williams ED. At the time, I  
wasn't super concerned, but now I don't know if I would've been truly happy in the  
location, as it is pretty isolated + the town is tiny. Choosing between Bryn Mawr and  
Smith was not fun at all. My heart was saying Bryn Mawr, but I knew that Smith was  
better for my field of interest within my major (neurobio). After talking to current and  
incoming Smith students, I fell in love with Smith as well. In the end, I'm so happy I

shotgunned, otherwise I don't think I would've applied to Smith. I'm so excited for the future!! Good job everyone, and good luck to future applicants :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: USF + Full Ride (Rolling) UCF + Full Ride (Rolling) FSU + Full Ride (EA) G-Tech (EA) Ohio State (RD) UF + Full Ride (RD) Waitlists/Deferrals: Carnegie Mellon (RD)",

"answer": "A: It wasn't worth it. Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Indian Residence: West Florida Income Bracket: >200k Type of School: IB Program Hooks: None Imao Intended Major(s) : CompSci or Aerospace Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.97/4.70 Rank (or percentile): 25/5947 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 honors, 15 ap, 3 ib hl, 3 ib sl Senior Year Course Load: AP calc bc ib french 5 sl ib tok ib english hl ib history hl ib bio hl Standardized Testing SAT I: 1590 (790RW, 800M) ACT: 35 (36E, 35M, 35R, 35S) APs: (regret not caring about aps Imao) 2 5s (Comp Sci A and Psych), 7 4s(Bio, Stats, USH, lang, European, WH, Physics 1), 2 3s (French and Lit) IBs: 2 7s (Math A&A and Physics) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Founded a Supplementary Education School in India - Established a system for supplementary education for the children of Indian tea farmers in my ancestral home. Guitar Player - I have spent the past 12 years learning, playing, and composing music on the guitar, posting my creations and and sharing my knowledge of the guitar. SAT Tutor - Helped students in small group classes with the SAT math section, guiding them through practice tests and teaching in partnership with Schoolhouse. FBLA Officer - Competed in FBLA, achieving placements at the district, state, and national level, as well as acting as an officer for the club. SciOly Team Member - Member of my school's competitive science olympiad team, where I competed at regionals, earning various medals, and qualifying for states (didn't go cuz of FBLA states) NHS Committee Member - Aided the NHS organization in its volunteering efforts and conducting management tasks as a member of the Scholarship Committee. Chess Club Member - Aided in the organization of tournaments, assisted in preparing materials for the club Coding Club Member - Member of the coding club, provided resources for other club members, devised lessons, and helped students who needed it. FHS Member - Participated in and helped run cultural and language outreach programs with the school French club. Math Tutor - Operated a math tutoring business, taught grades 3-11, and taught calculus as well. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. National Merit Semifinalist Award National Top 10 FBLA State Top 3 FBLA Regional First SciOly/State Qualifier AP Scholar With Distinction Letters of Recommendation French Teacher (8/10): pretty good relationship

with him, he's seen me grow as a french speaker, he was also a former journalist so he writes pretty damn well Physics teacher (8/10): very good relationship, and one of his only 2 students who got a 7 on the ib test in my year, 1 of 4 ever. Interviews MIT (7/10): Went pretty well i'd say, connected with him about a lot of topics regarding aerospace, but nothing extraordinary. Princeton (8/10): Actually really enjoyed talking to the interviewer, the questions she asked were very pertinent to who I was a person and I gained a lot of information about life on campus as well from her. Essays Decent, I spent a solid bit of time on them but they did not consume my life or anything like that, wrote a lot about my experiences with my proposed majors and my drive as a person. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: USF + Full Ride (Rolling) UCF + Full Ride (Rolling) FSU + Full Ride (EA) G-Tech (EA) Ohio State (RD) UF + Full Ride (RD) Waitlists/Deferrals: Carnegie Mellon (RD) Rejections: UIUC (EA) UT Austin (RD) MIT (EA Deferral -> RD Reject) UCLA (RD) Northeastern (RD) CalTech (RD) UC Berkeley (RD) Princeton (RD) Harvard (RD) Columbia (RD) Duke (RD) Yale (RD) Stanford (RD) U-Mich (EA Deferral -> Didn't do LOCI) Additional Information: None of it was worth it."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: iu kelley EA (deans scholarship) state school's business program (not a bad program btw) nyu stern (99% committed) northwestern (RD)",

"answer": "A: i made a pretty bad post a while back, so here's the updated version! edit: got doxxed in 3 days. A NEW RECORD! Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: asian Residence: US Income Bracket: no aid Type of School: public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none Intended Major(s): (write here): business + education Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 unweighted. our school doesn't do weighted. Rank (or percentile): n/a No. of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: 17 AP Calc BC, AP Physics 1, AP US History, AP World History, AP Chinese, AP Lang: 5 AP Gov: 4 IB Math AI HL, IB Physics SL, IB History SL, IB English Lang/Lit HL, IB Bus/Man HL: 6 IB Chinese: 7 SAT: 1570 (770E, 800M). ACT: 35 (36R, 35W, 35M, 35S) Extracurriculars/Activities debate. ranked pretty high in state, almost broke some state + national records. involved heavily with school debate club. leadership role in a business nonprofit. very well-known in the state (around 3-4k clients every year). makes around \$300k in donations + operations every year. internship for a medium-sized investment firm. was the only person who got the job. wrote about this in a lot of essays. piano: lang lang once gave me a thumbs up. got an orchestral debut. won some moolah in france and outside of france (helped me pay for three college applications total) music nonprofit. started a gig with friends that made around \$5k in

ticket sales. donated to various causes around the world. a debate-related tutoring company. made around \$15k in our first year. research internship (research on stock markets with head of a school's PhD department). got paid, but no publication (it was alr a six-year project) finance club. set up school's first mutual fund. liquidated a few weeks ago. (15% returns over nine months baby) badminton. nothing special here, was not the best. summer job. would not recommend outdoor summer jobs to my worst enemy Awards/Honors 1 debate rank 2 a debate competition thing 3 more debate (surprised?) 4 nmsqt semis 5 piano (the int'l france one) Letters of Recommendation piano teacher: 10/10. known for half of my life. taught me everything i know about music history, tea steeping, tie tying, gardening, relationships, and living life. boss at business nonprofit: 8/10. known her for four years. she's also the ceo/director/person who runs the damn thing so she could easily talk about what i did. business teacher: 4/10. he runs our school's deca, which i quit and verbally/loudly hated on during my junior and senior year. awkward!!! language teacher: 10/10. advisor for finance club too. shes the only teacher at my school i'm giving any merch to. Interviews penn: (2/10): i thought i was getting somewhere when she said i was \"driven\" but then i read some news articles about what that word means in the interview context and realized i was cooked. i was soo nervous and i was tryna sell myself to penn vs being natural. northwestern (9/10): we bonded rly well, talked about educational theory and impact of COVID on education and businesses. she also lowk did some psychoanalysis but ig thats normal. woulda lasted longer if we like didn't have the 40 minute free zoom call limit. Essays common app (7/10) (5/10 for EA/ED1): beat the poop out of it during the editing process. i actually started to enjoy reading it somewhat during rd season. penn (2/10): (insert barf emoji). lowk i cooked on the thank u letter tho mich + nyu (9/10): i liked them a lot, english teacher liked them too. reused mich for nyu. northwestern (9/10): liked them a lot too. stanford (5/10): i feel like i couldn't really get what i wanted to say out on paper? idk too lazy to rate everything else. proly around 4-6/10 aggregate. Decisions Acceptances: iu kelley EA (deans scholarship) state school's business program (not a bad program btw) nyu stern (99% committed) northwestern (RD) Waitlists: cmu (rd) vanderbilt (rd) Rejections: upenn (wharton ed1) stanford (rd) (didn't get interview LOL) umich (deferred/rd) Additional Information/Thoughts: imo college apps are definitely not al about raw intelligence or work ethic, but also a lot of opportunity searching and self-introspection (for them essays babyyyy). my one piece of advice throughout hs is that enjoying yourself is your number one priority . don't force yourself to be miserable for college apps only because it's such a random process and you're 100x more likely to peak in ur junior year and crash in college. (heck some ppl ik alr crashed in senior year) also FIND GOOD HIGH SCHOOL COMPANY. you really are the average of the five ppl ur with. my friends really did push me to become a better person and achieve things i never thought i could do. (also they did really well too. i think we collectively landed 50% of the t20) purple schools really like me..."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UC Berkeley (RD) out of state Claremont McKenna (RD), Wagener global scholar American University (RD), \$15k/yr dean's scholarship Occidental (RD), \$15k/yr honors scholarship Loyola Marymount - school of film and television (EA), \$2k early action award, \$14k/yr arrupe scholarship Santa Clara (EA), \$18k/yr dean's scholarship University of Arizona (rolling admissions), \$30k/yr scholarship University of Pittsburgh (rolling admissions) my two state schools (rolling admissions), presidential scholarship and honors college to both",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Woman/Female Race/Ethnicity: Black/African Residence: Southwest U.S. Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM Intended Major(s): To be honest, I applied to my schools with a bunch of different majors lol. For most of them, I did Journalism, Film Studies, or History. Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.34 weighted/3.82 unweighted (2 Cs, 3 Bs), Rank: top 12% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 5 Honors, 11 AP, 7 Dual Enrollment Senior Year Course Load: Full Schedule (7 classes) Standardized Testing: test optional Extracurriculars/Activities (copied & pasted directly from my common app, omitted personal details): Program Creator & Reporter, (my city) Journal (110k+ readers) Grades: 12 15 hr/wk, 40 wk/yr Created the state\u2019s first youth reporter position w/ a local paper (paid). Write in business & politics with incredible prose. 7 front page stories. Creator and Chair, Governor's Youth Homelessness Action Board Grades: 11, 12 2 hr/wk, 52 wk/yr Plan/lead annual summit of 100+ youth to recommend housing bills to Gov. & state legislators. Gov. consults me on homeless youth experiences. State Chair & Founder, (my state) High School Democrats of America Grades: 9, 10, 12 2 hr/wk, 50 wk/yr Work w/ (my state) Dems for policy goals. Voter reg. drives: 300+ registered. Lead annual state conference w/ political speakers & 75+ youth. English Tutor Grades: 9, 10, 12 5 hr/wk, 52 wk/yr Teach English to elderly (my country of ethnicity) immigrants at fluent levels. Had 4 students pass U.S. citizenship test. They teach me Ethiopian recipes (yum!) Southwest Social Media Campaign Organizer, (large climate lobbying org) Grades: 9, 10, 12 2 hr/wk, 52 wk/yr Organize social media campaigns specific to state climate issues in the SW region. Lobby my local Sens. and Reps. to pass climate bills. President, Health Occupations Students of America - School Chapter Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12 2 hr/wk, 40 wk/yr Lead practices for 20+ state competitors. Won state 2x in the health education event by teaching middle schoolers reproductive health & first aid. Chapter Founder and President, Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) Grades: 11, 12 3 hr/wk, 40 wk/yr Organize service events around human rights issues, such as book drives for children at the southern border. Fundraised \$8k+ for conflict survivors. Sunday School Teacher,



(my church) Grades: 9, 10, 12 2 hr/wk, 45 wk/yr Teach 10-15 energetic 3-yr olds bible lessons. Pray before classes that they sit still. Renewed appreciation for my own teachers. Babysitting / Assisting Grandmother Grades: 10, 11, 12 6 hr/wk, 20 wk/yr Babysit my 3 year old sister while assisting my elderly grandmother around the house. Barista, Starbucks Grade: 11 32 hr/wk, 50 wk/yr Worked to contribute to my family income while my parents sent money to our family in \_\_\_\_ (my country of ethnicity) during conflicts in their region. Awards/Honors: AP Capstone Diploma, grade 12, national AP Scholar with Distinction, grade 11 & 12, national Model UN 2x Best Delegate, grade 10 & 11, state/regional HOSA 2x State Champion & National Qualifier, grade 10 & 11, state & national Academic Letter, grade 11 & 12, school Essays/LORs/Interviews: LORs: (1) from my english teacher we weren't that close, probably a 7/10, (2) APUSH teacher, love her so much we talk all the time, 9/10 Interviews: American University: 8/10, quick, great conversation over the phone, pretty generic questions and felt more like a discussion than an interview Harvard: 1/10, actually horrible, my first interview that had unique questions (how do you think the u.s education system has changed in the past 25 years, how should free speech be defined in a university setting) and i was visibly unprepared Occidental: 9/10, we got along great, I actually had a similar major interest as his son who attended Oxy so we had a really insightful discussion about that Princeton: 9/10, loved this one, felt like natural conversation Stanford: 2/10, the interviewer literally seemed like he did not want to be there Georgetown: 2/10, the interviewer was literally unprepared, the whole time he just kept saying \"I know I'm supposed to be asking you questions but I can't think of any right now\" and just told me \"tell me about yourself\" over and over and over again. I wanted it to end so badly, it was so awkward. but he said he would write a good report about me and that he hoped I got in so that was good I guess. Decisions: Acceptances: UC Berkeley (RD) out of state Claremont McKenna (RD), Wagener global scholar American University (RD), \$15k/yr dean's scholarship Occidental (RD), \$15k/yr honors scholarship Loyola Marymount - school of film and television (EA), \$2k early action award, \$14k/yr arrupe scholarship Santa Clara (EA), \$18k/yr dean's scholarship University of Arizona (rolling admissions), \$30k/yr scholarship University of Pittsburgh (rolling admissions) my two state schools (rolling admissions), presidential scholarship and honors college to both Waitlists: Villanova, deferred EA & waitlisted RD Wesleyan (RD) UNC Chapel Hill (RD) Emory (RD) Rejections: UChicago (ED) Northeastern, deferred EA & rejected RD UCLA (RD) Tufts (RD) Northwestern (RD) Georgetown, deferred EA & rejected RD Yale (RD) Princeton (RD) Harvard (RD) Duke (RD) Columbia (RD) Brown (RD) Stanford (RD) Additional Information: Worked 30-35 hours my junior yr to support my family, which affected my grades (wrote about this more in detail on common app additional info section)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Stony brook, Temple uni, Drexel",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: South Asian Residence: International Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None ig Intended Major(s): Electrical engineering Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.0/4.33 and 1/125 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: I took 8 IGCSEs and got 7A\* and an A, and I took 4 AS exams and got 4 As Senior Year Course Load: 4 A levels subjects (Math, Chem, Bio, Physics) Standardized Testing SAT/ACT: 1550 (750 english and 800 math) Extracurriculars/Activities: (This is pretty bad): \u2022 Built a rubik's cube solving robot individually \u2022 Made a neural network that detects brain tumors in MRIs and uses eigencam to show it \u2022 Did an observership at a Hospital in the radiology department \u2022 I was the Assistant director of publications for the MUN host team \u2022 I made a few animations and renders in Blender \u2022 Taught my brother math through grade 5 and 6 Awards/Honors: None. I was homeschooled through 3 of 5 high school years and my parents had no idea what sorta student one needs to be to get an acceptance from top schools. In my fourth year my school had crappy administration and I found out about olympiads around the time admissions began. Essays/LORs/Interviews: Essays: 7/10 LORs: Two were pretty good but the rest were 5/10 Interviews: None Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) I applied RD everywhere Acceptances: Stony brook, Temple uni, Drexel Waitlists: Colby, Hamilton Rejections: HYPSPM+ Additional Information: I am an international student and was homeschooled for three years cuz I was epileptic"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: CUBoulder Syracuse + 10k scholarship Iowa State + Honors University of Minnesota + 30k scholarship ASU + 20k scholarship UNC Chapel Hill UIUC Northwestern",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White Income Bracket: 100k-ish Type of School: normal public highschool with 1500 students Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none Intended Major(s) : CS Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/4.6 Rank (or percentile): probs top 10/300 but my school doesnt do this # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 AP, everything else was honors/dc, this year im taking calc 3 at uiuc Senior Year Course Load: calc 3, dc mobile app development, dc spanish 4, dc speech/composition Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1540 (760RW, 780M) ACT: 35(35E, 34M, 35R, 35S) AP/IB: CSA(5), APUSH(5), Calc BC(4, AB subscore 5),

CSP(4), Lang(4), Phys C Mech(4) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.):

Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Science Olympiad - This was prob my main ec, I was a captain, media manager and invite chairperson, also got two fourth place medals at state. School Band/drumline - My fave ec I do, I've been section leader and center snare for two years. Choir/Madrigals - Audition group for my school, I was a student director for the madrigals during performances Adult Drumline in my area - only girl and minor in the snare line Mentor for a girls drumming program in my area - volunteer work Mentor for a middle school drumming program - volunteering Math tutor at mathnasium - worked here for two years, wrote some of my main essays on this Math Team - went to state for three years, didnt have any leadership Computer club - went to MSOE coding competition every year, helped teach coding ill be so honest i dont remember the other one i put, it probably didnt matter at all Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. National Merit Semifinalist - now Finalist Com-Ed EV Rally participant - Girls in stem scholarship program 4th place medal at state science olympiad 4th place medal at state science olympiad 1st place regional medal science olympiad Letters of Recommendation Comp-Sci Teacher 9/10 - He loves me sm, I have gone through all of his courses and now I TA his CSA class. I also am a part of two of his clubs and Im a pretty key member of both Sci-Oly Coach 9/10 - I helped him run a 500 person invite at our school and also have been a pretty devoted member of the team for three years. I host parties and have won medals at state which is rare for us Interviews didnt have any thank god Essays Common App 8.5/10 - Personified the word "supposed" as an enemy in my life and used it to talk about how the acronym STEAM has been integral in mixing the art and math sides of my personality Supps 6-9/10: I had two rilly good supps, one which about my committment to personalized education through coding, and one about how I struggled in my schools drumline and then how I made it better. My other supps were all kinda mid Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: CUBoulder Syracuse + 10k scholarship Iowa State + Honors University of Minnesota + 30k scholarship ASU + 20k scholarship UNC Chapel Hill UIUC Northwestern Waitlists: UVA Tulane Rejections: Vanderbilt USC(this one hurt) Notre Dame Additional Information: I didnt really spend time in highschool worrying about college, and I chose the schools I applied to based solely on fit without trying for too insane of prestige(hence why I didnt apply to ivies). Overall, I'm so happy with the results, but I still have no idea where I'm going bc of money :(

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Milwaukee School of Engineering (Rolling) University of Central Florida + Honors

College (Rolling) University of Colorado Boulder (EA) University of Southern California + quarter tuition merit scholarship (EA) Purdue + Honors College (EA) University of Illinois Urbana Champaign + Honors program (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) --> Committed",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Illinois Income Bracket: Around 500k/yr Type of School: Noncompetitive public suburban high school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Aerospace Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW/4.63 W Rank (or percentile): School doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 AP's, 3 PLTW, 3 Dual, a bunch of honors Senior Year Course Load: Advanced manufacturing, AP Physics C Mechanics, AP Physics C E&M, AP Lit, College Calculus 3, Differential Equations, Symphonic band, AP Stats Standardized Testing SAT: 1550 (760RW, 790M) AP Calc BC: 5 (AB subscore 5) AP Lang: 5 AP Physics 1: 5 AP Research: 5 APUSH: 4 AP World: 4 AP Human Geo: 4 AP Seminar: 4 AP Lit: Test not taken yet AP Physics C Mech: Test not taken yet AP Physics C E&M: Test not taken yet AP Stats: Test not taken yet Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): None Extracurriculars/Activities Robot Rumble ("Battlebots"): Team Leader - 11, 12; Designed a gearbox system that 6 competing schools adopted. Organized extra morning practices. The team placed 1st place in 2022 and 3rd in 2023. Marching Band: Trumpet section leader - 11, 12; 1st trumpet in grades 10, 11, and 12. Organized additional trumpet practices. Soloed in our 2023 marching show. Nominated for (my district's) honor band (11). Boy Scouts: Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) - 10, 11; Totaled over 100 hours of community service. Led the building of shelves for a no-kill animal shelter for my Eagle project. Earned 31 merit badges. Jazz Band: 1st chair trumpet - 10, 11, 12; Lead trumpet since 10th grade. Volunteered at my school's jazz festival, "Jazz in the Meadows (JITM)." Received a JITM Outstanding Soloist Award. Baseball: J/V Catcher - 9, 10; Varsity Catcher - 11, 12; I am the starting varsity baseball catcher (11, 12). I led team workouts and throwing sessions outside of regular practices. Chess Team: 1st board - 10, 11, 12; Competitive chess against other schools. Made it to state as 1st board in 10th and 11th grade. Internship: Intern - 11; Civil engineering Internship with my town's engineering department. Learned how to collect data and use it to engineer solutions to village problems. National Honor Society (NHS): Member - 11, 12; Participated in various volunteer efforts through NHS, including organizing a blood drive and running a school jazz competition. Little League Umpiring (Paid): I'm an umpire for Little League baseball games (ages 8-14). Was promoted to a higher age group early (100% pay raise) due to my consistent performance. Community Service: A friend and I knock on elderly people's homes and offer to shovel their driveway for free after it snows. Featured in local newspaper in 10th grade. Awards/Honors AP Capstone Diploma AP Scholar with distinction National Merit commended Illinois Science and Technology Coalition (ISTC) Research Certificate of Excellence Eagle Scout Letters of Recommendation AP Research teacher - I read this one. I think it's very good. She talks

about my acceptance into the ISTC research presentation (30/1800 people get in). She also talks about how, when admin said they wouldn't run research as a class the next year, I, along with 4 others, presented the benefits of research to the superintendent and got it as a class this year. AP Physics teacher - Didn't read this one. But he knows me pretty well, and I think its a really good rec. Interviews MIT - Connected with the guy and talked about my interests and he explained his physics black hole research Princeton - Chill interviewer, we talked about a bunch of random stuff Essays Personal statement: Kinda mid I think. I don't really have an interesting story to tell so I just wrote about how I've always been an extremely curious person. Supps: Probably average supps for most colleges. I spent a lot of time on MIT, though. Decisions Acceptances: Milwaukee School of Engineering (Rolling) University of Central Florida + Honors College (Rolling) University of Colorado Boulder (EA) University of Southern California + quarter tuition merit scholarship (EA) Purdue + Honors College (EA) University of Illinois Urbana Champaign + Honors program (EA) Georgia Tech (EA) --> Committed Waitlists: Cornell University (RD) UC Berkeley (RD) University of Michigan (Deferred EA) Rejections: MIT (Deferred EA) Stanford (RD) Caltech (RD) Princeton (RD) UCLA (RD)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: OSU + Honors Uconn + 60K scholarship UIUC UCD UCSB UCSD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Korean Type of School: IB/AP offered Hooks: None Intended Major(s): neuroscience / pre-med Academics GPA (UW): 3.92 Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Math AA HL (6), Bio HL (7), Chem HL (7), Eng L&L SL (6), Psych SL (7), Spanish Ab initio (6) Predicted: 41/45 Standardized Testing: SAT / ACT: Test optional DET: 135/160 Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Founder of NPO Science National Honor Society vice president (11), president (12) Table tennis varsity captain since sophomore Medical volunteer (100hrs) Neuroscience research paper Math club officer Music album containing 8 songs posted on Soundcloud STEM reporter - Publisher\u2019s Award & Editor's Award Baseball Varsity (11, 12) Founder of Instagram science journal page Awards/Honors Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED certification | American Heart Association Table tennis MVP x3, singles and doubles champion at national competition Finalist essay on gender gap | Harvard Alumni for Global Women's Empowerment Neuroscience research paper accepted for publication Top30% on Breakthrough challenge Letters of Recommendation Biology teacher (8/10) Chemistry teacher (6/10) Counselor (7/10) Essays Common app - 7/10 Supp - 6/10 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: OSU + Honors Uconn + 60K

scholarship UIUC UCD UCSB UCSD Waitlists: UNC chapel hill Vanderbilt Rejections: Emory JHU Dartmouth UCLA Additional information: Where should I commit?? Currently deciding between UCSD or UCD. But, still awaiting responses from waitlisted schools."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Early: Michigan State (85K merit, Presidential Study Abroad Scholarship, Honors College) Pitt (40K merit, Honors College) UMass Amherst (8K merit in-state, Honors College) UMich (LSA Honors Program) Georgia Tech (88K merit) Regular: Wellesley College Villanova Williams College Tufts University Northwestern HARVARD!!!!!! (after getting deferred REA!)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White (Dad is Egyptian/German, Mom is Indian) Residence: US Income Bracket: Middle class (not sure exactly) Type of School: Public, competitive Hooks: Brother goes to Harvard??? Intended Major(s): Mathematics and German Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.96/4, 4.93/5 Rank (or percentile): School doesn't rank Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: All honors throughout high school (except normal world history in 9th grade), 8 APs (self-studied 2, school doesn't offer many) Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics C: Mechanics, AP Calc BC, AP German, Honors English (self-studying AP Lit), Honors US History, Honors Pre-Calc TA Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT : 1550 (770RW, 780M) \u2013\u2013 only took once AP/IB: CSP (4), Chem (4), Lang, self-studied (5), CSA (5) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. 1: Congressional Award, Silver Medal (basically grouped in all my volunteer activities here, 2x Presidential Volunteer Service Award Gold winner, fundraising initiatives, etc) ~800 hours ish 2: Women in STEM stuff, lots of other science programs/clubs grouped here 3: Tour guide/ambassador for my school (all 4 years, by far my favorite activity) 4: More philanthropy stuff, 4-year long leadership roles, lots of involvement 5: Key Club secretary (11,12), lots of involvement all 4 years 6: Volunteer peer tutor through NHS and German NHS \u2013\u2013 I allocate like 10 hours per week to tutoring 7: DEI initiative stuff (focus on disability advocacy) 8: Lots of Red Cross involvement (secretary then president of club at school) 9: Paid work as a camp counselor for 2 summers, CPR and First Aid certified! Won some awards for exemplary leadership 10: CCD teacher for 2 years at local church Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 1: 2nd Place team at Regional Women of Science competition 2: Wellesley College Book Award (selected by faculty for academic performance/community contributions) 3: Sophomore mathematics award, given to one

student in the grade 4: German III award, given to one student 5: Scholastic writing honorable mention LOL Letters of Recommendation Math teacher: 100/10, I feel comfortable rating this bc she let me read it after she submitted. Quite possibly the nicest things anyone has ever said about me. I had her for Precalc in 11th, she really grew my love for math and encouraged my dreams of being a math educator. I now TA for her class and she audits my BC calc class so I see her like ~3 hours a day and genuinely consider her a friend. We are extremely close and I plan to student teach for her one day. German teacher: not rating because I never read it, but I have had her for 3 years and she knows me exceptionally well. She nominated me for an international German olympiad competition which I did well in.. She has told me multiple times that I am the best student she's ever had (def exaggerating but it's still nice). I have no doubt she wrote very positive things about me. Interviews Harvard: 7/10, the lady was lovely but Zoom cut us off at 40 min which was lowkey awkward. She also told me I talk too fast LOL I get that a lot but I was still embarrassed Northwestern: 9/10, he was super young and fun and it was my only in person interview. I definitely would say I'm a people person so this worked to my advantage. I loved the school and had done a lot of research so my answers were very in depth. Princeton: 3/10, she told me to ask her questions the whole time. So boring and she clearly didn't want to be there. Used to be my dream school LOL but whatevs Essays Personal statement: 8/10, I don't like my own writing but the topic was def unique (comp sci theme of initializing age instance variable as an integer or double, explored my own outlook on life and how it's changed) Covid essay and Additional info: 10/10, I think these two essays helped me so much, I had a lot of circumstances I needed to express and these gave me a chance to do so Supplements: Not rating every school's, but these were generally pretty good and I had a fun time writing them. Gave me an opportunity to self reflect, figure out what I really want in a college LOL Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Early: Michigan State (85K merit, Presidential Study Abroad Scholarship, Honors College) Pitt (40K merit, Honors College) UMass Amherst (8K merit in-state, Honors College) UMich (LSA Honors Program) Georgia Tech (88K merit) Regular: Wellesley College Villanova Williams College Tufts University Northwestern HARVARD!!!!!! (after getting deferred REA!) Waitlists: Northeastern, UVA, Hopkins, Brown Rejections: Duke, Princeton, Yale Additional Information: I have to say that I think my essays carried. I have a disabled brother and a whole lot of family circumstances that I think were useful to share and gave me a lot to write about. Also my rec letters were fantastic. Get close with your teachers!!!! Building these relationships is essential, their recommendations can reveal so much to AOs :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UOregon (CS w/ 20k a year) UC San Diego (Data Science) UC Davis (CS w/ 13.2k a year) University of Washington (Undecided) University of Richmond (Undecided) UC Berkeley (College of Letters & Sciences) ---> COMMITTED !!! GO BEARS !!!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White/Asian Residence: West Coast (Not Cali) Income Bracket: 400k + Type of School: Public Intended Major(s): Undecided or Engineering/Computer Science Academics: 4.0 UW / 4.58 W Rank: 9/436 13 AP's Senior Year Course Load: AP Macro, AP Phys C, AP Stat, AP Gov, AP Lit, + electives. Standardized Testing: SAT: 1370 (Didn't submit) AP Scores: Got three 4's. Awards/Honors: AP Scholar with Honors Trivia State Champ Employee of the Year Extracurriculars/Activities: Lead Server: Worked 15 hrs a week in a restaurant for three years Varsity Football Varsity Swim Team/Captain JV Track and Field Trivia Club President/Captain Internship at Children's Clinic Coding project with Amazon devs, literally didn't do anything I got carried School Newspaper Editor 10th Grade Class VP Chess Club Member Letters of Recommendation: Didn't get to see them so these ratings are just estimations. Math Teacher: 8/10, this is the teacher I had the best relationship with throughout highschool. Comp Sci Teacher: 5/10, bro actually doesn't know my name. Amazon Dev: 8/10, actually got to read the letter, it was great. Interviews: (Estimated). Stanford: 7/10 UPenn: 2/10. Bro gaslight me that I was somehow late when they were 30 minutes late???!!?!? Harvard: 6/10. Princeton: 4/10. Dude was obsessed with himself, unbearable. Dartmouth: 10/10. Interviewer was the freaking goat. Essay: For my personal statement, I wrote about how a mock election in my civics class inspired me to value my education. I would give it a 6.5/10, it wasn't anything special. Decisions: (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD): Acceptances: UOregon (CS w/ 20k a year) UC San Diego (Data Science) UC Davis (CS w/ 13.2k a year) University of Washington (Undecided) University of Richmond (Undecided) UC Berkeley (College of Letters & Sciences) ---> COMMITTED !!! GO BEARS !!! Waitlists: UCLA (Engineering) CMU (Data Science) Northeastern (Computer Science) Rejections: UC Santa Barbara Yale Harvard Princeton UPenn Dartmouth Stanford (REA) :((( Columbia Brown USC Final Thoughts: For any juniors on this subreddit who are considering applying test-optional, I would really stress that you try your hardest to maximize your standardized testing scores, especially considering the increase of schools reversing their test-optional policies. In the end, I am super happy with my decision and I hope to make the most of it! BEAR TF DOWN."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Virginia (EA, OOS) Northeastern University (EA) Georgia Tech (EA ->



Deferred, OOS) Emory (RD) Lehigh (RD) Case Western (EA -> Deferred) UCONN (In-State, RD)",

"answer": "A: Ivy day has passed, which means I am finally done with the college process. Here are my stats and results: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Northeast Income Bracket: Middle Class (100k ish) Type of School: Small, Private Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): NONE Intended Major(s): CS for all Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW Rank (or percentile): N.A. # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Only AP is Calc BC, nothing else offered by school Senior Year Course Load: All honors/advanced classes Standardized Testing: 1570 SAT, 770 Eng, 800 Math Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Computer Science Team Captain, Compete in coding comps, 1st place in an international comp (100+ teams, not saying which for privacy lol) #2 Math Team Captain, Compete in county math league, made states 2x #3 After-school music program, Top-member at school for instrument #4 Chess team Vice Pres, Compete in county chess league and tournaments #5 Cooking Community Service Club Captain, teach people how to cook, make meals to donate to kids in need #6 Shift Lead at Grocery Store, work 20+ per week, managing and leading other workers #7 Co-founded, organized, & led first computer science competition in region for other high schoolers with 60+ participants #8 Paid engineering internship at a local company, streamlined their production process by implementing 3d printers, Modeled and 3d printed prototypes by using cad software #9 Theatre #10 Founded and lead a science demo club at school with 25+ members Awards/Honors #1 First Place as a team CS Competition #2 First place as a individual CS competition #3 Finalist CS competition #4 School award for top 5ish% of class #5 National Merit Commended Scholar Letters of Recommendation Both letters of Recs i'd say were 9+/10, knew both teachers very well. Essays I'd rate my essays a 7.5/10, I hired an essay service to review them, so I don't think my essays were the reason for my results Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Virginia (EA, OOS) Northeastern University (EA) Georgia Tech (EA -> Deferred, OOS) Emory (RD) Lehigh (RD) Case Western (EA -> Deferred) UCONN (In-State, RD) Waitlists: WashU St. Louis (RD) Carnegie Mellon (RD) Rejections: MIT (EA) UNC, Chapel hill (EA, OOS) Harvard (RD) Duke (RD) Brown (RD) Princeton (RD) Reflection/Thoughts Going into this process, I was super excited about applying and going to college next year. Unfortunately, I didn't get into any of my reaches or top choices, but still have some good options. In retrospect, I should have early decisioned somewhere, but decided not to cuz I thought I was going to get into MIT early. Overall, I'm kinda dissapointed, but still fine with my results. I'm probably just gonna commit to UVA, Georgia tech, or NEU as those are kinda my only and best options for CS. My advice for soon to be seniors is to keep your

expectations realistic, and try to find some schools that are not T20s that you genuinely like and would be happy attending."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UT Austin CS (Priority) COMMITTED -- HOOK 'EM \ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddfd\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddfd\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddfd Purdue CS (EA) A&M Engineering (RD) UTD CS w/ full tuition (Priority) Waitlist: UCLA CMU Rejections Cornell (RD) (2nd fav school -- this one stung) Harvard (RD) Yale (RD) WashU (RD) Northwestern (RD) Duke (RD) MIT (Deferred EA --> Rejected RD) USC (Deferred EA --> Rejected RD) UIUC (EA) UC Berkeley NYU Stanford (RD) (was my dream school. lost all hopes after Ivy day tho) Reflection: When I decided to apply to these 18 schools I honestly thought I could bag one reach -- but they are reaches for a reason. I knew it wasn't in my favor but I still had hopes. I didn't really realize how competitive and how much of a blood bath this process is until after going through it. I think my biggest mistake was how 1 dimensional I was. My PS was very one dimensional and my ECs are very one dimensional. I wish I tried exploring different things throughout HS and kinda went hard into something that wasn't just CS. At the end of the day, I can't change anything, but I can only learn from it. At the end of the day it's whatever. I'm really happy to have bagged both UT and Purdue. They're both great schools for my major and I honestly can't complain when I have both of them. Rejection hurts, but I guess it wasn't meant to be. I'm gonna try and keep the idea of \"rejection is redirection\" (as corny as it is) in my head because I do think there is some truth to it. There must have been a reason why I wasn't accepted into any of my far reaches and I might not know know but I'm confident it's for the best. anyways, #UTAUSTIN2028 AND HOOK 'EM \ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddfd\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddfd\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddfd\",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Male, Asian, Texas, Large Public Intended Major(s): CS ACT/SAT/SAT II: 1440 (760 Math, 680 EBRW) (rip the 1500 dream) UW/W GPA and Rank: 3.95 UW, 4.26 W, 26/725 Distinction Coursework: 14 APs Extracurriculars: (Redacted anything doxxable) Founder & Developer of [REDACTED] (10 h/w) (10-11) Resource I made w/ 10k visits Developing [REDACTED] (5 h/w) (11-12) Building platform to connect users to [REDACTED] with a locator, community board, and donation center. Fullstack Developer Internship (15 h/w) (12) just cool webdev stuff President of Computer Science Club (3h/w) (11-12) District-wide computer science club. Organize bimonthly hackathons and developed curriculum for AI & Web development for 30+ members. Mentor members. Game Developer Internship (7.5 h/w) (12) Developing an interactive educational game focused on rocket science with physics and

simulations. Working with a team to brainstorm and execute. President of [REDACTED] Volunteering (3h/w) (11-12) Developed a curriculum for teaching Python to 30+ students and provided weekly mentorship. Also, build websites for various local organizations. Vice President of HS Chess Club (1.5 h/w) (Member 10 & 11, VP 12) Created tournament bracket and scoring software, teach new members chess, organize district-wide tournaments and review sessions to analyze gameplay. Self-Taught Programmer (10 h/w) (9-12) Spend free time learning 5+ languages such as JS, Go, C#, and web and AI development. Designed full-stack applications & finetuned AI models. Hackathon Competitor (48 h/w, 5 w/y) (11-12) Participated in 6 hackathons to refine coding skills, problem-solving, and teamwork. Networked with industry professionals for insights and guidance. Tutor (1h/w) (9-12) Tutored 1st-grade math, Algebra 1 and 2, Pre-Calc, Calc 1, SAT Math, and AP Physics. Developed curriculum and providing consistent mentorship. Awards: (probs weakest part) 1st in Most Innovative Hack AP Scholar W/ Distinction Letters of Recommendation probs avg tbh Interviews MIT: I think it went pretty well but it wasn't anything extraordinary. 7/10 Essays Personal Statement: I honestly hate my PS. I reread it and legit feel like it's so bad. I've had a lot of people read it (Harvard Student, UPenn Undergrad, UChicago Med Students, etc.) and they all say it's good, unique, and creative, but I personally hate it. I feel like it was one dimensional like the rest of my application. I wrote about intellectual curiosity but i feel like it doesn't know anything else besides that. (7/10) EA Supplementals: These were pretty garbo. I think I wrote one good supplemental in the whole EA process. I'm pretty sure I got rejected form UIUC just because of my essays. idk how tf I got into Purdue since I wrote their essays in like 40 mins. I spent a decent amount of time on my MIT app and it def had the best essays out of all my EAs but they still weren't that great. My UT essays were alr but they weren't amazing. (5/10) RD Supplementals: I wrote some pretty good essays here imo. My UC PIQs were all very solid imo. I was super proud of my Cornell essays; I don't think I wrote better essays throughout the whole application process. Majority of my essays were reused and tweaked a bit and I think they were all solid. (8/10) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UT Austin CS (Priority) COMMITTED -- HOOK 'EM \ud83e\udd18\ud83c\udfffd\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\udfffd\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\udfffd Purdue CS (EA) A&M Engineering (RD) UTD CS w/ full tuition (Priority) Waitlist: UCLA CMU Rejections Cornell (RD) (2nd fav school -- this one stung) Harvard (RD) Yale (RD) WashU (RD) Northwestern (RD) Duke (RD) MIT (Deferred EA --> Rejected RD) USC (Deferred EA --> Rejected RD) UIUC (EA) UC Berkeley NYU Stanford (RD) (was my dream school. lost all hopes after Ivy day tho) Reflection: When I decided to apply to these 18 schools I honestly thought I could bag one reach -- but they are reaches for a reason. I knew it wasn't in my favor but I still had hopes. I didn't really realize how competitive and how much of a blood bath this process is until after going through it. I think my biggest mistake was how 1 dimensional I was. My PS was very one

dimensional and my ECs are very one dimensional. I wish I tried exploring different things throughout HS and kinda went hard into something that wasn't just CS. At the end of the day, I can't change anything, but I can only learn from it. At the end of the day it's whatever. I'm really happy to have bagged both UT and Purdue. They're both great schools for my major and I honestly can't complain when I have both of them. Rejection hurts, but I guess it wasn't meant to be. I'm gonna try and keep the idea of \"rejection is redirection\" (as corny as it is) in my head because I do think there is some truth to it. There must have been a reason why I wasn't accepted into any of my far reaches and I might not know know but I'm confident it's for the best. anyways, #UTAUSTIN2028 AND HOOK 'EM \ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddff\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddff\ud83e\udd18\ud83c\uddff\"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: - san jose state - sf state",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Middle Eastern Residence: US, Bay Area Income Bracket: Middle class Type of School: Public, non-competitive Hooks: N/A Intended Major(s): CS Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.96, 4.41 Rank (or percentile): Top 10% (maximum value school considers) Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 8 APs, 4 Dual Enrollment, forgot how many honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Stats, AP Lit, AP Micro, AP Gov, APES, + art class and pe class Standardized TestingList the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT : 1520 (740RW, 780M) AP/IB: CSP (4), Physics (4), APUSH (4) Extracurriculars/Activities 1: computer science club (founder, president): led multiple projects, launched many on chrome web store(got featured on home page), ios app store, etc. taught 20+ people with no experience how to create their own useful projects. taught people from non-traditional backgrounds how to code in the summer (elders, etc.) 11th and 12th grade 2: pill identification app (lead developer), made an open source app capable of identifying different pills/prescription medicine, 133k+ image database. worked with a team where i headed meetings 12th grade 3: facial recognition attendance (sole developer) at request of faculty, I made an attendance platform at my school that used facial recognition to mark students as present. implemented in select classrooms, until passes testing phase, sort of like a contracted job. 4: volunteered at local library for 10, 11, 12th grade, 150 + hours 5: science olympiad (secretary/team member), achieved funding and registered team for all events 6: high school's engineering like council/board, only like 10 students total 7: worked as a tutor/grader part-time 8: made an ios app submitted to track environmental impact of users. (got award in competition) 9: worked part time in restaurant 10: volleyball team in school &

tennis team varsity Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. 1: app challenge placement (international/regional) 2: engineering award (int), have to get high score on test 3: ap scholar 4: volleyball related awards (d1 recognition or sum idk) Essays piqs were really good, got them reviewed by as many people/teachers as possible and all of them really liked them. also got them reviewed by other students who got in in previous admissions cycles. had some unique topics that I thought were really cool. Acceptances: - san jose state - sf state Waitlists: - uc davis Rejections : - uc irvine - ucla - uc berkeley - stanford Additional Information:I thought i was good enough to get into at least one uc but ig not. community college route incoming. i also was like top 9% or whatever the ucs like guarantee u admission for merced i think. also wrote about how i had some conditions that didn't allow me to participate in many ecs 9th/10th grade"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Rolling ASU CS EA Purdue CS EA Georgia Tech EE Rolling UTD CS full ride RD UCSD CS RD UCSB CS RD UCI CS RD CMU Tepper #2 choice RD NYU Stern #1 choice",

"answer": "A: By February I didn't even want to do cs bruh Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: US Income Bracket: Upper middle class Type of School: public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): I can bench 225 negative hook: Asian male in stem Intended Major(s): CS, business Academics GPA (UW/W): 4/4.5 Rank (or percentile): 7/~450 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 17 + 1 in person college course Senior Year Course Load: 5 APs, Multivariable Calc at local University Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1560 (760RW, 800M) ACT: ## (##E, ##M, ##R, ##S) SAT II: \_\_\_\_ (###), \_\_\_\_ (###), ... AP/IB: \_\_ Physics 1, E&M, Mechanics, Calc BC, Bio, Stats, HuG, Psych 5, Lang, APUSH, Music Theory 5, CSP 3(idk how) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Lab research at university #2 Internship with data learning company #3 DECA, vp in chapter, 2x 1st place at SCDC, recognition at ICDC #4 Lifting club co founder #5 Clarinet, 3rd place state solo, all state, all northwest, and philharmonic youth orchestra #6 Piano, played for 13 years, associated state festival awards and stuff, lvl 10 certificate of merit #7 Lifting, unofficially beat state bench press record for age group and weight class (240 lbs @ 137 lbs) #8 Math and chess tutor at chinese school #9 Community service stuff #10 Tennis (i'm kinda shit) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 co authored Best student paper award at a research conference, published n journal #2 1st place SCDC, ICDC

stuff DECA #3 AIME qualifer #4 USACO silver #5 National merit semifinalist Letters of Recommendation (Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) AP Lang teacher - decent relationship, got along well, he said that if i don't get in it wasn't cause of his rec letter -idk/10 Physics teacher - had him for two years, seemed really enthusiastic to write the letter - idk/10 Interviews (Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) Mid ass interviews mid/10 for MIT, UPenn, Dartmouth, Duke cornell doesn't count Essays (Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Common app was a story about boxing and how I developed the grit I needed to win through my weightlifting journey (sub 100 pounds to 140). idk/10 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Rolling ASU CS EA Purdue CS EA Georgia Tech EE Rolling UTD CS full ride RD UCSD CS RD UCSB CS RD UCI CS RD CMU Tepper #2 choice RD NYU Stern #1 choice Waitlists: RD Cornell CS RD Vanderbilt CS RD Rice CS RD UCLA ECE Rejections: REA Yale CS EA UIUC CS RD MIT CS RD Harvard CS RD Dartmouth CS RD UPenn CS RD Duke CS RD Berkeley CS Additional Information: I'll take it as a sign that my destiny was in finance"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Penn State Main (EA, In-State) CU Boulder Engineering OOS (RD) Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Honors Program, Daytona Beach (COMMITTED!) (Rolling)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Skill Issue TBF) Residence: High-Income Area in the Philly metro Income Bracket: 150k+ Type of School: Large Public High School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None :( Intended Major(s): Aerospace Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.9/4.2 Rank (or percentile): 99th percentile (class of ~1700) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 14 APs, 20 honors Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Physics C E&M, DE English, PLTW Civil Engineering, PLTW Engineering Design and Development Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1540 (770M, 770 Eng) AP/IB: (only the ones I submitted) Lang 5, APUSH 5, Seminar 5, Calc AB 3, Physics Mechanics 5, AP Euro 4, AP World 4. Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 - Founded Aerospace Development Team - got Level 1 and Level 2 High Power Certifications, sent several rockets supersonic, worked on a project to send a rocket to space - still in progress, did community outreach including teaching courses on the basics of model rocketry to interested kids ages 12-16 #2 - Civil Air Patrol Volunteering - Organized flights for cadet flight training, ran the aerospace

education program, including setting up a rocketry education program and a model aviation course where cadets could design and build their own RC planes #3 - SeaPerch Robotics - 2x regional championship sweeps as team captain and head designer #4 - Quizbowl - 2x Nationals Qualifications, 2x regional championship victories as captain #5 - Pilot Training - 50 hours of training, Cessna 172 and 182 aircraft #6 - Guitar building - main hobby for me, learned how to design and build guitars from scratch, designed and built a full carbon-fiber guitar as a senior project #7 - CNC Machining - secondary hobby, learned to run 3,4, and 5-axis mills to create parts out of stainless steel and aluminum. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 - AP Scholar with Distinction #2 - National Merit Semifinalist #3 - NAR Level 1 Certification #4 - Certificat D'Honneur, Level 4 - Merite (I think, I would have to go back and check what the actual commendation was) #5 - Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education NCO of the Year - Regional Letters of Recommendation LOR 1 - Engineering Teacher - We got along quite well and he was a mentor for my aerospace team, 8/10 LOR 2- Physics Teacher - He put a lot of effort into it, and he was the one who pushed me towards an Aerospace Engineering major, 10/10 Interviews N/A Essays Personal Statement - Talked about my journey learning rocketry and my interest in aerospace, 7/10 I wish I had worked on it longer... Supplementals 8/10, I put months into some of them. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Penn State Main (EA, In-State) CU Boulder Engineering OOS (RD) Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Honors Program, Daytona Beach (COMMITTED!) (Rolling) Waitlists: None Rejections: Purdue :( (EA -> Deferred -> Rejected) - Was really hoping for them as they were a high target but shouldn't have been unattainable. Georgia Tech (EA) MIT (EA) CalTech (RD) UCLA Berkeley UC Riverside Georgia Tech (EA) UMD OOS (EA) - I really don't get this one at all USC (EA -> Deferred -> Rejected) UIUC (RD) Additional Information: Honestly not upset about the reaches on this list, they're reaches for a reason, but UMD and Purdue shouldn't have been rejections IMO :( Happy with where I ended up though! Go Eagles!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Pomona, Bowdoin, Colby, College of the Holy Cross, Occidental, Swarthmore, Tufts, Middlebury, CWRU, Vassar, Hamilton, and Boston College (there's some safeties but it would take a lot to list)",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Native American and Asian Residence: Mass Income Bracket: <80k Type of School: Public inner city high school where many are low-income. Not very competitive until you reach the students that are in the top 10% of the class. The top 10% is hypercompetitive.

Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): FGLI and URM (QB finalist) Intended Major(s): Chemistry and Theater Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.2/4.9 (4.3 and 5.3 scale) Rank (or percentile): 7th out of over 400 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Everything was an honors class or an AP Senior Year Course Load: Chorus, AP Bio, Calc BC, Psych, Physics 2, Lit Standardized Testing SAT I: 1500 (730RW, 770M) AP/IB: 9th AP Human Geography (5), 10th AP Chemistry (5), 11th AP Lang, Physics 1, World (5) AP Mechanics (self-studied) and Spanish (4) Extracurriculars/Activities #1 Devised Theater program for high schoolers in my city which is run by a nationwide renowned theater that hosts Broadway shows, we met 5 hours a week and put on three showings of our play 2 yrs #2 Musical Theater intensive for three weeks at said theater on a full scholarship #3 Company Member at said theater that is invite only and will put on three different shows, I also have to take classes there 1 yr #4 Editor-in-chief of my paper, founded it and created a website for it after years of it not existing at my school 4yrs #5 varsity football 4 yrs #6 drama club, one play a year and I would play multiple characters in one play sometimes 2yrs #7 chorus and a cappella, I was the bass section leader 2 yrs #8 band, played euphonium 3yrs #9 work, part-time to support family #10 babysitting, I had younger family members who were illiterate, and would teach them how to read Spanish and how to speak and read English Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 NHS #2 Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish #3 District Chorus with an All-State Recommendation #4 College Board National Indigenous Award #5 College Board National Hispanic Award Letters of Recommendation English Teacher was probably good, she is the advisor to the paper and admires what I have done in getting more involvement in our school and greater community. I had her for sophomore English and currently AP Lit which I am always eager to participate in. Physics Teacher good but maybe not as good. We share the same birthday and I brought in cakes for both of us junior and this year for the ap physics. However, I did act out in her class for physics 1 a lot when I was dealing with a lot at home and mentally and got kicked out of her class one time, but we had conversations where I feel like I have made it up and did a lot of apologizing because I regret what I did a lot. She seems to enjoy me a lot now, and we have conversations outside of school about a lot of stuff. She also is an avid reader of the paper. Interviews I'm a theater kid so I am very good at BSing and keeping a conversation but I will say my Stanford interviewer did go into politics which I should have avoided bc the interviewer admitted to having conservative views. he did say he would recommend me to the committee, however. I do feel that all the interviews were good: Yale, Bowdoin, Middlebury, Denison, Tufts, Stanford, Colby (for scholars program) Essay I feel like my essay was kind of funny but then it gets serious. It started with an argument my family had over buying guacamole at a restaurant. The argument was symbolic of their different values in life, living in different separate cultures. The main point was also that they also grew up poor yet had different opinions over the



guacamole. I then to proceed to talk about my moms family and then my dads family and how both families had horrible situations. Even though my dads family grew up even poorer, they were happier because they focused on the little things in life and used their money to buy stuff that they enjoyed even if it was not beneficial. My mom's family, however, continues to be unhappy to this day despite many making it out of poverty and it helped them to do so by adopting strict money saving habits and often did not go spending their money. Then I bring it back to myself and how poverty did not end with me. I reflect and say that I was unsure based on my mom's family that I would be happy if my family had more money. I talked about how I have been living similarly to my mom's family by working excessively hard and not enjoying life as much. I end by saying that the little things in life are worth more than all the money I'd make in my lifetime and will adopt the values that my father's family had. To quote the very end \"So I've decided... At [restaurant] I'll buy the large bowl of guacamole, maybe even the queso too,\" bringing it back to where the essay started. Decisions: Acceptances: Pomona, Bowdoin, Colby, College of the Holy Cross, Occidental, Swarthmore, Tufts, Middlebury, CWRU, Vassar, Hamilton, and Boston College (there's some safeties but it would take a lot to list) Waitlists: Yale, Penn, Denison, Grinnell, Northwestern, Oberlin, Wesleyan, Bates, Skidmore Rejections: Williams (ED), Amherst, Harvard, Dartmouth, Columbia, Stanford, and Brown. Additional Information: I feel like my application showed quirkiness and diverse interests that would excel at an LAC but not a spike per se that the Ivies may want. Additionally, many of my ECs were not long commitments and I had only started theater my junior year, along with vocal groups. Although they could have seriously not liked me, I feel like I might have been rejected simply due to fit and not qualifications. I love the LACs a lot and even though it did hurt not getting into a single ivy, I tbh did not really want to go to one and thought I would thrive more at a LAC. Additionally, I want to go to grad school, so I was really interested in the LACs. It made it easier writing their supplementals. I also saved the Ivies for last when I was LOCKED IN writing all the supplemental during winter break, which could have backfired because by then I was burnt out writing their supplementals. Either way, I am happy with my results, and I'll take it as a sign from the Gods that I am meant to go to a LAC and I will be enjoy the sunny California weather because I think I will commit to Pomona!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: All EA except South Carolina! West Virginia University (14k/yr scholarship+honors college) North Carolina Central University(7.5k) University of Pittsburgh (15k/yr+ honors college+ assured admission to public health grad school) University of Maryland (12.5k+honors college) Ohio State University George Mason University (20k/yr +honors college) Hampton University (20k/yr) Wayne State University (in state tuition award

+6.5k/yr+honors college) East Carolina University (2.5k/yr+honors college) UNC-Wilmington (4.5k) North Carolina Agricultural and Technological University (4k/yr) UNC-Charlotte UNC-Chapel hill (5k summer study abroad stipend)(committed \ud83e\udd73) North Carolina State University Howard University (20k/yr scholarship) University of South Carolina (in state tuition scholarship) Waitlisted: University of Michigan (I was shocked \ud83d\ude28, def thought I was getting rejected) Rejections (all RD): Northwestern University Vanderbilt University Brown University Additional Information: \*and with that decisions are over for me! It was quite crazy and I got so much scholarship money that I can\u2019t even use \ud83d\ude2d. My best deal would have been Wayne state but it\u2019s a 10 hour drive from home while UNC is about a 40 minute drive and a really good school for public health! I didn\u2019t think I would get into any of my reaches and I was right lol \ud83d\udc80. But I\u2019m so thankful for all the acceptances and scholarships I got during this process! If you were me, what school would you have chose? Also if anyone can give tips on how to get private scholarships that would be awesome! I got tickets to see Megan in June \ud83e\udd73 I\u2019m so excited!! The best way to start of my summer! wanted to mention I\u2019ll be getting my associates degree in may! Going into UNC with about 60 credits!",

"answer": "A: Applied to 20 schools in total! Demographics Gender: Nonbinary but did put Female for most apps Race/Ethnicity: African American Residence: NC Income Bracket: around 100k Type of School: public early college Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s) : Public health/Biology/Microbiology Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.56 Rank (or percentile): 2 out of 42 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 17 dual enrollment and 10 honors Senior Year Course Load: all dual enrollment: American literature, Precalc Algebra, Intro to Sociology, British Literature, Precalc Trig and general biology 2 Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: Didn\u2019t take ACT: 27 (25E, 22M, 33R, 28S) Extracurriculars/Activities Worked at a locally owned ice cream shop Volunteered at a local hospital Teaching assistant for honors world history Guest poetry speaker at a fair housing month event Gradfest committee president Dungeons and dragons player (yes I put this on my application lol) Babysitter Black history quiz bowl team member Creative writing club American sign language club Awards/Honors Presidents list (11th grade) National African American Recognition Award (12th grade) Letters of Recommendation Biology professor: I really enjoyed his class and did pretty well in it so I asked him to write my lor. I didn\u2019t read it so I\u2019m not sure how good it is. World history teacher: got an 106% in her class and was a TA for her so I spent a lot of time with her. My absolute favorite teacher. I also didn\u2019t read the letter but I assume it was good! Essays Wrote my common app on Spider-Man:into the spiderverse and across the spiderverse and what the two movies taught me about patience and taking my time to get the best results. 7/10 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: All EA except South Carolina! West

Virginia University (14k/yr scholarship+honors college) North Carolina Central University(7.5k) University of Pittsburgh (15k/yr+ honors college+ assured admission to public health grad school) University of Maryland (12.5k+honors college) Ohio State University George Mason University (20k/yr +honors college) Hampton University (20k/yr) Wayne State University (in state tuition award +6.5k/yr+honors college) East Carolina University (2.5k/yr+honors college) UNC- Wilmington (4.5k) North Carolina Agricultural and Technological University (4k/yr) UNC-Charlotte UNC-Chapel hill (5k summer study abroad stipend)(committed \ud83e\udd73) North Carolina State University Howard University (20k/yr scholarship) University of South Carolina (in state tuition scholarship) Waitlisted: University of Michigan (I was shocked \ud83d\ude28, def thought I was getting rejected) Rejections (all RD): Northwestern University Vanderbilt University Brown University Additional Information: \*and with that decisions are over for me! It was quite crazy and I got so much scholarship money that I can\u2019t even use \ud83d\ude2d. My best deal would have been Wayne state but it\u2019s a 10 hour drive from home while UNC is about a 40 minute drive and a really good school for public health! I didn\u2019t think I would get into any of my reaches and I was right lol \ud83d\udc80. But I\u2019m so thankful for all the acceptances and scholarships I got during this process! If you were me, what school would you have chose? Also if anyone can give tips on how to get private scholarships that would be awesome! I got tickets to see Megan in June \ud83e\udd73 I\u2019m so excited!! The best way to start of my summer! wanted to mention I\u2019ll be getting my associates degree in may! Going into UNC with about 60 credits!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Arizona State University (15k yearly scholarship) (EA) Rutgers (EA) I love New Jersey UBC Okanagan (RD)",

"answer": "A: I can finally post here haha Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Southeast Asian Residence: Asia (currently at Canada) Income Bracket: 300k USD yearly Type of School: Private Boarding School Hooks: Don't think I have any Intended Major(s): Biology Academics GPA (UW/W): I went through 3 different high schools that did not use GPA so this is what I calculated 9th grade: 2.9 10th grade: 3.0 GPA (Almost failed math) 11th grade: 3.5 GPA or 87/100 average, took 3 APs 12th grade: 3.9 GPA or 89/100 average, took 1 AP Rank (or percentile): # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 Senior Year Course Load: AP Biology, AP Research (Withdrew early March due to health reasons), Chemistry 12, Anatomy and Physiology 12, Digital Art 11, English 12, Outdoor Leadership 12, Pre-calculus 12. Yoga 12 Standardized Testing Test Optional (should have taken the SAT but I didn't) AP:

World History (5), Seminar (4), Physics 1 (3), Biology (taking it this year) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): TOEFL 115 (29 R, 29 L, 30 S, 27 W) TOEFL 109 (Expired but submitted for UW, took it 2 years ago to get into boarding school) DET 145

Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Rowing (11 and 12) #2

Volunteered at a fair trade store last year for a couple of weeks #3 3D Modelling in 10th grade and earned some money doing it #4 Model UN Club member #5 Boarding house duty assistant - Every month we do shifts to make sure that kids stay inside dorms and are studying #6 Piano - Competed in 9th grade and won 6th place out of 40, stopped because I didn't like it #7 Citizen Scientist - I collect samples from beaches throughout my city and try to find fish eggs to confirm whether or not those beaches are suitable habitats for forage fish species. I'm going to take a leadership role with it but this was after college applications. #8 Boxing - for fun (12) Awards/Honors Finished second for Novice 8 and men's 8 in city championships this year Letters of Recommendation AP Physics teacher - I really liked his labs and he was pretty chill, also earned a pretty high grade so I asked (8/10) Precalculus-11 teacher - He was genuinely funny and also flamed his kid at basketball, he knows I study pretty hard for his class (9/10) Interviews None Essays Talked about rowing and how it empowered me to improve the communities that had shaped and influenced me throughout my life, just like how rowing had kicked me into shape Decisions Acceptances: Arizona State University (15k yearly scholarship) (EA) Rutgers (EA) I love New Jersey UBC Okanagan (RD) Waitlists: Waiting for UBC Vancouver to respond Rejections: UIUC (EA) UT Austin (RD) Ohio State (RD) Texas A&M (RD) UMich (RD) UWash (RD) North Carolina at Chapel Hill (RD) Need some help deciding which one to attend"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): FIU Honors, UCF Honors + Provost Scholarship, UMich Honors + Presidential Scholarship, UF Honors + Presidential Scholarship + USRP (all EA), Boston University Honors, Northwestern University, BROWN UNIVERSITY!!!!!! (RD)",

"answer": "A: keeping it vague to not doxx myself!! Demographics Gender: F Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: FL Hooks: first gen on dad's side, mom went to college in south america Intended Major(s): Computer Science, Design Engineering at Brown Academics GPA/Rank: 4.0/5.0 (top 2% out of ~230, school stopped ranks after people would transfer to easier schools last minute so they could be valedictorian) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 11/17ish APs, the rest were mostly honors aside from magnet classes Senior Year Course Load: UF Dual Enrollment class, AP Cal BC, AP Gov, AP Spanish, AP Comp Sci P (taken Standardized Testing SAT/ACT: 1460 SAT

(didn't report), 34 ACT (36R, 36E, 32M, 32S) AP/IB: 11 APs total (five 5's, two 4's, taking 4 APs this year). i avoided AP sciences like the plague Extracurriculars/Activities: FBLA pres (this year i focused on establishing the chapter in my school bc last year's board sucked) NTHS pres creative director of magnet - worked closely with my school in creating merch, marketing campaigns for shows, events, etc. started art program at local homeless shelter for preschoolers - raised \$ to buy supplies to teach kids how use art to cope w stress social media director for stem online magazine freelance graphic design yearbook editor - designed graphics, book won a state award my soph year treasurer for school club sga cabinet member - made posters for events but quit at the beginning of senior year LOL adobe content creator - i had an IG account with 3k followers where i would post anime edits \ud83d\udc80 Awards/Honors: school award during my sophomore year - basically like an overall best student given to 1 student in each grade 2nd place in an fbla graphic design comp magnet related award (design-related) certified in photoshop and illustrator another magnet award Essays/LORs/Interviews: Essay (8.5/10): talked about where my passion for design started, used an extended metaphor of my younger self being in a grocery store shopping cart shaped like a racecar. for someone that hates writing, i LOVED my essay and so did my teachers but in hindsight i think it made some of my supplementals redundant since i talked about why i want to do CS LORs: Cal Teacher (8/10): Had her from soph-senior year, so she spoke about my personal/academic growth in her class and how i had the highest grades/scores in her AP Cal AB class Magnet Teacher (6/10): she used chat gpt for my LOR so i begged her to make it a lil more personal and it was BETTER but not ideal but whateva Principal (9/10): had his assistant write it but luckily i was close to both of them, spoke about my character and how i helped with the school's merchandise (which is a big source of their fundraising/identity) Interviews: Harvard: BEST INTERVIEW EVER (11/10). had a 1987 grad so i was a lil worried about how much we would relate but the convo flowed very naturally, said i was one of the best 3 interviews he's ever had (but who knows how true that is) and the most creative interviewee he's had. we both teared up during the interview?? spent a lot of time writing my report and even spoke to my parents for like 30 min Northwestern (8/10): VERY quick, but he was a marketing major so we related on that front, but i felt like i was just explaining my application rather than giving insight on who i am Dartmouth (7/10): she seemed kinda bored??? but i used it as an opportunity to learn ab dartmouth since i was concerned ab going from a big warm city to a small cold town but Brown Video Essay (7/10): texted a few friends asking them to describe me in 3 words, showed screenshots about how they couldn't do it, and instead showed how i personalized many aspects of my life (decorating my room, car, laptop, bookbag, school merchandise, a children's book the team i led created in my magnet class). i think my execution could have been better given that one of my ecs is video editing, but i didn't wanna Decisions (applied to 17 total) Acceptances: (list here): FIU Honors, UCF Honors

+ Provost Scholarship, UMich Honors + Presidential Scholarship , UF Honors + Presidential Scholarship + USRP (all EA), Boston University Honors, Northwestern University, BROWN UNIVERSITY!!!!!! (RD) Waitlists: (list here) Carnegie Mellon (RD), HARVARD??!?!?! (RD) Rejections: (list here) Northeastern (EA), USC (EA), UMich, Yale, Dartmouth, Cornell, Stanford, Vanderbilt (all RD) Additional Information: i've been lurking this sub and a2c on a diff account since middle school n i'm so happy to finally make a post of my own!!! i'm very pleased with my results and will probably be going to brown this fall (unless harvard wants to accept me off WL). my ec's aren't anything crazy, but they're mostly all related to my magnet (basically technology, graphic design, marketing, etc), and they very much show my passion for design, which is what i think was the strongest part of my application. for my supps i tried to explain my future goals and where they came from (transforming education thru software/AI to help ipad/covid kids basically), but i also focused a lot on my personality and relationships with family/friends/my dog. please pm me if you have any questions, need any help with your application/essays, or if ur going to brown this fall!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: U of Pittsburgh (rolling) Purdue (EA) U of Southern California (EA) U of Illinois Urbana Champaign (EA) U of Maryland (EA) U of Washington [ did not get my intended major cs ] UC San Diego Boston U (RD)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: south asian Residence: east coast Income Bracket: ~300k Type of School: public, semi-competitive, 350 senior class Hooks: none Intended Majors: different from school to school but in general computer science, data science, artificial intelligence, cognitive science Academics GPA: 4.0 UW, 4.8 W Rank (or percentile): n/a # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: took hardest classes i could Senior Year Course Load: ap english lit, ap calc bc, ap physics c: mech, linear algebra, ap french, band, an advanced cs class Standardized Testing SAT: 1550 (770RW, 780M) - took once AP: csp (5), csa (5), stats (5), calc ab (5), chem (5), human geo (5), us gov (5), whap (5), lang (5) Extracurriculars/Activities changed descriptions/order slightly between early and regular data science projects for social justice orgs founded/led girls STEM club at school research internship at T10 intern at local research institution vocal performance/lessons chorus outside of school school a cappella group paid job teaching coding leadership organizing a hackathon volunteering at local library [i had a few more ecs listed for the ucs and in common app additional info, nothing major] Awards/Honors national merit semifinalist (lol) national women in STEM award same award but state level 1st place regionally in a comp (think FBLA, DECA, HOSA) ap scholar w/distinction (lol) idk if this

was the move but in this section I put only awards that weren't specifically tied to an extracurricular I was writing about in my activities section. i had other \"honors\" but I put them in the activity description or in the additional info section (hackathon wins) Letters of Recommendation AP Calc AB Teacher (9/10) - decent relationship, i participated a good amount in class and did awesome in class, put good effort into our projects. they also sponsored one of my clubs CS Teacher (7/10) - had for two years, put in a lot of effort in both classes, but never talked to them too much. sponsored a couple activities i was part of but nothing too intense. i liked them but it is awkward to interact with them Director of volunteer org from activity #1 (7/10) - never met irl, only talked to a few times but hopefully spoke to my efforts especially since high school volunteers are rare Interviews Stanford (6/10): nothing exciting. asked a lot of boring, cliché interview questions. nice person but didn't learn anything about Stanford. knew some of the local political stuff i was involved with though MIT (9/10): super good ngl. she asked me a lot of follow-up questions about AI and it was very mentally stimulating. couldn't see her face but she seemed to like my answers and we shared some common interests Princeton (8/10): it was in-person unlike the others so much more personal. didn't ask me a lot of questions but seemed to like my answers even though they were cliché. learned a whole lot about Princeton which was cool. and we had some common interests and back and forth convo. Essays Common App Essay: wrote about the pandemic and a family emergency and how they developed my passions and changed my outlook on life. lowkey mid essay i wish i tried harder Supplementals: i worked really hard on most of these, and i would say many of them were really good. ultimately, i don't think it made a huge difference which is unfortunate but i had a good time figuring how to express myself and my values and such Decisions Acceptances: U of Pittsburgh (rolling) Purdue (EA) U of Southern California (EA) U of Illinois Urbana Champaign (EA) U of Maryland (EA) U of Washington [ did not get my intended major cs ] UC San Diego Boston U (RD) Waitlists: Northeastern (RD) UChicago (RD) UCLA Carnegie Mellon (RD) Georgia Tech (Deferred EA) UC Berkeley Brown (RD) Cornell (RD) Rejections: Stanford (REA) Caltech (RD) MIT (RD) Johns Hopkins (RD) Columbia (RD) Princeton (RD) UMich (Deferred EA) [ didn't do the loci so expected ] Additional info: i submitted a music portfolio to almost all the schools that accepted it but it was pretty mid and i could've devoted more time to it, i didn't think it adequately represented my abilities Reflection: in conclusion, the college application process is a cancer and you couldn't pay me to go through it again. please take care of yourself and make time for the things and people you love. finish out high school strong and enjoy going to school and learning. compartmentalize: don't work on or think about your applications even in your spare moments in class. you'll eventually start doing it when you're supposed to be paying attention. don't take a full schedule senior year if you plan to apply to a lot of colleges. my results were really good but i was still hoping for more. i don't know what's going to happen with waitlists and such but we will see. at the end of the day i think

certain passions/values are incredibly difficult to convey on paper. you know what you're worth but colleges can't possibly just based on the materials they get from you. i truly did what i could and i'm happy with the things i devoted my time to in high school (aside from a few bad decisions socially but that's neither here nor there). i couldn't have gotten better grades, better test scores, or even better ECs because i didn't do anything just for college admissions. if i were to analyze where i could possibly have improved my application, i can think of two main areas i devoted A LOT of time to music activities and didn't see many returns in the form of achievements that would be impressive to colleges. i could have MAYBE spent this time doing research/more stuff related to my intended major. i say maybe because there's really no way of knowing what i would do with more time. also i read like 100 books in high school so like i could have made time by not doing that either or i could have just used my music time to read more books haha. either way, i wouldn't be the person i am without music and it's been one of the most enriching experiences of my life i didn't build strong enough relationships with my teachers. i was an incredible student but for the most part did not make an effort to have a relationship with them because it just wasn't my personality to do so. i do think i could have built stronger relationships and been more conscious of the teachers i asked to write my recommendations instead of just picking the ones i thought colleges would like to hear from. i think it's pretty easy to lose sight of what's important in this process. learning is what i love and i'm going to continue that no matter what college i attend. this is just one day in a long life! honestly this process was kind of fun and exhilarating at times too i don't know if all this is too deep but i hope it's helpful to someone lol. happy to answer questions if you have any (also any advice on which school to pick would be helpful)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: MIT (RD after EA deferral, committed!) SUNY Binghamton (RD) SUNY Polytechnic (rolling) NYIT (rolling) RIT (RD) CWRU (RD) University of Pittsburgh (Swanson, rolling) SUNY Oswego (rolling) NJIT (rolling)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: New York City Income Bracket: Low (\$25k/yr) Type of School: Public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM, FGLI Intended Major(s): Computer Science/Electrical Engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.68 UW (no weighted GPA) Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 APs Senior Year Course Load: AP Lit, AP Bio, AP Calc AB Standardized Testing SAT: 1570 (800 Math, 770 EBRW) AP: APUSH (5) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc.



#1: Co-Captain of #11 cybersecurity team in world, on platform called HackTheBox #2: Selective NYU cybersecurity research program #3: Content Engineer at cybersecurity company HackTheBox, deployed Linux server to 2M users #4: Cashier at local NYC supermarket, 10h/week overnight shift #5: Three blogs: first about literature, second about cybersecurity, third about personal ramblings (second blog had 3k views per month) each updated at least bi-monthly #6: Newspaper Club, lead writer #7: Debate Team, PF debater #8: Caretaker of sibling 3h/week #9: Journalism internship during sophomore year Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1: CCNA certification #2: CompTIA Security+ certification #3: GripTape \$500 scholarship #4: 2nd team placement in international cybersecurity competition with 500+ teams competing #5: National Hispanic Recognition Scholar Letters of Recommendation English Teacher: close relationship, oversaw my personal growth as my case manager for IEP (educational plan for those with autism) Math Teacher: close relationship from 4 years of commitment on Newspaper Club, Columbia alum NYU Graduate Student: research mentor, submitted rec letter only to NYU Interviews MIT: 10/10, smooth interview with plenty of discussion about digital privacy, fintech, and my cybersecurity mission. Princeton: 10/10, on-the-fly discussion of my intention to bring cybersecurity to national attention and my literature blog. Harvard: 10/10, excellent conversation about interviewer's experiences at Harvard and my cybersecurity background, very impressed with me. Cornell: 10/10, talked about what college can do for someone in terms of how they see the world and the anti-college nature of cybersecurity field. Essays Overall 9/10, each one was looked over by consultants with proven track records of Ivy League and T20 acceptances (non-paid services, first from Matchlighters Scholars and second on Discord) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: MIT (RD after EA deferral, committed!) SUNY Binghamton (RD) SUNY Polytechnic (rolling) NYIT (rolling) RIT (RD) CWRU (RD) University of Pittsburgh (Swanson, rolling) SUNY Oswego (rolling) NJIT (rolling) Waitlists: NYU (RD) UVA (RD) CMU (ED2, School of Computer Science, after deferral) Rejections: Brown University (RD) Harvard University (RD) Columbia University (RD after ED deferral) University of Pennsylvania (RD) Princeton University (RD) Cornell University (RD) Tufts University (RD) Johns Hopkins University (RD) Northeastern University (RD) Additional Information: I was an attendee to MIT WISE (their selective fly-in)."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: U of Oregon (18.5k merit + honors) Ohio state (honors) CU - Boulder (6.25k merit) UConn storrs: 18.5k merit UF (6k merit) UMass Amherst (16.5k + study abroad) UW Seattle (4.3k merit) UMN TC (10k national scholarship) Purdue UW-Madison",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian (Indian)  
 Residence: Singapore (US citizen) Income Bracket: 250k+ Type of School: Small private intl Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None  
 Intended Major(s) : Neuroscience for premed Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 (idk weighted but predicted 43/45 or 41/42 Rank (or percentile): 2/40 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: IB diploma Senior Year Course Load: 6 IB courses (diploma program)  
 Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported.  
 DSAT: 1470 (710 RW, 760 M) AP/IB: 6 7s and 1 6, haven't taken final test Applied test-optional to all privates GPA info The only anomaly/bad grade in my application was in the 9th grade when my English teacher gave me a score that equates to a 2.1 GPA. This was because she absolutely hated my guts and thought I was talking back to her just for voicing my opinion about something that she had written wrong. She ended up getting fired after 1 year in the school. The rest of my English grades look good with a A and A in English language and literature respectively in IGCSE and 7s for my IB predicted grades (upward trend?) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc.  
 #1 Primary author of research paper alongside professors from university of Helsinki, paper was about heart transplants (dm for details). To be published #2 Track athlete for local club, winning national medals in middle distance events, coaching younger kids #3 Internship at a cell culture startup during the summer. Did bunch of hands on stuff. #4 Math and Science tutor for 3 years. Tutored 7 children with all of them having an increase in grades. Usually from terrible to decent #5 . Treasurer of school MUN. MUNs at National and international level representing my school, won 'best delegate' at the national MUN #6 Volunteering at the national stroke association, assisting with seniors, leading programs on stroke awareness #7 Elected Diversity and Inclusion representative at my school. Led and organised programs during important school days #8 Head writer of the magazine club, awards for excellence #9 Certified CPR and first aid caregiver with accreditation by Red Cross #10 Fundraising for Earthquake in Turkey and Syria by organising a bake sale. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 Outstanding award for chemistry #2 Most diplomatic delegate at national mun #3 Outstanding achievement for magazine club #4 Research publication Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) Chemistry teacher: 9/10. Was my chemistry teacher in grade 10 and 11. Super nice guy who was very enthusiastic about chemistry. Personally, I thought I was his favourite student due to being very inquisitive about the subject and also scrutinising certain concepts that were taught, which he appreciated a lot. Not a 10/10 just because idk what he actually wrote Economics teacher: 9/10 someone who's known me for 4 years teaching me economics from grade 9 to 12. Super nice guy. Again probably favourite student since I've been with him for a long time and he appreciates the effort I put in during

class. 9/10 because seemed slightly superficial Head of School: 8/10. Pretty cool to get a letter from the HOS but he didn't really know me much personally other than the good grades and some things I had done at school. So the letter was weighty but didn't seem personal. Kind of just a paraphrasing of my resume but what did I expect Interviews Duke (originally ED but switched to RD): okay interview.

Coincidentally she was a cardiologist at a big local hospital so we talked a lot about my paper. But she didn't seem super interested in doing the interview. But also it did go on for like an hour with her asking me to make another zoom link so we could continue talking Princeton: Chill short interview. Guy was nice. Talked about my extracurriculars as a whole Disclaimer: I'm a very quiet person when it comes to new people so my baseline for a 'good' interview would be much lower than other people Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Personally thought this was one of the strongest parts of my application. Wrote an essay about my meticulous sleep routine and how sleep is something that made me interested in research while weaving in the extracurriculars that I do. Supplements were nothing crazy other than my long ones for UTA and UW-M that were about how me and oats (yes the grain) are alike Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) \*Acceptances: U of Oregon (18.5k merit + honors) Ohio state (honors) CU - Boulder (6.25k merit) UConn storrs: 18.5k merit UF (6k merit) UMass Amherst (16.5k + study abroad) UW Seattle (4.3k merit) UMN TC (10k national scholarship) Purdue UW-Madison Waitlists: Emory Duke (no way) Rejections: UT-A (fucked me up) UNC chapel hill UVA Dartmouth Princeton Final thoughts: Generally happy with my results but felt like I should've applied to a couple more reach schools instead of like 6 safeties (can't blame me A2C and the crazy stats on this sub scared me). This was way more stressful than it should've been and the two main things I would are Start early Take control of the process (don't let a parent/counsellor/third party dictate or even influence where you really want to go)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: EA: Northeastern (Honors +30k) EA: Clarkson (Honors) EA: Hobart William Smith EA: Quinnipiac EA: Rutgers (Honors) EA: Stony Brook (Honors I think) EA: University of Michigan EA: New Haven (Honors) Rolling: Pitt (Honors) RD: Kenyon RD: Emory RD: PRINCETON!! \ud83d\udc05\ud83d\udc05\ud83d\udc05",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian-American Residence: NJ Income Bracket: 110k Type of School: ~1000 kids Public school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): LGBT(is this a hook?), In State for Princeton Intended Major(s) : Ecology and Environmental Biology

Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/5.01 Rank (or percentile): 3/234 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 APs Senior Year Course Load: AP French, AP Physics C, AP Bio, AP Gov, AP Calc BC, AP Lit Standardized Testing SAT I: 1480 (750RW, 730M) ACT: 35 (34E, 35M, 35R, 36S) AP/IB: 10th: Stats (4) 11th: Chem (5), Lang (5) Calc AB (5), Psych (5), APUSH (5) 12th: Listed above, TBD Extracurriculars/Activities Elected VP of my class for four years (160 hrs) Student Environmental Association for two years (50 hrs) French Club for four years (30 hrs) NHS for two years (24 hrs) Volunteered at local Wetlands Institute for one week in summer (32 hrs) Scuba Diver 4 yr Varsity Track 1 yr Varsity Surf Team 2 yr Varsity Dive Team Awards/Honors French Seal of Biliteracy AP Scholar w Distinction Ntl Merit Scholarship Semifinalist 4 yr Athlete GPA Award Winner Blue Belt in Karate? Letters of Recommendation Chem Teacher - 100/10: Very close relationship when he wrote the letter. He's also a professor at a local college, told me he would write the best letter he's ever written. Calc Teacher - 10/10: Eat lunch in her room every day, we have a lovely friendship. Would assume it's a great letter. Interviews Princeton 10/10: Really great interview. Felt like a normal conversation, also got a great chance to paint myself in a social funny light as we got along very well. Essays Common App: I think my essay really made a difference. My English teacher told me it was one of the best she's ever read. Talked about why I want to study biology, my grandmother was in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb was dropped. Want to study the environment to make up for her experiences etc. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: EA: Northeastern (Honors +30k) EA: Clarkson (Honors) EA: Hobart William Smith EA: Quinnipiac EA: Rutgers (Honors) EA: Stony Brook (Honors I think 2026) EA: University of Michigan EA: New Haven (Honors) Rolling: Pitt (Honors) RD: Kenyon RD: Emory RD: PRINCETON!!  
 Waitlists: RD: Case Western (Deferred 2014>Waitlisted) RD: Dartmouth RD: Denison RD: Grinnell RD: WashU RD: Bates RD: Bowdoin Rejections: None! If anyone has other questions about my profile or my specific essays for pton lmk! officially princeton class of 2028  
 go tigers :)

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: RIT Drexel University of Delaware Wesleyan NYU stern Northwestern Waitlist: Bing",

"answer": "A: Demographic: black girl from ny suburbs scores/gpa 97.58 and 1360 (went test optional to all schools except bing, drexel, udel, and rit) Extracurriculars: accounting intern, town hall intern, class treasurer, club vice president, school social media manager, basketball captain Essays (7.5/10) I repurposed the same couple essays multiple times and I had them reviewed by someone who went to a top lac. I

believed that is what kept me in the running for the schools i got into. Lora (8/10) AP Stat/Pre calc teacher: I was able to significantly improve in AP Stats and maintain a good Pre calc grade in the same year. Also I was one of the seven in her pre calc class and one of the nine juniors she taught for AP stats so we had a good connection AP Lang teacher: I wasn't the top of the class but I was apart of the 3/45 kids to get a 5. he was also my student gov advisor. Results: Acceptances: RIT Drexel University of Delaware Wesleyan NYU stern Northwestern Waitlist: Bing Rejections: Brown (ED) Columbia Dartmouth Vandy Northeastern Williams Amherst Final thoughts: I should have probably tried to convince my mom to let me take the SAT more times. I will probably choose Northwestern or NYU"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: fordham (ea) uc riverside (+ scholarship) uc santa cruz (+ scholarship) george washington university (+ scholarship) scripps college UC BERKELEY (????!!!!) Additional Information: i was limited to 10 schools by my high school (UCs counted as one) which honestly helped me tbh i wanted to go to each school i applied to and when faced with my final choice rn between pretty much only two schools (scripps and cal) i'd be 1000% happy to go to either one. even so, i think i went thru this up until the last day being a bit disappointed but not surprised since i didn't get into any of my reaches, and even tho i told myself rankings don't matter, it's hard to get rid of that internalized idea. at the end of the day tho berkeley pulled thru and i got my first (and only) reach acceptance \ud83d\udd25\ud83d\udd25 tbh i was so sure i wouldn't get in because i thought my GPA wasn't high enough but somehow i pulled cal???? so don't let redditors tell u your stats arent good enough, just try !!!!! looking back at this whole process, i think i definitely got into my head abt everything and stressed myself out way too much. but honestly that was necessary for pushing myself (personally) to try and write the best essays i could and give this whole (terrible) process the best shot i have. while it didn't work out the way i thought it would, i am really happy with my results and i have some rly good schools to choose between :)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: applied ticking both nonbinary and female (i'm gender unlabeled and go by they/she btw) Race/Ethnicity: chinese Income Bracket: upper Residence: hong kong (with US citizenship) Type of School: private international Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): none Intended Major(s): double in english & political science (applied as english to everywhere tho) Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.67 UW (school doesn't weigh) Rank (or percentile): n/a No. of Honors/AP: 2 honors, 8 aps Senior Year Course Load: ap lit, apush, ap stats, adv research (same class as ap without the ap exam), adv film

photography, comparative religions, PE, ta for ap lang Standardized Testing SAT I: 1430 (E 780 M 650) SAT II: 1440 (E 760 M 680) (superscore 1460) AP: 5s in us and comp gov, 4s in euro lang and human geo \ud83d\udc80 Extracurriculars/Activities internship at global law firm two summers in a row barista, baker and social media manager at my brother\u2019s coffee shop poetry program at columbia & online in summer, plus personal blog research assistant with local hk professor on us&china politics editor for global student mag covering current events volunteer for local ngo working with family caregivers classical voice student at competitive program at local arts university tutor at various different organizations online transcriber for smithsonian varsity badminton player also included for UCs: organized bake sale for aid in gaza (started in october ) raised hkd \$6500 (at time of submission) split my tutoring and writing programs into different activities ^ Awards/Honors these are TERRIBLE publication in international student lit mag ap scholar w distinction LOL 1st place in hk vocal competition silver award in another hk vocal competition honor roll Letters of Recommendation ap lang teacher: (9.5/10) he\u2019s also my homeroom teacher and i was his TA in first semester of senior year, we\u2019re quite close and he knows me both as a student (in my best class) and as a person thru homeroom. he told me he wrote abt my letterboxd acc in his letter (LOL WHAT) but he\u2019s a great writer so i trust that it was fine ap euro teacher: (7/10) super sweet and i loved her class, wasn\u2019t the most active participant ngl and i chose her bc i was sure my math and physics teachers kinda hated me \ud83d\udc80 she\u2019s also a lit teacher tho so i trust she wrote a good letter counselor: (6/10) lowkey dk abt this one like i feel like i told her as much as i could abt what i wanted her to say and abt who i was but not too sure how much she absorbed judging by the way she communicated w me Interviews georgetown: (5/10) on zoom, lowkey was awkward she fully ghosted me the first time we set up and didn\u2019t reply to me until the day after when she said she had an emergency, met again and it was very question & response and we didn\u2019t click at all smith: (8/10) on a whatsapp video call (like what\u2026?) but was really good, definitely like a conversation and i felt like we clicked a lot despite having very different backgrounds and interests Essays Common App: wrote abt disordered eatinc and how my love for baking helped me with it (kinda cringe looking back but ppl who read it said it was rly good and personal so idk.\ud83d\udc80) 7/10 Supplementals: i spent soooo long on all my supplementals, ESPECIALLY for brown and wellesley (to no avail) and i thought they were pretty good esp bc im a writer lolll but ngl i went back to read them now and they\u2019re kinda mid 7/10 (since ucs are relevant ill list out my topics for the piqs: piq prompt 2: wrote abt my love for writing with a metaphor of it being a romantic relationship piq prompt 6: wrote abt liking politics and wrote abt a few activities in detail piq prompt 7: charity work thru brothers coffee shop piq prompt 8: used to do cantonese opera and then transitioned to classical voice Looking at my lackluster stats, ecs and honors I ASSUME that my essays kinda carried me for cal but I don\u2019t know lol) Decisions Rejections: brown

(ed) wellesley (ed2) claremont mckenna georgetown ucla uc san diego uc santa barbara uc davis \ud83d\udc80 Waitlists: uc irvine boston u smith college Acceptances: fordham (ea) uc riverside (+ scholarship) uc santa cruz (+ scholarship) george washington university (+ scholarship) scripps college UC BERKELEY (???!!!!) Additional Information: i was limited to 10 schools by my high school (UCs counted as one) which honestly helped me tbh i wanted to go to each school i applied to and when faced with my final choice rn between pretty much only two schools (scripps and cal) i\u2019d be 1000% happy to go to either one. even so, i think i went thru this up until the last day being a bit disappointed but not surprised since i didn\u2019t get into any of my reaches, and even tho i told myself rankings don\u2019t matter, it\u2019s hard to get rid of that internalized idea. at the end of the day tho berkeley pulled thru and i got my first (and only) reach acceptance \ud83d\udd25\ud83d\udd25 tbh i was so sure i wouldn't get in because i thought my GPA wasn't high enough but somehow i pulled cal???? so don't let redditors tell u your stats arent good enough, just try !!!!! looking back at this whole process, i think i definitely got into my head abt everything and stressed myself out way too much. but honestly that was necessary for pushing myself (personally) to try and write the best essays i could and give this whole (terrible) process the best shot i have. while it didn\u2019t work out the way i thought it would, i am really happy with my results and i have some rly good schools to choose between :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UW Milwaukee - 8k total scholarship, Honors Program, Rolling University of Minnesota, Rolling UW-Madison, RD YALE RD!!",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Man Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Wisconsin Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First-Gen Intended Major(s) : Physics Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): W4.636/UW4.0 - 1/170 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 5 AP, 4ish honors, 3 DE Senior Year Course Load: AP Chem, Spanish 5, English 101 DE/Honors World Lit, Principles of MicroEcon DE, Calc 2 DE Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 35 SAT II: NA AP/IB: 5 Bio, 5 Calc AB, 5 Psych, 4 Lang Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): NA Extracurriculars/Activities: Work - fry chicken/fast food at a place in my town. including summer hours i average 25 hr/wk Student Aide - Aide AP calc at my school during free period Science Club - President, rehabilitation efforts at my schools forest basically FBLA - treasurer junior year, competed every year, did well in competition Family Responsibilities Peer Tutor - tutor some algebra 2 kids after school a few times a week Independent Study - AP Physics Work - Previous Job during sophomore year NHS and Spanish NHS Link Crew

Awards/Honors: FBLA Awards - regional, state, team national Principals List - 4.0+ all four years Math competition awards AP Scholar w Honor Perfect Score on financial literacy certification test Essays/LORs/Interviews: Personal Statement - not fantastic imo, probably needed work, but did the job 6/10 Yale Supplements - I honestly feel I did a nice job being authentic and showing my personality I would say 8/10 AP Bio teacher LOR - we had a good relationship, was the only one to get a five on the exam in my class. did good work in this class probably 7/10 AP Lang teacher LOR - I liked her a lot but i don't think we had the closest relationship . she was a really great writer though 6/10 Yale Interview: I think it went well, but wasn't anything crazy. we talked for about 30 minutes and i felt that it wasn't anything that swayed the decision. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UW Milwaukee - 8k total scholarship, Honors Program, Rolling University of Minnesota, Rolling UW-Madison, RD YALE RD!! Waitlists: Vanderbilt RD Rejections: NYU RD Additional Information: After all, i'm pleasantly surprised. Do NOT be discouraged by this sub, anything is possible."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: FSU non-binding EA + 6k/year! (my only early app) UCF rolling + honors college + 7.5k/year! UF regular + 1k/year Swarthmore (WHAT??) UPenn (WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAATTTTT????????????????????)",

"answer": "A: hi guys, my college decisions are all done and I just wanted to share the results to someone, and to I guess show that college applications are so random and crazy bc like what just happened. Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White/Asian Residence: Florida Income Bracket: 50-75k Type of School: large magnet school Hooks: First-Gen Intended Major(s): Architecture\ud83d\udc80 Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.98/4.61 Rank (or percentile): 44/574 # of Honors/AP/IB: 4 honors, 8 pre-IB (same thing), 8 IB, 3 AP Senior Year Course Load: IB SL Math AA, Physics, History, German. IB HL Math AA, Music, English. AP Human, Euro, Lit. Standardized Testing SAT I: 1500 (710RW, 790M) AP/IB: SL Physics (4), SL Math AA (6), AP Human (5), AP Euro (5), AP Lit (4) Extracurriculars/Activities #1: band/marching band for 4 years, first chair player mostly in the highly-rated top band, excellent-rated solos, international travel with band, regional county bands. #2: Rubik's Cube solving for 4 years, that's really it, sub-12 solve time, taught a few friends. #3: Asian cultural club, Secretary for 1 year, partnered w/ small businesses (wasn't me tho), service projects around the school. #4: German club, historian junior year, treasurer senior year, member of German Honors Society \ud83d\udc80 #5: Chess club, I like chess, historian in senior year, organized tournaments occasionally #6: National Honors Society, member in junior and



senior year, 20hrs service per semester #7: work at grocery store #8: occasional participation in youth climate protests (Fridays for Future) #9: musical projects, dropped an album with 400 streams\ud83d\udc80 #10 visual arts, i paint sometimes and have drawn digital and sketch art for years. and #11 (only on resume): weightlifting, gained good amount of weight and strength from semi-consistent exercise Awards/Honors #1: AP Scholar \ud83d\udc80 #2: junior and senior year first chair player in top band #3: all-county wind band junior and senior year #4: honor roll 4 years \ud83d\udc80 #5: solo and ensemble superior ratings (bonus 6th on resume: Microsoft Office specialist certification from 8th grade\ud83d\udc80) Letters of Recommendation 11th/12th Math teacher: he's awesome and I did really well junior year and in senior year I've been slacking but i wouldn't know for sure, also I asked him like last second (maybe 7/10?) 11th/12th History teacher: also awesome, supervised my extended essay for IB, but I also asked him last minute (maybe 7/10?) Interviews Only MIT which went pretty alright, very brief, didn't do my best to show myself. (6/10) Essays my personal statement was really good after a lot of revision, I wrote about how a notebook symbolizes how i navigated through a depressive and traumatic time in my childhood. (9/10) all my supps were literally put together on the nights the apps were due, with varying quality. one essay about how my mom supports her family in the Philippines all the way from Florida ended up really good. my why \_\_\_ essays were all pretty bad and rushed. i wrote about about tiny houses for some of my interests essays. (6-8/10) Decisions Acceptances: FSU non-binding EA + 6k/year! (my only early app) UCF rolling + honors college + 7.5k/year! UF regular + 1k/year Swarthmore (WHAT??) UPenn (WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAATTTTTT?????????????????????) Waitlists: Northwestern (ILL TAKE IT) Rejections: WashU Georgia Tech Emory Pomona Amherst MIT Columbia Yale Reflection I'm still in shock. i planned to only apply to state schools but for fun but because i had waivers i decided to apply to some reaches too; why not. i only paid to apply to my state schools, Columbia, and Yale. oh my god was that a good idea. i can't believe it worked out. I genuinely thought that I had a ZERO percent chance that any of these reach schools would accept me. i was so happy with UF. when Swarthmore accepted me it was such a huge shock, but I wasn't gonna go there since they only have engineering. then northwestern waitlists me, and I'm super happy about that. come ivy day there's like absolutely NO WAY i get in. UPENN. what. huh. i feel like the chosen one or something, it just doesn't add up, i can't really put it into words, but i genuinely feel like this is a dream. i don't think my academics really stood out, it's like below middle of the road for ivy league profiles; my ECs DEFINITELY did not stand out... i guess my essays somehow really stood out to them. i literally did them the night they were due... i was quite happy with them but i accepted the fact that i didn't stand a chance against other applicants. people out there who have worked so much harder than me have gotten rejected from UPenn and they choose me. i feel so grateful, i feel so unbelievably lucky, i still don't know what they see in me. sorry about the ramble but i

guess the moral of the story is to put yourself out there. you never know, so shoot for the stars, fake it till you make it, and you might just get lucky. maybe essays are everything. college applications are so incredibly random and i am just so shocked and grateful for the fact that i lucked out. best of luck everyone

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
- The Ohio State University EA (Morrill Scholarship) - Case Western Reserve University EA (\$45k/year merit scholarship) - MIT EA (almost no aid, but I appealed and am waiting anxiously) - Purdue EA - Local university EA, near 90% acceptance rate - University of Michigan EA (\$15k/year merit scholarship) - University of Maryland EA (Presidential Scholarship) - University of Wisconsin-Madison EA (full tuition + stipend) - University of Virginia EA - Vanderbilt University RD (Cornelius Vanderbilt scholarship) - Harvard University RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: East African Residence: Suburban Midwest Income Bracket: \$150k Type of School: Public, midsize, non competitive Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): URM? Idk since race-based affirmative action is technically banned Intended Major(s): Computer Science, Mathematics Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.96/4.54 Rank (or percentile): Top 5% (school doesn't release individual rank) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 APs, 10 Dual Enrollment classes Senior Year Course Load: 1st semester: AP Stats, Independent CS Studies Course, Intro Sociology (DE), AP Gov, Linear Algebra (DE), random elective at school 2nd semester: AP Stats, Independent CS Studies Course, Differential Equations (DE), Discrete Math (DE) (Light af this semester to cope w/ senioritis) Standardized Testing SAT I: No take ACT: 34 (36E, 36M, 32R, 33S) SAT II: Nope AP/IB: Human Geography (5), APUSH (5), Computer Science A (5), Psychology (5), Physics C: Mechanics (4... yikes) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): \ud83d\ude45 Extracurriculars/Activities #1 CS Club Founder and President #2 Orchestra and Solo Violin #3 Mock Trial Attorney #4 Selective?? Summer Program at MIT #5 Math Instructor (as a job) #6 Volunteer Math and Physics Tutor at school and my Dual Enrollment University #7 Software Engineering Group Project #8 Summer Externship #9 Published a fictional book on Amazon lmao #10 Didn't list as an EC but I went to MIT's fly-in (WISE) Awards/Honors #1 Commended Student #2 National African American Recognition Program #3 First place in local engineering competition 2 years in a row out of 115 participants #4 AP Scholar with Distinction #5 Student of the Month #6 Some orchestra-related awards Letters of Recommendation AP CSA teacher (9/10): Had this teacher since sophomore year, did well in the class and was the only non-trouble maker. Also supervised my CS Club. APUSH teacher (7/10): Did well in the

class and test, got along with them but honestly idk what they wrote about me. Could have participated more in the class tbh. LOR from MIT summer program (???/10): Pretty sure they think I'm an idiot LMAO Interviews - MIT (8/10): I was terrified of my interviewer at first \ud83d\ude2d But it actually went well and they were intrigued by my niche hobbies (that I didn't list as ECs) and passion for Linear Algebra proofs. - Cornell (5/10): Virtual, I asked stupid, googleable questions, but non-evaluative. Need I say more? - Duke (6/10): Pretty mid, didn't mess anything up but I don't think they were impressed. - Harvard (8.5/10): I think it went well, only because I do Mock Trial lol Essays Common App was mid as hell (just wrote about my passion for CS), supplementals were fire though Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: - The Ohio State University EA (Morrill Scholarship) - Case Western Reserve University EA (\$45k/year merit scholarship) - MIT EA (almost no aid, but I appealed and am waiting anxiously) - Purdue EA - Local university EA, near 90% acceptance rate - University of Michigan EA (\$15k/year merit scholarship) - University of Maryland EA (Presidential Scholarship) - University of Wisconsin-Madison EA (full tuition + stipend) - University of Virginia EA - Vanderbilt University RD (Cornelius Vanderbilt scholarship) - Harvard University RD Waitlists: - UIUC CS (EA, deferred initially) - Northwestern University (RD) - Cornell University (RD) - Columbia University (RD) Rejections: - UNC Chapel Hill (EA) - Georgia Tech (EA II) - Caltech (RD) - Duke University (RD) Wow. Just wow. I got rejected from a school I thought I had a decent chance at (UNC), but accepted to Harvard and MIT. Either affirmative action or proof that college admissions is random af. Anyway I think I will be a future Commodore cuz financial aid sucks!! ANCHOR DOWN!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UC Irvine UC Davis Case Western UNC Chapel Hill + honors UC BERKELEY!!!! REFLECTION + ADVICE I thought I had everything. I checked all the boxes - GPA, SAT, way too many AP classes for my sanity, volunteering, research, a sport, leadership, debate. I couldn't help but wonder what I was doing wrong. Although there were times I thought \"it's so over\" and felt severely humbled, I still won on ivy day somehow without getting into any ivies (berkeley 2028!) I am very lucky to attend college at all and I am grateful for how everything worked out, Now for the very-much-cliched advice, if anyone even bothers to read this far (source: i have been in the trenches) If I could give yall who frequent this sub one piece of advice, it would be that your time and your mental health are your most valuable resources. Protect them at all costs. this goes hand in hand with the last one, but don't procrastinate. seriously. think long and hard about your essays and don't do what i did (write them 30 minutes before the deadline) This is cliché, but being a good person goes a long way. It is a DIFFICULT and ACTIVE

CHOICE to be nice to people, to be that one person who seeks to spread positivity. Seriously, the world of college apps is so negative, don't make it worse :] College admissions might be a game, but kindness and passion do pay off. It will show in your writing, how you spend your time, how your teachers see you. It's tempting to do things just for boosting your resume. However, if you genuinely do what you like, you will naturally gravitate towards success in that area, avoiding burnout along the way. \"Applying sideways\" is real. don't be a prestige whore :) Thank you, A2C. From this subreddit, I've gotten 2 whole years of misery, yet some of the best life wisdom I still think about on a daily basis. It's been a good run, but I'm outta here <3\",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: California Income Bracket: 150k Type of School: Private Intended Major(s): neuroscience/public health Academics GPA: 4.0 # of AP/DE: 15 AP classes, all 5s so far SAT: 1590 Extracurriculars/Activities (purposely vague but tbh none of them were high impact enough to be doxxable) Selective Research Program (edit: for those asking it's called UC COSMOS and i do not think it helped my application) Independent research project, pending publication, presented at 2 conferences Artist w/ decent online following Debate team captain HOSA chapter president Local leadership position 4 year varsity sport Various volunteer activities Briefly worked at a startup (it was for like 2 months) Awards/Honors: (list here) Award from a research conference Debate awards Local community service award Scholastic art awards National merit scholar Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/grade) Essays: Mediocre overall but it was the best I could do, an honest 5/10 Submitted an art portfolio for schools that allowed it, I would give it 8/10 Interviews: Rice - 8/10 pretty standard Harvard - 3/10 Slightly confusing... My interviewer was implying that I would get rejected so he gave me transfer application advice instead of actually interviewing me? Northwestern - 10/10. Interviewer was someone I had a connection to personally (had no idea this was even allowed) and they were REALLY nice and helpful. It went for like 2 hours and most of the conversation wasn't even related to college. We are still in regular contact. In all honesty, LORS were probably where I screwed up. I suffered from untreated mental illness and severe burnout for the entirety of hs and was definitely not a \"teachers' favorite\" type of student. But who am I to know Decisions Waitlist: UCLA UCSD (this one was devastating because UCSD was my \"realistic\" dream school) Rice Rejections: Stanford USC Northwestern Yale Harvard Brown Duke Acceptances: UC Irvine UC Davis Case Western UNC Chapel Hill + honors UC BERKELEY!!!! REFLECTION + ADVICE I thought I had everything. I checked all the boxes - GPA, SAT, way too many AP classes for my sanity, volunteering, research, a sport, leadership, debate. I couldn't help but wonder what I was doing wrong. Although there were times I thought \"it's so over\" and felt severely humbled, I still won on ivy day somehow without getting into any ivies (berkeley 2028!) I am very lucky to attend college at all and I am grateful for how everything worked out, Now for the very-much-cliched advice, if anyone

even bothers to read this far (source: i have been in the trenches) If I could give yall who frequent this sub one piece of advice, it would be that your time and your mental health are your most valuable resources. Protect them at all costs. this goes hand in hand with the last one, but don't procrastinate. seriously. think long and hard about your essays and don't do what i did (write them 30 minutes before the deadline) This is cliché, but being a good person goes a long way. It is a DIFFICULT and ACTIVE CHOICE to be nice to people, to be that one person who seeks to spread positivity. Seriously, the world of college apps is so negative, don't make it worse :) College admissions might be a game, but kindness and passion do pay off. It will show in your writing, how you spend your time, how your teachers see you. It's tempting to do things just for boosting your resume. However, if you genuinely do what you like, you will naturally gravitate towards success in that area, avoiding burnout along the way. \"Applying sideways\" is real. don't be a prestige whore :) Thank you, A2C. From this subreddit, I've gotten 2 whole years of misery, yet some of the best life wisdom I still think about on a daily basis. It's been a good run, but I'm outta here <3"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: \* Reed College (RD) Oberlin College (35k yearly merit aid, or really 25k if I don't count the scholarship they give for enrolling) (RD) UC Davis (n/a) UC Riverside (n/a) UC Merced (n/a) CU Boulder (6.25k yearly merit aid) (RD) Hampshire College (35k yearly merit aid) (RD) \*\*",

"answer": "A: Think there's a dearth of not-quite success stories here, and so here I am. \*\*Demographics\*\* gender: male race/ethnicity: south + se asian (the actual/specific combination is kind of wild) residence: northern california income bracket: \$350,000+ type of school: public hooks: none? technically URM but I doubt any of the schools I applied to really saw me as one. \*\*Intended Major(s)\*\* econ or public policy, minor in french \*\*Academics\*\* GPA (UW/W): 3.96, not sure what weighted is. UC UW is 4.0, W 4.33 Rank: school doesn't rank # of Honors/AP/DE: 11 senior year course load: AP Lit, AP Stats, AP Gov, econ (AP not offered at school), IT, psych, band \*\*Standardized Testing\*\* SAT: 1560 (770 ERW, 790M) AP: 5 Bio, 5 USH, 5 Lang, 5 Macro, 4 Micro \*\*ECs/Activities\*\* Family responsibilities (10, 11, 12, 15 hr a week) - caring for terminally ill relative Chair of (very weird) mock legislature (participated 9, 10, 11, 12, chair 10-11, 10 hr a week) - organized, moderated debates, tabulated votes Editor for school literary magazine (participated 10, 11, 12, editor 11-12, 3 hr a week) - made and edited submissions to school literary magazine Section leader for marching band (in band 9, 10, 11, leader 12, 10 hr a week outside of school) Music teaching assistant (10, 11, 4 hr a week) - taught elementary kids clarinet over summer Clarinetist in wind ensemble (9,

10, 11, 12, 4 hr a week) Amateur (?) pianist (9, 10, 11, 12, I forget how many hrs a week) - played piano. sometimes in public, both informally and at recitals. very emotionally important. MTAC level 9 + advanced level certificates w/ state honors member of JSA (11, 12, 1 hr a week) - didn't really do anything except participate in mock congresses, though **\*\*Awards/Honors\*\*** AP Scholar w/ Distinction MTAC level 9 + advanced level certificate w/ state honors for piano **\*\*Letters of Recommendation\*\*** APUSH teacher. 8/10. Participated quite heavily in her class, ended w/ a really high grade, but we weren't very close. AP Bio teacher: 7/10. Wrote myself; teacher said that it was her \"favorite\" ever, but I honestly think she was just being nice. **\*\*Essays\*\*** Mostly rushed. CommonApp personal statement was very odd reflection on personal identity, decentish; UC PIQs even more bizarre, definitely worse, made me seem (more than) a little manic Most of my supplementals were bland filler **\*\*Decisions\*\*** **\*Acceptances:** Reed College (RD) Oberlin College (35k yearly merit aid, or really 25k if I don't count the scholarship they give for enrolling) (RD) UC Davis (n/a) UC Riverside (n/a) UC Merced (n/a) CU Boulder (6.25k yearly merit aid) (RD) Hampshire College (35k yearly merit aid) (RD) **\*Waitlists:** UC Berkeley (n/a) Vassar College (RD) Bates College (RD) UC San Diego (n/a) **\*Rejections\*** Columbia/Sciences Po (n/a) UCLA (n/a) UC Irvine (n/a) **\*\*Additional information\*\*** Firstly, as a note for future applicants, though it might be obvious - UCLA's requests for additional info (supplemental questionnaire, augmented review, etc.) ARE NOT REQUESTS FOR YOU TO WRITE THEM MORE ESSAYS. They don't want a story; they want concrete information, information even barer than what you'd write for a PIQ, about either a special talent or a limitation - ex. how much time something took up, what opportunities you might have turned down because of something, what special things you accomplished in some obscure area and why they are special, etc. Please, don't make the mistake I made and write them some long feel-good narrative about yourself. List the facts - and nothing else. Moving on, I'm really not sure whether I punched above or below my weight; I lean towards one or the other depending on my mood. I think I might have gotten better results had I applied to more universities, or spent more time on my essays, but there's no use in crying over spilled milk. Nevertheless, I really like - and am definitely excited to go to whichever one I end up picking - the colleges I got accepted to, though it would be nice to get another acceptance off a waitlist, as unlikely as that may be."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Brown (ED) deferred ---> ACCEPTED RD OMG OMG OMG OGM GOM GGOMGSDOAMG UNC Chapel Hill (EA) (Robertson Scholarship semifinalist, but rejected in the end) URochester (17K Dean's scholarship + 3.5K RIG Grant + Meliora

Scholars program) UW Seattle (4.2K Purple and Gold Scholarship + Honors College)  
Various state schools (omitting for privacy lol)",

"answer": "A: Demographics: Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Asian-American  
Residence: Southern USA Income Bracket: did not apply for aid (thank you parents!!)  
Type of School: Private Hooks: None as far as I know? No legacy Intended Major(s):  
Anthropology + Chem @ Brown, URochester, and USC, just Anthropology (or  
undecided) everywhere else Academics: GPA: (3.9UW/4.6W) (weighting scale--at my  
school regular classes are out of 4.0, advanced/honors of 4.5, AP of 5.0) Rank (or  
percentile): top 10% 11 APs, buncha honors idk, no DE Senior Year Course Load: AP  
US Gov, AP Calc BC, AP AfAm Studies, AP Chem, AP Euro Standardized Testing: SAT:  
1570 (780RW/790M) (taken once) ACT: did not submit AP/IB: AP World (5), APUSH (5),  
AP Lang (5), AP CS A (5), AP Calc AB (5), AP Spanish Lang (4) Awards/Honors: (trying  
to be as vague as possible with this + ECs LOL SORRY) \$5,000 grant (part of a larger  
national STEM engineering process competition... grant was for projects with \"potential  
to improve local communities\") Scholastic Writing Award: Gold key x1 (regional), silver  
medal x1 (national) Seal of Biliteracy (Spanish) National Merit Semifinalist School Award  
for top 10% of class Extracurriculars/Activities: Used aforementioned grant to co-create  
local plastic recycling facility for unrecyclable plastics Volunteering at local mutual aid  
org Theater tech crew Volunteering with local environmental justice org, spoke at city  
council Model UN leadership Student Council Volunteer at hospital during COVID  
Volunteer at \"free citizenship fairs\" for mostly SEA immigrants in my community Helped  
with grad student's research, ran some of his first participants in child national  
essentialism study (essentially seeing if kids assume nationality differently for White vs  
non-White children) Worked at kids theater camp building sets Letters of  
Recommendation: not going to rate because i have no point of reference but! #1: My  
math teacher + homeroom teacher, she's known me since Freshman year and has  
taught me math 3 years in a row. She's really seen me grow both in and out of the  
classroom. I adore her. #2: My English teacher, I had her freshman and junior year.  
She's watched my writing grow so much (and frankly read so many personal essays  
that were a little... too personal hahahaha). She told me she mentioned how she sees  
me as very creative and good at thinking outside the box (which awww... i've really  
never thought of myself as a creative person so this made my day!!!! i love her so much)  
#3: Counselor, was probably pretty boiler plate, I know she likes me but definitely  
doesn't know me super well personally. I filled out a \"get to know me\" form for her,  
though! Interviews: Georgetown: It went... okayyy... my interviewer was super sweet, but  
I was awkward and probably said too much at some points. Still felt pretty okay  
afterwards. Yale: Felt really good after this one. My interviewer was a fellow theater kid,  
so we definitely bonded over that. Again, probably said a little too much at some points,  
but overall this one went better than Georgetown! UPenn: This one was.. weird?? We  
facetimed(?) for literally 5 minutes, I answered his 2 questions and then he said

goodbye. He also seemed to be in the middle of a party of some sort? Idk. Didn't really know what to think. Essays: Wrote about how I like to try new things for my main essay. For supplementals, I talked about mostly my social justice/advocacy work... Happy to go in more detail in pms if anyone wants!! Writing quality was varied, but I'd like to think generally pretty good across the board. Also, I'm an artist and created a small animation for my Brown video :) Decisions: (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Brown (ED) deferred ---> ACCEPTED RD OMG OMG OMG OGM GOM GGOMGSDOAMG UNC Chapel Hill (EA) (Robertson Scholarship semifinalist, but rejected in the end) URochester (17K Dean's scholarship + 3.5K RIG Grant + Meliora Scholars program) UW Seattle (4.2K Purple and Gold Scholarship + Honors College) Various state schools (omitting for privacy lol) Waitlists: Barnard Rejections: Georgetown Northwestern UPenn USC (Southern California not South Carolina) Yale final thoughts IT REALLY ONLY TAKES ONE!!!!!!!!!!!! I was on a 6 reach school rejection streak when I opened Brown (7 if you count the Robertson scholars lol).. i'm still shaking, i feel like this is a mistake that will be withdrawn any second. I never saw myself wanting an ivy league until I discovered Brown late Junior year and knew i needed to be there... I'm so excited and shocked and frankly in disbelief. I'm still shaking!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

OMG!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! To future seniors: my biggest advice is whatever you do, PLEASEEE at least start the majority of your RD essays before your early decisions come out. No matter how busy you are with school, personal life, whatever, I promise you it is infinitely more miserable trying to get everything done when you have to combine all that with the dejection of getting rejected from a dream school... totally not speaking from experience... To younger students: don't spend your entire high school life doing things just to display on a college application. I only did things that were interesting or meaningful to me, and I'm so glad I experienced high school that way! First, although I really had no clue what exactly drew me to my activities at the time, looking back on everything I found common threads of interest I built my essays around. Also, Even when I was sad about my rejections, I never once felt like I wasted my time in high school. This is not me saying you should just sit on your ass and do nothing, but rather to invest your time and energy into things you genuinely enjoy and will grow from, even if they seem random or \u201c\u201dunimpressive\u201d\u201d at the time! Also, my family never hired outside college counseling/SAT help or anything. I know these resources can be suuuper helpful, but don't let anyone convince you they are necessary to get into a top school! I'm living proof! (Khan academy for free SAT stuff btw ;) ) Happy to talk more about my application if anyone wants!! This sub was really useful to me when I was applying, so I'm eager to add my experiences into the mix :) just comment or pm me whenever"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Early decision: Cornell (deferred) Rd: Cornell (deferred\u2014accepted) UPenn (accepted) Duke (accepted) Amherst (accepted) Williams (accepted) John Hopkins (the most unexpected acceptance, submitted the application 6 days late) Wellesley (accepted) UVA (accepted) UNC with honors (accepted) Fordham prelaw (accepted) Stony brook (accepted) Binghamton (accepted) Syracuse (waitlisted) Tufts (waitlisted) Dartmouth (waitlisted) Northeastern (rejected) Closing: For juniors who are looking for pieces of advice: Frame your essays so they are show a clear picture of who you are and the multifaceted person you can be Make sure to show your essays to teachers before asking them for rec letters. This was a trick I used because those teachers that I asked recs for were very last minute. This helps them warm up to you anddddd help them get to know you well. never ever ever let one rejection/deferral/waitlist make you lose confidence. When I got deferred by Cornell, I was devastated. Crushed actually. However, I kinda turned that devastation into rage for grinding out the supps during winter break (which ngl was toxic af but it worked. Figured I work best when salty). Always always always ask for help from those seniors a year ahead of you who have graduated and are in colleges you want to apply to. Reach out to them via Insta, or any social media you used. These people can turn into mentors for you. If it comes down to it\u2014 whether it be you running out of time to write the essays or trying to finish an app\u2014 PRIORITIZE COLLEGE APPS OVER SCHOOL.",

"answer": "A: Hey guys! This is my first time doing this so here we go Gender: Female Race: Asian Residence: NYC income: low income first generation Type of school: specialized NY high school Intended major: (this is where i mix it up with the schools I applied to) : political science, art, art history, international relations GPA: 101.14 Weighted Rank: 14/450 of Ap classes: 8 Testing: Test Optional ECs (keeping it vague to prevent doxing) Founder of a portfolio prep organization (i mentored around 30-40 kids) Newspaper co president Student teacher at local art studio internship Creative director of a feminist publication Hope club co president Mentoring organization chapter president for school Board member of mental health initiative Freelance digital artist school\u2019s art department outreach initiative Internship at a small environmental organization in NYC (pm me for more info this organization was so amazing and the people i met were the kindest and most compassionate people I\u2019ve ever met) Awards: Congressional Art Competition First place 2023 and second place 2022, Scholastic Art and writing Gold Key (3x) and silver key (3x), Celebrating Art High Merit, Posse scholar semi finalist, Ap scholar with honor LORs: Art teacher: 10/10, her rec letter was 2 pages, I made her cry by accident with my personal statement and she saw my art portfolio\u2014 said it was \u201camazing\u201d but then again she said that to everybody\u2019s portfolio Ap comp gov teacher: 10/10 I have him only this year, and he is club advisor for the newspaper. Absolute G, sent in his rec letter late but I knew it absolutely carried my application. We even share the

same birthday and love for anime. This man is the GOAT Ap environmental teacher: 8/10 I was an active participant in his class junior year, wasn't too close tho  
 Guidance counselor: 10/10 his rec letter served as proof of the type of person i tried to demonstrate myself to be in my essays. The sweetest person ever Essays: Supplementals in general: I used very concise and simple language, and connected my love for art and politics together though none of my activities were about politics. I still made them connect to politics and social justice. Personal statement: The beginning was very catchy. What I did that was DIFFERENT is I used the metaphor of a security camera to describe my family situation and connect that to my passion for being a support system for others. Finally then connecting that to my activities surrounding mentorship and to social justice Acceptances: Early decision: Cornell (deferred) Rd: Cornell (deferred\u2014accepted) UPenn (accepted) Duke (accepted) Amherst (accepted) Williams (accepted) John Hopkins (the most unexpected acceptance, submitted the application 6 days late) Wellesley (accepted) UVA (accepted) UNC with honors (accepted) Fordham prelaw (accepted) Stony brook (accepted) Binghamton (accepted) Syracuse (waitlisted) Tufts (waitlisted) Dartmouth (waitlisted) Northeastern (rejected) Closing: For juniors who are looking for pieces of advice: Frame your essays so they are show a clear picture of who you are and the multifaceted person you can be Make sure to show your essays to teachers before asking them for rec letters. This was a trick I used because those teachers that I asked recs for were very last minute. This helps them warm up to you anddddddd help them get to know you well. never ever ever let one rejection/deferral/waitlist make you lose confidence. When I got deferred by Cornell, I was devastated. Crushed actually. However, I kinda turned that devastation into rage for grinding out the supps during winter break (which ngl was toxic af but it worked. Figured I work best when salty). Always always always ask for help from those seniors a year ahead of you who have graduated and are in colleges you want to apply to. Reach out to them via Insta, or any social media you used. These people can turn into mentors for you. If it comes down to it\u2014 whether it be you running out of time to write the essays or trying to finish an app\u2014 PRIORITIZE COLLEGE APPS OVER SCHOOL."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UC Berkeley UC Santa Barbara (Early, regents) UCLA (for undeclared tho) UC Irvine UC Merced UCSD USC (EA and said 3rd choice school :D) Cal Poly SJSU SDSU Northwestern University Northeastern University Boston University Purdue (EA) NYU",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian-American (Taiwanese, Chinese) Residence: California Income Bracket: Upper class Type of

School: Suburban, public Hooks: Legacy at JHU Intended Major(s): Biological Sciences (applied Biomedical Engineering to CalTech, MIT, Brown and Columbia) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.54W, 3.91UW Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 12 APs, 2 honors Standardized Testing SAT: 1600 (superscore, 1550 highest) AP/IB: AP Euro (4), APES (5), APUSH (4), AP Bio (5), APCSP (5), AP Calc BC (3), haven't taken the others yet. Extracurriculars/Activities Paid lab intern for biopharma company Attended biotech company networking events and learned a lot about startups Paid data analyst intern Research in organ-printing and tissue development at a T10 school Small for-profit aquarium business Founded a small non-profit organization to support a hospital in NY School tutor Board member of major volunteering club Kendo student Awards/Honors PVSA 1st place regional in Kendo competition 2nd place state in Kendo competition AP Scholar with Distinction USACO Gold (I used to be a computer science major \ud83d\udc80) Letters of Recommendation (not gonna rate them) APCSP teacher: He liked me, and I sometimes helped with things after class. AP Bio teacher: He had me for 2 years, with freshman gen bio and AP bio so he knew me pretty well. Interviews (not gonna rate them) Stanford: Probably my favorite interview, we talked a lot about stuff in my essays, etc. Essays Common App: People seemed to like it, but I thought it was weak. I talked about how going through treatment for my disease taught me a lot about resilience and the importance of independence. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: UC Berkeley UC Santa Barbara (Early, regents) UCLA (for undeclared tho) UC Irvine UC Merced UCSD USC (EA and said 3rd choice school :D) Cal Poly SJSU SDSU Northwestern University Northeastern University Boston University Purdue (EA) NYU Waitlists: UC Davis Columbia University (I got a likely letter here) Brown University MIT (huh \ud83d\udc80) Stanford University Rejections: Johns Hopkins (Deferred ED1, rejected ED2) CalTech Awaiting: I got hella lucky all things considered. Since I made the shift to biology near Junior year, I had little time to figure out what to do with that. Most of my essays were scattered, and I was worried about them. I was confused by Columbia at first since I was told that letter meant I was gonna get in for sure, but my senior grades were ass so I kinda get it. Since I'm not really allowed to go out of state for non-ivy schools, it looks like USC is my top choice. Anyways, thanks everyone and good luck!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Santa Clara University Boston University UC Davis UC Santa Barbara UC Santa Cruz UC Berkeley!!!!!! (for statistics)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: chinese american Residence: sf bay area Income Bracket: too high for fasfa Type of School: public

competitive HS (class size close to 700) Hooks: none Intended Major (s): Data Science / Statistics Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.34 Rank (or percentile): no ranking within my school but at least top 15% # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: by senior year 10 APs + 2 honors (not allowed any weighted classes freshman year + took 4 APs and 1 HR junior year) Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Micro, AP Macro, AP Lit, AP Japanese, AP CSA, Art, American History Standardized Testing SAT I: 1450 (660RW, 790M) AP/IB: 4 on AP world history, 5 on psych, 5 on stats Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Summer Camp Counselor (4 years every summer since 8th grade, 50 hours a week w close to 0 pay) #2 Photography Club President (Created the club w my friends to help people learn about photography ) 2 hrs a week 12th grade #3 Job Internship (basically an internship to allow students to learn basic job skills + get a chance to experience what they might wanna pursue 10 hrs/ week during 10th grade) #4 Prom Committee Historian (helped with organizing and fundraising for my schools prom dance on a boat + was the photographer for the dance) 4 hrs a week 11th, 12th #5 Honor Society (80 kids out of the entire grade get chosen + tons of volunteer hours for helping out teachers and school events) 3 hrs a week, 11th, 12th #6 Japanese National Honor Society (JNHS) Member (more volunteering for the school but specifically helping out after class for my japanese teacher) 3 hrs a week, 10th, 11th, 12th #7 Red Cross (even more volunteering but now for the city and helping out setting up + monitoring events) 2 hrs a week, 10th, 11th, 12th Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. (close to none :( ) #1 AP Scholar Award #2 State Seal of Biliteracy Letters of Recommendation 8/10 - Stats teacher, had her junior year and kept a good relationship with her and TA ed for her senior year 9/10 - Japanese teacher, known her since sophomore year and have been always helping after class and stuff for JNHS so pretty close relationship Essays I thought they were pretty okay but like most of my friends who read it say they were kind of mid so i don't really know if they were good or not. Personally I liked them because I was able to get the point across and fully say what I wanted to say. Talked about my experiences from my ECs like photography, summer camp counselor, internship, could've probably talked more about my thought process instead of what I did so I rate it 6/10 Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Santa Clara University Boston University UC Davis UC Santa Barbara UC Santa Cruz UC Berkeley!!!!!! (for statistics) Waitlists: UCLA UCSD Rejections: USC (EA) Deferred --> Rejected UC Irvine NYU Additional Information: I'm pretty happy with my results, tbh thought I was a goner till today. I was pretty nervous but Berkeley pulled through!!! Most likely will commit if I don't get off the LA waitlist. also no more worrying about college so i can return to playing roblox everyday B)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Safeties: Texas A&M, UT Dallas, University of Minnesota, ASU University of Wisconsin-Madison Northeastern (deferred EA -> admitted N.U.in) Purdue University of Texas at Austin (priority) University of Maryland (admitted letters and sciences so basically rejection) University of Washington (admitted pre-sciences so basically rejection) UC Irvine",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Texas Income Bracket: High Type of School: big not-very-highly-ranked public hs Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s) : CS, EECS (MIT, Berkeley), CS+X (UIUC) Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW 5.6 W Rank (or percentile): ~5th percentile # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 Honors, 11 AP, 7 DE Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Stats, Computer Architecture (DE), Psych (DE), Earth Science (DE), AP Lit, Drone Aviation, Mobile App Development, Orchestra Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1490 (770RW, 720M) not reported ACT: 35 (34E, 35M, 36R, 33S) AP: 5: AB, Phys 1, Lang, Chem, World History, CSA, Human Geo 4: Bio Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. taught coding for a nonprofit org (11/12), became a vp, remade curriculum, got pvsa organized first hackathon in my city (11), raised a decent amount of money, made some custom software internship (11) for a developer tooling company, did some backend programming, wrote a few tests \"worked\" (unpaid) (11/12) at an ai company, did some backend programming and some linux server stuff there orchestra (9-12), was officer in 11 and 12 (note: i'm really bad at orchestra) quiz bowl (11/12), president in 12, team captained at ~4 tournaments, qualified for nats (after college apps submitted \ud83d\ude80) disability awareness nonprofit (11/12), was chief information officer, raised some money music honor society (10-12), was treasurer in 12th, basically just attended meetings in 9 and 10, redesigned website in 12 to make it user friendly hack club (11/12), founder, made lessons, managed internet stuff mu alpha theta (9-12), didnt really do anything science natl honor society (11/12), participated in chem olympiad (didnt qualify for nationals), did science uil (did pretty good once) deca (10-12), didnt even go to comp in 10th, got to states in 11th, didnt get to states in 12th robotics (11/12) - did VEX and FTC, got to VEX states after college apps submitted with like a week to make the robot did some coding projects (9-12), mostly discord bots and like a CLI tool 11-14 were not listed on most of my college apps, but they were in my resume Awards/Honors (these are really really really bad) List all awards and honors submitted on your application. mathworks m3 challenge top 25% award, international (11th) ap scholar with distinction, international (11th) deca state qualifier, local (11th) pvsa 2x, national (11th, 12th) violin solo award

thing, local (10th, 11th) mathworks m3 challenge honorable mention (top 6%),  
 international (12th, didnt put on college apps) Letters of Recommendation idk i cant  
 estimate these but i'll try ig ap lang teacher (8/10) - I mean he said I was one of his best  
 students that year, didn't use a resume or anything, so hopefully it was pretty genuine?  
 ap chem and earth sci teacher (7/10) - I think she likes me, a lot of people ask for rec  
 letters from her so i would assume shes pretty good at writing them calc bc teacher  
 (????/10) - this was literally only for cornell since they need math teacher rec, he  
 finished in like 2 days so i assume he probably just resume cypypasted quiz bowl coach  
 (7/10) - I'm assuming it was pretty good, idk how many recs she writes though since she  
 only teaches sophomores cs tutoring mentor person (??/10) - honestly no clue abt this  
 one, I did pretty good work at the org tho Interviews mit - I really liked my interviewer, it  
 was basically just me and him talking about public transit the whole time, and we both  
 did robotics Essays Personal statement (5/10) - was pretty weak imo simply because I  
 wrote it in August, revised it like twice in September with my lang teacher and never  
 looked at it again, it was about me repairing phone during covid and how it taught me  
 stuff about computer science Supps (5-8/10) - i thought some of them were ok ish, i  
 didn't really spend much time on any supplements, i kinda just wrote them and then  
 stopped, i thought my ut ones were the best as i wrote them at the end of EA  
 applications. wrote about either public transit or being indian for community ones,  
 making flappy bird for why major ones, and cs teaching for volunteer ones Decisions  
 (EA unless otherwise stated) Acceptances: Safeties: Texas A&M, UT Dallas, University  
 of Minnesota, ASU University of Wisconsin-Madison Northeastern (deferred EA ->  
 admitted N.U.in) Purdue University of Texas at Austin (priority) University of Maryland  
 (admitted letters and sciences so basically rejection) University of Washington (admitted  
 pre-sciences so basically rejection) UC Irvine Waitlists: UIUC (deferred EA) UCLA (RD)  
 UCSD (RD) Rejections: Georgia Tech MIT UC Berkeley (RD) Columbia (RD) Cornell  
 (RD) Rice (RD) Additional Information: getting rejected from MIT was kinda sad since  
 that was my \"dream school\" and they literally defer like 60% of people. Honestly, I'm so  
 happy I got into UT (even though it isn't like a2c level good), that was literally like the  
 best case scenario no matter what since its like super close to home, cheap, it has a  
 very good CS program, and I have a lot friends going there. my only advice for  
 applicants is don't take advice from me since I didn't really get into good schools and be  
 in state for a really good school for your major. also probably don't apply to 4 safeties  
 lmao, I just applied to asu so i could get a W early and umn because it was free"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 UT Turing",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Texas Income Bracket: Full pay Type of school: Large competitive public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.7 Rank: top 1% Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 14 APs Senior Year Course Load: AP Bio, AP Lit, AP Macro, AP Gov, Multivariable Calculus Standardized Testing SAT: 1580 (800M); AP: 5's on 8/10 taken; NMSF Awards/Honors USACO Gold USAPHO semifinalist 5x AIME Qual (high score 8) State science fair winner UKTOC qual in competitive event Extracurriculars Competitive programming: participated pretty regularly on online comps (codeforces, GCJ, Meta Hacker Cup, etc) Science fair: competed throughout high school Speech and Debate: 30+ tournaments, local awards + help run meetings CS Internship #1 - presented at intl conference CS Internship #2 - paper in the pipeline Community service stuff, mostly tutoring (200+ hours) TA for a coding academy (paid) Leadership positions at various orgs/school Letters of Recommendation AP Chemistry: (7/10) Have a semi-close relationship. She was also the science fair lead so she had a high opinion of me. APUSH (4.5/10): Chill teacher but no idea what he wrote (sophomore yr), most likely a generic letter. Research mentor: (8/10) Thought I was the smartest high schooler he's known, was probably pretty decent Interviews Had interviews for MIT, Harvard, Duke, and Yale. MIT was a little iffy but the other ones went well Essays Not even going to try to rate these, but I thought they were alright; talked about research and teaching others through volunteering, common app was about dealing with chronic illness. Language was pretty straightforward. Decisions Acceptances: UT Turing Waitlists: Cornell Rice CMU Rejections: MIT (Deferred -> Rejected) Harvard Duke Yale Columbia UCs (UCB+LA) Caltech Princeton Reflections I'm happy with UT, but it feels bad not getting in anywhere else (I thought I had a shot at Duke and probably would have taken it over turing) although my list was pretty ambitious. To future seniors, please please please forge good relations with your junior yr teachers\u2014rec letters matter. Also, if you're not cracked out of your mind in stem (think oly camp+, sts top 40/isef winner), nothing is a guarantee. Instead of grinding ecs, pick up a book or find a way to become a more interesting person in order to craft a unique narrative through your essays."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Purdue Georgia Tech! <- considering UW Wisconsin Madison UW Seattle pre-sciences UC Davis Cal Poly SLO <- considering UCR UCM UCSC (Regents) Santa Clara CMU Information Systems! <- considering as well ASU UMN-Twin Cities + full ride Waitlists (so many): UIUC UMich Harvey Mudd UC Berkeley :( UCLA Cornell UPenn (how?) Harvard (how??) NYU Boston University Rejections : Stanford (lol) MIT (lol) UCI (unexpected ngl) UCSD UCSB USC Amherst Northwestern (the interviewer lied smh)

Columbia :( Duke Additional Information: Should I go to CMU information systems or Georgia Tech CS?",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race: south asian Residence: Yay Area Income Bracket: upper-middle (\$200K+) Type of School: semi-competitive public (yay!) Hooks: almost 6ft on a good day Intended Major(s): CS or adjacent subject Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.54 Rank (or percentile): Top 5% confirmed of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 Honors, 11 APs, 2 DE Senior Year Course Load: AP Physics C E&M, AP Physics C Mechanics, AP Stats, AP Lit, AP Gov, Economics Honors, Newspaper, Robotics, DE math/programming class at community college Standardized Testing SAT: 1570 (780W, 790M) AP: 5s on every AP; Calc BC, Lang, CS, Phys 1, APUSH, AP Euro Extracurriculars/Activities Stanford CS Lab internship (10-12): Won't go into details but basically helped hundreds journalists by doing some data stuff for a Stanford professor, got this one through cold emailing. 2 Magazine internship (9-12): Wrote 11 articles for 500,000 readers on various community issues, got trolled by political extremists from India 3 News App (11-12): Inspired by work in stanford internship, made a related app on my own with 11,000 users that sorted news by bias using an algorithm I made (i hate fox i hate fox i hate fox). 4 FRC Robotics (10-12): Captain, semifinalists at the Houston Championships (Einstein Field), or about top 1% in the world. 5 Volunteering/Partnership with City library (11-12): created a program that taught elderly people how to avoid scams, based on my own funny experiences trolling scammers in my native language. 6 School Tutoring Program (9-12): President, led ~50 volunteers a semester, pissed off the tutoring center down the street. 7. School Newspaper Editor (11-12): wrote ~60 articles; doubled traffic on the website using SEO magic 8 Math and Coding Clubs (9-12): President, hosted a math competition at school with ~10 participants, participated in local math competitions (got our asses kicked by other bay area kids). Oversaw record numbers of AIME qualifiers. 9. Advisory Board for Congressperson (11): Researched and gave policy proposals on data to 10. Free 8 week research program at Stanford (11), did some cool stuff like AI generated limericks and magazine. 11. Summer job teaching code (10-11): Invented my own curriculum because my boss didn't know how to do code, was the most requested tutor at workplace. Awards/Honors 1 Scholastic Writing Award that would dox me, they give it to 40 people a year out of 320,000 2. Congressional Recognition for my writing and advisory board service 3. Journalism essay competition winner, with scholarship 4. National Merit Finalist 5 Math Department Award 3x for highest AMC Score 6. Random Hackathon wins 7. National Geography Championship qualifier (easier than the title suggests) 8. Robotics team regional wins and Worlds division win 9. AIME (1x, then never again) 10. USACO Silver (lol) Letters of Recommendation AP Calc BC (7/10): She sponsors math club and therefore likes me, pretty good teacher and I participated in her class. Also seemed pretty invested into getting me into a good college, however I might have misunderstood her since she can be hard to read. English 10 Honors (9/10): He's



almost my age and I'm practically friends with him, he said he wrote me a "very special" letter that was "different from the others" because I'm supposedly "one of the best writers [he] has ever had" (almost cried hearing this). Counselor (7/10): She doesn't know me that well because it's her first year at my school, but she's an absolutely GOATED counselor who asked my boss at Stanford as well as my AP Euro teacher (who also likes me a lot) Interviews: Stanford: (7.5/10) went OK, he seemed interested in me and told me I'd get into a good school MIT: (5/10) over zoom, she seemed pretty bored and asked generic questions, I in turn gave generic answers. I asked her favorite learning from MIT that she uses in her career and she got offended... Northwestern: (10/10) perfect interview went for hours, we have the same personality and agree on basically everything and he gave me great life advice too. Cornell: (8/10) basic informational interview except I finally got good at interviews by then Essays My EA essays and UC essays could have been better since they were my first essays that I wrote. My personal statement was about how the conflict between two sides of my family being from different religions was the initial spark for my curiosity about the world. My RD essays were much better, for about 4 colleges I wrote the essays super last minute though. Decisions - CS unless indicated otherwise Acceptances: Purdue Georgia Tech! <- considering UW Wisconsin Madison UW Seattle pre-sciences UC Davis Cal Poly SLO <- considering UCR UCM UCSC (Regents) Santa Clara CMU Information Systems! <- considering as well ASU UMN-Twin Cities + full ride Waitlists (so many): UIUC UMich Harvey Mudd UC Berkeley :( UCLA Cornell UPenn (how?) Harvard (how??) NYU Boston University Rejections : Stanford (lol) MIT (lol) UCI (unexpected ngl) UCSD UCSB USC Amherst Northwestern (the interviewer lied smh) Columbia :( Duke Additional Information: Should I go to CMU information systems or Georgia Tech CS?"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UVM + Honors College EA Bard College Berlin EAAUP EA The University of St. Andrews (unconditional offer, almost committed) UW Fordham LC (+Accepted to LC Honors college) American RD Oberlin RD Bennington EA2 Georgetown RD :)) Columbia (Deferred ED- RD ACCEPTED and COMMITTED!!!!) REFLECTION + ADVICE Guys this process sucks. I hated it so much. I'm so happy it's over and I genuinely cannot believe that I am attending my dream school. I am so happy and I can't wait to move to NYC! Good luck and stay safe out there.",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White (middle-eastern) Residence: Pennsylvania Income Bracket: high income Type of School: noncompetitive, private, religious Hooks: The school is very small and the area I live in hardly ever

sends kids to T50 or even T100 schools Intended Major(s): International Relations/Polisci Academics GPA: 102.3 on 100 Scale # of AP/DE: 9 APs (maximum school amount + 2 self study), only submitted 5 on AP Psych Senior Year Course Load: 4 APs, 1 DE, 2 religion classes ACT: 33 Composite, 34 Superscore (36 R 36 E 32 M 31 S) Extracurriculars/Activities Concertmaster of local youth orchestra + principal quartet Ran my high school's orchestra because we didn't have an orchestra teacher or conductor First violinist in local university orchestra (worked with some big-name soloists/conductors in said orchestra) Quiz Bowl Team (team captain and led the first team in my school's history to make it to the state competition) Various other competition-based ECs (qualified for all-state orchestra, as well as national competitions I won't name for privacy reasons. Won a merit scholarship to study French in Paris for a summer, fluent in French (which was vouched for in letter of recommendation by my French teacher) worked at a restaurant from freshman year to present worked as a wedding violinist other entirely meaningless ECs Awards/Honors: (list here) Award from a research conference Art awards A random STEM award (lol) National Honors Society Mu Alpha Theta Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) Essays : I'd say pretty good, especially my common app essay. Interviews : Georgetown - 5/10. nice guy, but overall sort of awkward and not fun Princeton - 10/10. Great, she was super friendly and seemed very impressed by me. Lots of fun too we did a lot of laughing and we bonded over Killers of the Flower Moon lol Harvard - 8/10 Guy was old and told me that I inspired him for the next generation. So great. Yale - 1000/10. We literally talked through her divorce and she said fuck at least 10 times. I loved her. We also had a very intelligent conversation about the war in the Middle East and about the news cycle during wartime. Great time. LORs French teacher- 100/10 her and I had an independent study every day as a class where would read French literature and talk shit in French. I trust her with my life and she wrote a beautiful letter. Chemistry Teacher- I never read it, but my counselor did and he said it was well written, so I'll take it! Decisions Rejection: UChicago (Deferred EA- rejected RD) Northwestern RD Northeastern RD NYU RD Harvard RD Brown RD Waitlist: Williams RD Colby RD Yale RD Princeton RD Acceptances: UVM + Honors College EA Bard College Berlin EA AUP EA The University of St. Andrews (unconditional offer, almost committed) UW Fordham LC (+Accepted to LC Honors college) American RD Oberlin RD Bennington EA2 Georgetown RD :)) Columbia (Deferred ED- RD ACCEPTED and COMMITTED!!!!) REFLECTION + ADVICE Guys this process sucks. I hated it so much. I'm so happy it's over and I genuinely cannot believe that I am attending my dream school. I am so happy and I can't wait to move to nyc! Good luck and stay safe out there."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Fordham EA Temple George Washington U SUNY Stony Brook SUNY Binghamton (Spring 2025 start, on waitlist for Fall 2024) Likely committing to Stony or Bing for cheaper in-state tuition",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: NYC Income Bracket: 200k + Type of School: Public Intended Major(s) : (undecided, likely mech eng) Academics GPA (3.6 UW/3.9 W): Rank (or percentile): 81/301 5 Honors, 7 AP Senior Year Course Load: AP US Gov, AP Stats, AP CompSci Principles, Physics, Creative Writing Standardized Testing SAT I: 1410 (730RW, 680M) Both December ACT: 32 (33E, 28M, 35R, 31S) 35R from December ACT, rest from July ACT AP/IB: Literature (4), World History (3), Psychology (2), US History (2). Did not submit 2019s Extracurriculars/Activities FTC robotics mechanical design lead and portfolio designer (1 year) Volleyball club cofounder (3 years) Asian Culture club cofounder (2 years) Architecture, construction, engineering mentor program (2 years) Varsity volleyball (2 years) School backstage crew audio crew leader (2 productions) Babysitting (4 years + before HS) Awards/Honors NHS Principals Honor Roll Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) AP CompSci teacher & Robotics mentor Met this year so was a bit iffy on asking him but decided it would be a good fit for engineering. Can attest to the time I've put towards robotics while also balancing workload in APCS (got a 100 fall semester) Also talk to him about personal tech projects. (9/10) Creative Writing & Honors English teacher Can attest to the improvements I've made from freshman/sophomore year to now. Compliments my writing style and sense of humor. (10/10) Interviews none Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Developed the idea over the summer before senior year, made edits throughout September and October. Wrote about experiences I had growing up that allowed me to experiment with activities that worked for me, and deviated from the standard Asian American upbringing. Reviewed by a former HS English teacher & College counselor (8/10) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Fordham EA Temple George Washington U SUNY Stony Brook SUNY Binghamton (Spring 2025 start, on waitlist for Fall 2024) Likely committing to Stony or Bing for cheaper in-state tuition Waitlists: Rejections: Northeastern Middlebury (list complete name) Still waiting on McGill Additional Information:"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): -My State Schools (Safeties) -University of Oregon (oos) -Boston College",

"answer": "A: Not writing this to make people feel bad for me or anything, just kinda wanted to share my unfortunate results. Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Arizona Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Econ/Math Academics GPA/Rank (or percentile): Rank 1/400, 4.8/4.0 GPA # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 10 AP (basically max at my school), rest of classes were honors Senior Year Course Load: Ap Chem Ap Calc BC Ap Lit Ap Gov and Econ Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 1520 AP/IB: 5s and 4s Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): Extracurriculars/Activities: -Student Government 3 years (High positions) -Several Different Volunteer commitments 3 years -None profit 4 years (I know about the negative stigma lmao but I promise I started this when I was younger with the help of some friends and our parents haha) -Lots of tutoring both volunteer and paid -Part time job (20 hr weeks) -Prom Committee President -DECA 3 Years Awards/Honors: Basically just in school awards Essays/LORs/Interviews: Essays: Really happy with all my essays. Got them peer reviewed by teachers and friends (some that ended up getting into great schools). Took a long time reflecting on them, and felt that they truly portrayed me and my passions. LOR: Both of my LOR's were written by teachers I've had for two year now and I have built strong relationships with them. One of them went to an Ivy, not that it matters, just mentioning as it may reflect the effort he put in as he is aware of the importance. My other teacher has always spoke highly of me, both to me and about me to others, and really wants me to succeed and go to a school I'm happy with. No doubt in my mind that they didn't put a lot of effort and passion into my LOR's! Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) All RD Acceptances: (list here): -My State Schools (Safeties) -University of Oregon (oos) -Boston College Waitlists: -University of Washington, This hurtttt (oos) Rejections: -Yale -Columbia -UNC Chapel Hill (oos) - Princeton -Umich (oos) Waiting: Stanford Additional Information: Once again not really here to get lectured or garner pity, in hindsight I should've added way more targets, but my parents didn't see the value of paying out of state tuition or private tuition for schools that aren't well regarded. I will most likely be attending my state school, as Boston College (A school I truly love, especially after visiting a friend there) is much more expensive than anticipated. Still waiting on Stanford but at this point my expectations are truly rock bottom! In conclusion, current juniors and all future applicants, shoot for the stars, but have your expectations extremely low :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: (list here): -UIUC - EA - committing :) - NYU - RD - (surprised me lol) - UC Davis - UC Irvine - University of Washington, Seattle - Upitt (rolling) - UW Madison - RD - Northeastern - EA - Texas A&M (rolling for engineering) - UT Dallas + 16k scholarship

(ea or rolling i dont remember) - Iowa state university + 32k scholarship (ea or rolling i dont remember)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: south asian Income bracket: Full pay Residence: Texas Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): woman in engineering??? Intended Major(s): CS/ ECE Academics: GPA/Rank (or percentile): 4.0 uw gpa, 5.25 w, 22/457 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: 10 APs in junior and senior year (9th and 10th in India CBSE curriculum) Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Seminar, AP Stat, AP Macro, AP US Govt, AP CSA, AP ES Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT/ACT: 1500 SAT (710 ebrw + 790 math) AP/IB: AP CSP 4, AP Psych 5 CBSE 10th Board examination: 96.2% (Math 99, sci 96, Sanskrit 100, Social Science 98, English 88) Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities: - Internship at Ag tech company - Dance - trained classical dancer (Bharatanatyam) for 12 years, Multiple awards and honors, several programs - Music - trained classical singer for 12 years (Carnatic music), Multiple awards and honors, several programs - Volunteering - Taught 4 under-resourced girls of my age in India spoken english and math - Fundraiser - raised 100,000 INR for covid relief 2021 india second wave - Farm assistant at Family farm - Theatre/ Drama - Sanskrit plays at school, playwright group (No acting, just script writing in Sanskrit language) - Computer/ tech - Developed ML model (crop predictor) - Computer/ tech - Accepted to UT Austin cs academy for women - Art - school representative in 9 and 10 for inter school art competitions, Youtube channel 35,000+ sub on hand drawn animations, several exhibitions and competitions. Awards/Honors: - CBSE Sanskrit top 0.1% performer (Centum in Sanskrit) - Informatics olympiad in India gold medal (school 1st) - Mathematics olympiad in India bronze medal (school 3rd) - Science olympiad in India silver medal (school 2nd) - NHS Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/ rate) - Common App: 9/10- Was about my experience at my family farm and the connections between oldest occupation and technological innovations. - Supplementals: 9/10- wrote about my experience with Sanskrit, cultural roots (dance, music), my passion to merge tech and farming etc. -Counselor LOR: 7/10- My counsellor effectively only knows me since junior year (i was in india before that). But I interacted with her a lot. Rlly nice person. - Calc BC Teacher LOR: 9/10- I have a good relationship with my BC teacher. She's rlly kind so I think this LOR was good. - APES teacher - 9.5/10 - I showed her my resume and she was rlly impressed with my involvement in farm activities etc. This led to an interview by school newspaper club and a story on me. I submitted the link to the article as supplementary info for all colleges.- Internship mentor - 8/10 - was close with her. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD)Acceptances: (list here): -UIUC - EA - committing :) - NYU - RD - (surprised me lol) - UC Davis - UC Irvine - University of Washington, Seattle - Upitt (rolling) - UW Madison - RD - Northeastern - EA - Texas A&M (rolling for engineering) - UT Dallas + 16k scholarship (ea or rolling i dont

remember) - Iowa state university + 32k scholarship (ea or rolling i dont remember)  
Waitlists: (list here) - UCSD - Grinnell - RD Rejections: (list here) - UT Austin (Capped) -  
EA - UC Berkeley - Princeton - RD Final thoughts: Extremely happy with how everything  
turned out. I am highly content with UIUC. It has been one of my dream schools since  
middle school for their strong engineering programs (esp cs) and finally committing  
there feels surreal. There were a lot of surprises in this journey. For next year's college  
applicants: Apply to more safety schools, as admissions get increasingly competitive.  
Thank you and All the best!! :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
(list here): - University of Texas at Dallas + 14k/yr scholarship - Texas A&M FYE -  
Purdue FYE - University of Alaska Anchorage - University of Alaska Fairbanks + 32k  
scholarship - UC Davis - UC Irvine - University of Houston + 8k/yr scholarship - IU  
Bloomington + 8k/yr scholarship - CU Boulder (offered exploratory studies + 12k/yr  
scholarship)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: south asian/indian  
Residence: Texas Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.):  
N/A Intended Major(s): Mechanical Engineering (Business at IU) Academics GPA/Rank  
(or percentile): 3.91 W/ 5.186 UW/ 32/457 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 17  
APs Senior Year Course Load: AP Calc BC, AP Chem, AP Lit, AP Macro, AP US Govt,  
AP CSA, AP ES Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that  
were reported. SAT/ACT: 1470 SAT AP/IB: A bunch of 3s, 4 on Calc AB, 5 on AP World,  
and a 1 Other (ex. IELTS, TOEFL, etc.): N/A Extracurriculars/Activities: - 150+ volunteer  
hours at soup kitchen with thousands raised for charity - Robotics Club, CS Club,  
Entrepreneurship Club - Fast food job - Kumon Learning Center job - Tutoring company  
- Violin for 7 years Awards/Honors: - AP Scholar with Distinction - Gold and silver  
orchestra solo awards Essays/LORs/Interviews: (briefly reflect/rate) - Common App:  
8/10- Wrote about who I am as a person and identity - Supplementals: 6/10- Wrote  
about personal experiences with world issues and hands on experiences -Counselor  
LOR: 7?/10- A really nice person who I got closer with junior year. Was prob alright  
since I opened up to her a lot in my second half of high school - CS Teacher LOR:  
2?/10- Wasn't too close with him but sent my resume to him - Engineering Teacher  
LOR- 5?/10- Kinda close with her. Was engaged in class and worked with her a decent  
bit - Work Manager LOR- 8?/10- Close with him and he really liked me. Knew a lot  
about me and was rllly helpful with everything Decisions (indicate  
ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) All of them are EA. Acceptances: (list here): - University of  
Texas at Dallas + 14k/yr scholarship - Texas A&M FYE - Purdue FYE - University of

Alaska Anchorage - University of Alaska Fairbanks + 32k scholarship - UC Davis - UC Irvine - University of Houston + 8k/yr scholarship - IU Bloomington + 8k/yr scholarship - CU Boulder (offered exploratory studies + 12k/yr scholarship) Waitlists: (list here) - Northeastern - UCSD - UIUC Rejections: (list here) - UT Austin (Capped) - UCLA Thoughts: Pretty happy with how everything went since my EC's were rly generic and my SAT score wasn't top percentile. I applied to Berkeley but will prob not go even if I get in. Currently deciding between UCI and Purdue since both are good for my major and have nice campuses. I don't like Purdue's location and weather but rly like UCI's. Main factor is cost with Purdue being 20k/yr cheaper but I hope to decide soon."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: ASU (14.5k annual scholarship\ud83d\udc93) Purdue (EA) UMD-CP (50k Scholarship \ud83d\ude0d) (EA) applied CS Carnegie Mellon University (School for Statistics and Data Science) UCLA ((Pre) Statistics and Data Science) most likely will attend UCSC (8k Scholarship \ud83d\udc93) UCSB San Jose State",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: F Race/Ethnicity: Indian Residence: Bay Area Income Bracket: high Type of School: Public, competitive depending on who you ask Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Data Science/DS-adjacent Academics GPA: 3.944 UW Rank (or percentile): top 9% according to the UC ELC # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: By the end of HS: 2 honors/10 APs /6 DE Senior Year Course Load: AP Art, AP Lit, AP Stats, AP Gov, Chem, Econ, P.E (lmao) Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1580 (780RW, 800M) 1590 superscored AP/IB: AP Physics 1 (5), AP CS (5), AP PC: Mech (5), AP French(5), AP PE&M(4 ew), AP Calc BC (5) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. These are going to be SO vague i'm sorry #1: Club Officer #2: Policy Organization (local) #3: Paid summer intern for a city nonprofit #4: local mental health org #5: Debate #6 Club Officer #7 Coding #8 Art #9 Cabin Leader #10: Student cafeteria worker Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1: Club-related Award (national) #2: Debate Award (regional) #3: Scholastic Writing (regional tho lmfao) #4: State Seal of Biliteracy Letters of Recommendation AP Physics teacher: (7/10) Lit teacher: (6/10) (random ass scores because I don't know their contents) Essays I'm a solid, if slow, writer. I'll assign an arbitrary 7/10 to all essays. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: ASU (14.5k annual scholarship\ud83d\udc93) Purdue (EA) UMD-CP (50k Scholarship \ud83d\ude0d) (EA) applied CS Carnegie Mellon University (School for Statistics and Data Science) UCLA

((Pre) Statistics and Data Science) most likely will attend UCSC (8k Scholarship  
UCSB San Jose State Waitlists: UMich (EA-->deferred) UIUC (EA--  
>deferred-->waitlisted) (applied CS+Stats) UC Davis UCSD UC Berkeley Rejections:  
Georgia Tech (EA) (applied Industrial Engineering) UC Irvine Columbia (one essay was  
prodigiously silly but the others went hard... this was unfortunate but expected)  
Additional Information: And that's a wrap!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
UMBC UPitt UMD (Honors College) UMich Case Western Fordham Lehigh  
Northwestern",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Residence: Mid-Atlantic Race/ethnicity:  
African (immigrant Ethiopian parents) Income: around 110k Academics Intended Major:  
Economics U/W GPA: 3.94/4.78 Coursework: IB DP Student (3 HL, 3 SL, TOK) + 3  
APs Standardized Test: 1380 SAT (went test optional for some schools), no ACT ECs:  
Summer internship at the World Bank, after 11th grade Varsity XC since 10th grade  
Varsity Track since 11th grade Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement Club  
since 11th grade Athletics Support and Fundraising club, 11th grade Sports podcast with  
friends since 10th grade Summer camp counselor, 10th grade NHS Service Chair since  
11th grade Volunteer for a youth basketball league, 10th grade Awards: National African  
American Recognition Award Letters of Rec (no clue what they wrote): 11th grade IB  
Math teacher, great relationship and still catch up now 11th and 12th grade IB History  
teacher, solid relationship and has done well in his classes Decisions Acceptances:  
UMBC UPitt UMD (Honors College) UMich Case Western Fordham Lehigh  
Northwestern Waitlists: UVA Rice Rejections: Yale Northeastern Duke UPenn  
Reflection: I was so bummed out by the Rice waitlist on Tuesday but NU came in so  
clutch. I'm still so shocked and I'm most likely going there or UMD (still  
have to figure out the financial stuff)."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
USF (South florida) + 9k a year ASU + 14.5k a year Bentley U + 28k a year Drexel U +  
35k a year",

"answer": "A: I'm a high school senior from a medium-represented country (not  
China, India, or something like that) in Asia. Demographics Gender: Male  
Race/Ethnicity: Asian Type of School: one of the best in the country, some students



study at ivies, mit, stanford EFC: 20-40k Intended Major(s): (Finance) Academics GPA - 3.86/4, will be a 4.0/4.0 by the end of the year (school doesn't have a weighted gpa system) Standardized Testing SAT: 1540 (750RW, 790M) IELTS: 8.0 Extracurriculars/Activities, Honors I had very weak ecs and honors which were very broad (like not specific) and completely not connected to my intended major. From being a soccer team captain to trying to launch a dropshipping business However I have a lot of them, I filled all 10 activities and added more in an add info section. Exactly this might have been a mistake. Like a dumbass listed all my unnecessary and stupid activities. Letters of Recommendation so in my country, it is normal to read your recs or even write them, my eng teacher wrote it and showed it to me, it was good but 2 pages, I said it's bad when it's too long but she didn't listen. I wrote mine for physics and it was pretty good. But again, I think it also was a red flag because they maybe can recognize if a student or a teacher wrote it. Interviews Lehigh, pretty bad, though he said I did a good job Essays I genuinely don't know how to rate them, but they weren't good Decisions Acceptances: USF (South florida) + 9k a year ASU + 14.5k a year Bentley U + 28k a year Drexel U + 35k a year Waitlists: Babson Brandeis Rejections: Connecticut College Fordham Case Western Reserve U Emory U Franklin & Marshall Lehigh U NYU (I genuinely do not know what made me waste my application money) U of Notre Dame U of Richmond Vanderbilt U Washington & Lee Conclusion: So back to my question. I started desperately preparing my application (writing all essays and stuff) in September while simultaneously making my grades better and prepping for the SAT. Miracles didn't happen and I got humbled as expected. I could afford USF and even ASU (which would be a little hard but feasible); however, I don't think 30-40k a year is worth it at these unis (they're good but they aren't Harvard). I will negotiate with Drexel and Bentley and ask for more money but the chances of success are low. I will accept the waitlist at Brandeis and Babson but only like 3% of those make it, which makes it impossible for me to get in. So now I have 3 options left for me. I could commit to ASU or USF even though it'll hurt our pocket. I can apply to the University of Amsterdam (which is around 35k a year but it is a 3-year education) and enroll there (I'm 75% sure I can get in) I can reapply as a Gap year student and just crash all my applications. See, the thing was that I had mid ecs and pretty bad written essays. I believe I can grind through the summer (do research (in economics or finance-related stuff), get an internship, and probably do a bunch of different projects). Retake the SAT (I am sure I can EASILY get a higher score) and take the ACT. Obviously, write better essays, and more thoroughly research unis. Also, my grades will be better (as I said, I'm finishing my senior year with a 4.0/4.0 What do you suggest?"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Princeton RD (Soc) MIT RD Cornell RD (Soc) Carnegie Mellon RD (Soc) UMich Ann Arbor EA (CS) UCSD (CS) UCD (CS) UCLA (CS) UCSB (CS) UNC Chapel Hill EA (CS - > Required 1 year abroad) Boston College RD (Soc) Northeastern RD (Soc -> Required 1 sem Oakland) Notre Dame RD (CS)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: something in between Race/Ethnicity: wasian Residence: social Income Bracket: 100-150k/yr Type of School: tiny private (grad class of 110) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): first-gen Intended Major(s): compsci/sociology Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.94/4.54 Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 2 Honors (couple freshman year classes) + 17 APs (everything my school could offer, I scored 5's on everything... except for Calc AB, and Chem) + 2 DE (Mass Comm + Computer & Info Tech) Senior Year Course Load: AP CSA, AP Calc BC, APUSH, AP Spanish/Language, AP Lit, AP Phys 1, AP Stats Standardized Testing I took the SAT nine times. It's not worth it--my best scores were my first two attempts: 1550 : 780R/770M 1540: 760R/780M Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1: City liaison for students; I represented the interests of all the students in my neighborhood and council district, voting on policy during board meetings and collecting data on stuff like the overall satisfaction with the curriculum and the areas around schools. Normally a pretty dang hard to position to get, but on the day where the council was deciding who was going to be appointed--and when me and the two others that were running had to give a speech--I was the only one that showed up. One person got sick, the other got into a car accident on the way there. I won by default. #2: Media director of a big cultural organization; I started off as a normal teeny tiny freshman volunteer at this big org that my friend was a part of and when every election cycle came around I kind of forced myself to run--the year after that I was treasurer and managed a bunch of funds for ad campaigns and events. I won the election the year after that for vice president, and then lost the bid for president the following year. I thought I was cooked, but got appointed by the executive committee to act as the director for all incoming/outgoing media for the group, whether it be news coverage, interviews, etc. This was a super volunteering focused organization, and we did a lot of COVID relief work especially right after lockdown got lifted. #3: Regional director for a nonprofit; I was going to start my own, but I didn't know what I was doing, nor how to get big enough to actually help people. I figured the best way to go about it was to instead join a different one. There were some members of the group in #2 that were a part of a nonprofit that raised money for the homeless, and I joined it hoping I could spend some time there during the summers or weekends. \"Yeah I'll volunteer when I can\" turned into something like 2,000 service hours over the span of three years, and by the end of it the nonprofit's president and board of directors put me in charge of a couple branches that were in the southern parts

of the US. To be completely honest, I was entirely unqualified for the position, and when I was organizing fundraising efforts for Christmas, the entire operation fell apart and I'm pretty sure I'm losing the position soon. Tried my best and learned a lot though! #4: VALORANT. Yes, really. I play it a lot, and I talked about it in a lot of my essays. Very philosophical. #5: Taekwondo; I started when I was around 3 years old so by the time college apps came around, I already had a ton of stories to talk about and awards to flex for the AO's. I taught classes twice a week for around two years, with the students being anywhere from 6 to 20 years old. It was really rough at the start because I don't even really like talking to people, but it forced me to learn how to do that and how to teach. That was a big focus of any of the essays I wrote on Taekwondo, and also the philosophy behind the martial art. #6: Art. I draw anime women for money. It's my part time job. #7: Election campaigns baby!!!! I was in charge of sending out communications via email and letters to all of the candidate's constituents in the region, and worked with a team of about 15 to make it happen. The dude was running for district attorney, and he ended up winning, so it was pretty satisfying. #8: Just plain old volunteering. I went out every week into LA to serve food and distribute clothes to people who didn't have them. Out of all my time commitments, this is the one I had the most fun doing. Talked to a lot of people, got to know them, and see them improve over time. Genuinely awesome watching the people you're helping get better. #9: YouTube!!!!!!!!!! I have a VALORANT channel that I hate talking about and fight for my life to hide from my family. I make little satirical short videos that poke fun at the people who play the game and the updates that get rolled out, and it's a lot of fun learning how to edit and tame the YT algorithm. I started off getting like 10 views a video and absolutely no engagement, but had a video with nearly a quarter million views on it by the time college apps rolled around. Showed the video to my Harvard interviewer, and it probably killed my chances there. I don't think Harvard alums like VALORANT very much. #10: N/A, I only had 9 Awards/Honors #1: 2 congressional awards, a silver and gold medal; mostly for COVID relief volunteering and time spent down in the city distributing necessities #2: A couple letters of thanks from my state for COVID relief work #3: Couple letters of thanks from my city for COVID relief work #4: My Taekwondo POOM 4 certificate which basically said I sold my soul for Taekwondo and was qualified to teach it now #5: 4 president's volunteer service awards ranging from bronze-gold certificates for COVID relief work Letters of Recommendation AP history teacher (7/10): Probably would have been the strongest rec I got, and a 10/10, but I didn't know how to ask for rec's yet and how they worked so when I asked her for one I did so over text..... and she finished it in under a week. Didn't feel confident that she was able to put everything she wanted to say down on it in that time AP math teacher (9/10): On first name basis with him, he's super swag. AP science teacher (10/10): The GOAT of my school. She saw me struggle in bio and then get better at it over time, so I think she wrote about my redemption arc. Head of school (8/10): We talk a lot and he

personally approved a lot of the club stuff that I did at the school. Unfortunately, he's super way high up in the school bureaucracy so I don't know if he necessarily knew as much about me like my actual teachers. Dean (7/10): He doesn't know me at all. I don't remember off the top of my head why I asked. Korean consul (8/10): He had a lot to say about my volunteer work, and about my work ethic, but I'm not even going to pretend like that's why his rec was strong. He was literally working at the Korean consulate here in LA, and that's why I think the rec is good. Interviews MIT (7/10): It was okay. I suck at ending interviews, and it was made worse by the fact that after we said goodbye we walked in the same direction for 7 minutes. Harvard (3/10): I called him the wrong name four times. Dartmouth (8/10): I wasn't even sure why I applied to Dartmouth at the beginning, but she genuinely sold me the idea of going to the school. We talked for a super long time and only stopped because she had to go to the next interview. Essays I was super disorganized and all over the place with my essays. I don't believe in copy pasting essays for another school's prompt and then tweaking it, so I genuinely spent time on each one building it from the ground up. Upside: all my essays were unique. Downside: By the time Ivies were due, I was turning in 2nd drafts. My personal statement was about getting cancelled online. I did some funny business and paid for it. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Princeton RD (Soc) MIT RD Cornell RD (Soc) Carnegie Mellon RD (Soc) UMich Ann Arbor EA (CS) UCSD (CS) UCD (CS) UCLA (CS) UCSB (CS) UNC Chapel Hill EA (CS -> Required 1 year abroad) Boston College RD (Soc) Northeastern RD (Soc -> Required 1 sem Oakland) Notre Dame RD (CS) Waitlists: Wellesley RD Northwestern RD Dartmouth RD Boston University RD Tufts RD Rejections: Stanford Harvard Columbia Brown Yale UPenn Vanderbilt UC Berkeley USC Pomona Harvey Mudd Bowdoin UCI Duke Rice Additional Information: If you couldn't tell already, I was a T20 shotgun + some. Do I recommend doing that? No. Do I regret doing that? No. Unfortunately though, it looks like the school I commit to will come down to money more than anything, because I got \$0 in financial aid across the board :) the next month will just be constant appealing for me"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Notre Dame, Purdue, Butler University (award 28K + scholars program), Rose Hulman (awarded 28K), Swarthmore (full ride), IU Bloomington, UIUC",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Korean Residence: Indiana Hooks: FGLI Income Bracket: ~10K with government programs like SNAP and Medicaid School: Pretty competitive, rankings are based on weighted GPAs. Academics Intended Major(s): Biochemistry, Gender Studies pre-medical track (I want to pursue gynecology) ACT/SAT: Went optional lol GPA: 3.87uw 4.24w Ranking: 40/822 APs

taken: Calc AB, Calc BC, Chem, Psychology, US History, European History, AP Lang  
 APs I'm taking rn: Bio, Physics C: Mechanics, Statistics, Literature Other courses: in my  
 3rd year of taking a PLTW Biomedical course + in my 4th year of German rn Awards AP  
 Scholar w Honors Questbridge NCM Finalist High school academic achievement award  
 junior year High school academic achievement award senior year Spell Bowl state  
 champions as captain Questbridge College Prep Scholar Poster Presentation Award at  
 Notre Dame's annual cancer research day through research program ECs Apart of the  
 1st cohort for a cancer research internship program at a Notre Dame Volunteering at the  
 local hospital, about 3 hrs in one week Captain of Spell Bowl, won championship this  
 year and have been in the top 3 the past 3 years Executive board member of school's  
 Model UN Aerospace/mechanical engineering internship at Notre Dame over the  
 summer Science academic super bowl Women of color coalition NHS Key Club Student  
 council Tutor for AP Chemistry + math Mathcounts coach at middle school Freshman  
 mentor Letters of recommendation: Mainly my AP Chemistry teacher for both  
 Questbridge and Common app, but also asked my Calc teacher for the QB app. Results  
 Acceptances: Notre Dame, Purdue, Butler University (award 28K + scholars program),  
 Rose Hulman (awarded 28K), Swarthmore (full ride), IU Bloomington, UIUC Waitlists:  
 Boston University, WashU, Vanderbilt, Emory Rejections: UChicago, Caltech, JHU,  
 USC, Duke, UPenn (this hurt ngl), Northwestern, Dartmouth, Brown, Yale, Princeton,  
 Columbia, Rice ETC Went to Swarthmore's fly-in Had interviews with Princeton, UPenn,  
 and Northwestern Also was a part of UPenn's PEEP program. I also applied to ND REA  
 but got deferred. I used the QB app for most of these colleges except for Purdue, UIUC,  
 IU Bloomington, Butler, Rose Hulman, and UMich Also sent QB colleges my resume  
 Briefly mentioned family responsibilities as the translator and person responsible for  
 making appointments for parents and whatnot Thoughts Ofc I'm super grateful for all the  
 acceptances I've received, and I'm most likely going to commit to Notre Dame. I live  
 near campus, and I'm not sure how well-acquainted I would be living so far away from  
 home if I went someplace else. I feel like my FGLI status might've helped me because  
 I'm one of the very few people at my school who is FGLI and in the top 4%. The only  
 places I'm waiting for right now is UMich and Stanford but I highly doubt I'm going to get  
 into either and I'm super super happy with ND. I also got a handwritten letter from the  
 dean of admissions today so I'm honestly feeling super happy with Notre Dame  
 considering it was one of my top choices :)"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools:  
 -Northwestern RD -WashU RD -CMU RD -UMich EA -JHU RD -Asu ( 16k + barrett ) -  
 Upitt ( \u2019m salty bc they rejected me from honors college\ud83d\ude12) -RIT (27k)

RD -U of Rochester (14k) RD -UMD ( full ride) EA -UC Irvine -UW (5k + honors college) -Purdue Indianapolis (honors college) EA -GWU (24k) RD",

"answer": "A: i was test optional everywhere except mit, pitt, gw, and purdue  
Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: black, nigerian/ghanian Type of School: non competitive public magnet school Intended Major(s): chemical engineering, biomedical engineering, mechanical engineering Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW, 4.47 W Rank (or percentile): 8/490 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 17 honors, 10 APs Senior Year Course Load: H English 12, APUSH, AP Chem, AP Calc AB/BC, AP French, H Orchestra Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: 1360 superscore AP/IB: 5 AP Gov, 5 AP World, 4 AP Lang Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Youth career development program team lead ( grants and website manager) JHIBS intern Oil Spill Clean Up research project manager Orchestra viola section leader and first chair President of French National Honor Society Math tutor and Mu Alpha Theta member Physician's Assistant Clinical Shadow crochet artist STEM Ambassador Varsity Tennis Player Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. AP Scholar National African American Recognition Award Highest Distinction Solo & Ensemble All County Orchestra Violist Highest GPA Spring Tennis season Letters of Recommendation Science teacher: it was good when i read it Math teacher: Amazing. Very detailed French Teacher: Equally amazing Essays I think my common app essay ATE. Upenn supps were dogwater. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: -Northwestern RD -WashU RD -CMU RD -UMich EA -JHU RD -Asu ( 16k + barrett ) -Upitt ( i'm salty bc they rejected me from honors college) -RIT (27k) RD -U of Rochester (14k) RD -UMD ( full ride) EA -UC Irvine -UW (5k + honors college) -Purdue Indianapolis (honors college) EA -GWU (24k) RD Waitlists: -CWRU ( yet they still gave me an aid offer) EA -Vandy(this hurt) RD -UPenn RD -Columbia RD -Duke (this killed me) RD -Northeastern EA -Boston University RD Rejections: -USC ( the amount of financial aid documents they requested yet they didn't accept me) EA -UC Berkeley -Brown (this was a stab to the heart) RD -MIT ( don't know who i thought i was applying with my sat score smh) RD Comments This cycle turned out much better for me than i thought."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: EA USC for computer engineering (10k/yr merit scholarship :) RD ASU for computer engineering (full tuition covered) RD UC Irvine for computer engineering",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Southwest (not CA resident) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Computer Engineering, CS, and Applied Math Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 (UW), 4.65 (W) Rank (or percentile): 40/440 (if I remember correctly) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 6 Honors classes and 10 APs Senior Year Course Load: Calc 3/diff eq, AP Lit, AP Comp Sci A, AP Chem, AP Gov, AP Macro, Music Appreciation lol Standardized Testing SAT Super Score: 1470 (710RW, 760M) AP/IB: AP World (5), Calc BC (5), Stats (5), Lang (5), U.S. History (5) Extracurriculars/Activities #1 Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association #2 Teacher Assistant for Special Education Students #3 Senator and Committee Chair Member of Student Advisory Board #4 VP of Mu Alpha Theta #5 Private Tutor #6 Chess evaluator for Chess Club #7 Member of Coding Club #8 Member of National Honor Society #9 Member of Investment Club #10 Air Force Association\nu2019s CyberPatriot CyberCamp Awards/Honors #1 AP Scholar with Distinction #2 4.0 GPA Award Letters of Recommendation LOR from my math teacher: I've known her for 2 years, but I know my other math teachers talked to her about me in a positive light. She has seen how much I've tried to overcome my disability, and I have a good relationship with her. Overall probably a 10/10. LOR from my English teacher: I've known him for 2 years, but I didn't really talk in his class. Overall probably a 6-7/10. Interviews Harvard: this was my only interview, and it went incredibly well! It lasted about 1 hour, and my interview's business partner had ALS, so he knew a lot about the challenges I've faced. Essays My Common App essay was probably ok; it showed how I created Python programs to help me overcome my disability in school, but my style of writing isn't the best. Everyone who read it really liked it, but idk. I really liked my UC essays because I talked about my hobbies a lot. In one of my UC essays, I wrote about drone photography in a very creative way. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: EA USC for computer engineering (10k/yr merit scholarship) :) RD ASU for computer engineering (full tuition covered) RD UC Irvine for computer engineering Waitlists: UCSD for computer engineering :( Rejections: EA Stanford for CS (applied test optional) RD Harvard for applied math (applied test optional) RD Berkeley for computer engineering RD UW for CS (applied test optional) Thoughts Overall, I'm pretty happy with my results. I was expecting to get into UCSD, but due to the number of applicants they have, I understand getting waitlisted. I have worked extremely hard in HS, so I was hoping for something like Harvard, Stanford, or Berkeley, but maybe I'll get in for grad school. USC is my top choice, but what do you guys think? Is USC worth it for ~25k/yr?"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Iowa State University Roling (14k a year, honors college) The University of Iowa Rolling

(10k a year) University Massachusetts Amherst Early Action (10k a year) The University of Pittsburgh Rolling Loyola University Chicago Rolling (27k a year) Loyola University Maryland Early Action (41k a year) Michigan State University Rolling (15k a year) Michigan Technological University Rolling (20k a year) Montclair State University Rolling (4k a year) Trinity University Early Action (32k a year) Syracuse University Regular Decision (32k a year)",

"answer": "A: Hey y'all, Just wanted to point out before you start reading that I know I am a good student and did very well for myself this admissions cycle. But the admissions cycle does not and will not define you. Every school has things about it that will be good and bad, but the right place will find you. Love the school that loves you back!!!! Congratulations to the class of 2024! Demographics Gender : Female Race / Ethnicity : White/ Puerto Rican Residence : New Jersey Type of School : Public High School Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major (s): Applied Data Analytics/ Data Sciences/ Informatics Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.97 W Rank (or percentile): n/a # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 3 AP Courses and 3 Honors Senior Year Course Load: AP CSA, Web Design 2, Web Internship, Computer Sci Seminar, AP Lit, Calculus Standardized Testing : Test Optional Everywhere/ No AP Scores Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1. 4 years of Marching/Concert Band, 2 years as Student Leader. 22 hours a week during the fall. Similar time commitment to a varsity sport. #2. 3 years of Varsity Tennis. Captin for 1 year. #3 2 years of Peer Leadership. 20 hours a year. #4. French Club for 4 years. #5. Prologue Literary Magazine, editor for 2 years. #6. Independent Research in Data Visualization and Human-Computer Interaction #7. 1 year of Girls Who Code Media Rep #8. Babysitter (4 years, CPR/First Aid Certified) #9. Grocery Store (2 years) #10. 150 Hours of Community Service #11. Syracuse University Pre College Program for Game Design/ Development, and Information Technology for Women. (4 weeks NC) Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1. Science National Honor Society #2. Spanish National Honor Society #3. History Honor Society #4. Computer Science Honor Society #5. National Honor Society #6. National Hispanic Recognition Award from College Board Letters of Recommendation PreCalculus Teacher 9/10. So close with her and really understood my work ethic as a student and as a human being. Wrote my LOR for a pre-college program. Algebra 2 + Web Design 1 + AP CSP Teacher 4/10. Had me the longest throughout high school. Understanding my abilities in math and comp sci, really got me started in my career. AP CSA, Comp Sci Seminar, Club Advisor, CSHS Advisor, Web 2, Web Internship teacher 9.6/10. A teacher who truly understands what I am worth and what I can do. His LOR is one of the best as he has gotten to know me through more than just computer science. Librarian/ Mentor/ Alumni of Syracuse 10/10. teacher knows me well and has been my mentor for well over 2 years. She sees my personality for what it is. my academic record as a side



piece, adds a nice flair. Professor LOR 7/10. Saw me at my happiest and most motivated for school, and got a nice impression of me as a human being and tech student. 10th grade English teacher 8/10. Saw me through a dark time and taught me how to become a better writer. Great relationship through my junior and senior years. Interviews Fine experiences, not great. Only got into one school with an interview, which was my top. Essays Spent 5 months on my essay and 3 months on my supplementals. Ended up reusing some essays but overall I talked about leadership and commitment to things in my life. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Iowa State University Rolling (14k a year, honors college) The University of Iowa Rolling (10k a year) University Massachusetts Amherst Early Action (10k a year) The University of Pittsburgh Rolling Loyola University Chicago Rolling (27k a year) Loyola University Maryland Early Action (41k a year) Michigan State University Rolling (15k a year) Michigan Technological University Rolling (20k a year) Montclair State University Rolling (4k a year) Trinity University Early Action (32k a year) Syracuse University Regular Decision (32k a year) Waitlists: Marist College Early Action, Deferred Fairfield University Early Action, Deferred University of Wisconsin Madison Early Action, Deferred University of Rochester Regular Decision Rejections: N/A Overall, so happy with my results. I felt so much anxiety going into this admissions cycle and was definitely surprised by some of my results. I was able to get a lot of merit and my efforts were not overlooked. I was a strong applicant and am happy with everything. I will likely attend Syracuse University iSchool."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Tulane + 25k merit scholarship State school + full ride Indiana Bloomington + 12k merit UArkansas + full ride UNC chapel hill (oos) Richmond + 1/3 tuition merit scholarship Boston College Boston University + presidential scholarship (25k) Emory",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race/ethnicity: white Income bracket: 150k approx Type of school: competitive public Hooks: none \ud83d\ude15 Intended Major: economics Academics Gpa: 4.7 W Rank: n/a of honors AP: 22 Senior year courses: 5 APs + linear algebra honors Standardized testing Sat 1570: 790 ELA 780 M Extracurriculars: Varsity Physical Sport (4 years) + lettered Sneaker reselling (20k+ in sales) Started own clothing brand (100+ sales) JV debate (1 year) + Varsity Debate (2 years) Local volunteering related to major (2 years) Founded Econ club (3 years) max members Beta club (4 years) Jcl club (4 years) Letters of recommendation Counselor (8-10/10) he knows me pretty well and I've talked to him a lot, he knows me probably more than the vast majority of my grade so I figure it was probably pretty good Jcl sponsor + Greek/latin teacher (?/10) I was great friends with him but idk if the

relationship soured towards the end Calc 3 + special topics teacher (10/10) she's known for writing really amazing recommendations and only agrees if she'll write you a good one Interviews: Dartmouth (8/10) - went pretty good Middlebury (10/10) - interviewer was great and said he thought there was no way I wouldn't get in (this hurt later) and said I would be an amazing fit, but middlebury interviews don't matter for ur application Georgetown (7/10) went fine, he seemed to like me. It was my first interview. Awards: National merit finalist Presidential scholar nominated State level jcl awards Multistate regional debate placement School award for founding my club Acceptances: Tulane + 25k merit scholarship State school + full ride Indiana Bloomington + 12k merit UArkansas + full ride UNC chapel hill (oos) Richmond + 1/3 tuition merit scholarship Boston College Boston University + presidential scholarship (25k) Emory Waitlists: UVA Umich Middlebury Vanderbilt Georgetown Rejections: Cornell Harvard Dartmouth (rip) Williams Bowdoin UChicago Reflections: I don't know where I'm going to commit. Probably Arkansas. I really wanted to go somewhere with lots of nature and didn't get in to my top 4 choices. It hurts a lot especially after I spent so much time on applications but I got into some great schools and it is what it is. Going back on it I really wish I'd applied ED somewhere. It's just such a massive advantage to apply ED but I was worried about how much it would cost and having to back out if it ended up being too much money. My top 3 were Dartmouth, middlebury, and Williams and went 0 for 3. I really like Emory and Boston college but Arkansas gave me a full ride plus I have a friend going there. Any advice is welcome, I'm happy with my results. I wasn't expecting to get into any particular school bc there's so much randomness involved. The one I'm most upset about is Dartmouth bc I legitimately spent weeks on my essays working for hours each day and i loved the school so so damn much. At the end of the day it is what it is, idrc. I'm happy with Emory plus they gave me the option to go to the Oxford campus which is a relief. Im glad it's over, the whole process depressed me hella waiting for answers and everything. But woo pig ig? Leaning towards Arkansas what yall think tho?"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Trinity University +33k Murchison Scholarship (EA) Colorado School of Mines +14k President's Scholarship (EA) Angelo State University +unknown because FAFSA delays (EA, guaranteed) Texas A&M College Station Engineering (EA, guaranteed) University College Cork +25% tuition scholarship (Rolling) University College Dublin +4500 EUR scholarship (Rolling, committed)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Cisgender Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Texas, USA Income Bracket: Don't know specifically, my parents would not fill out my FAFSA until I promised not to look in the form at what their finances were. We are fairly well off, though. Type of School: Public STEM Charter Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): US citizen applying in Ireland and paying non-EU fees, legacy at Trinity University in San Antonio Intended Major(s) : Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): ~4.7/6. Regular classes weighted at 4, vocational at 5, dual enrollment at 6. Rank (or percentile): 2/38 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 18 total single-semester courses at a University of Texas System university and 1 at a community college for a total of ~67 credit hours. I took the max allowed each year, except for second semester senior year. Senior Year Course Load: S1: Calculus 1 DE, Computers and Problem Solving DE, Political Science DE, Physical Geology DE, PLTW Senior Capstone, internship worth two credits. S2: Principles of Macroeconomics DE, Historical Geology DE, Intro to Computer Science 1 DE, PLTW Senior Capstone, internship worth two credits. Important later on: we were forced to get our foreign language credit from computer programming courses, and did not have the option to take a world language. Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1430 (780RW, 650M) Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 Head programmer for a First Tech Challenge in the FiT region. Team won inspire award last two years at league, advanced to the second level of competition last four. #2 Member of UIL Computer Science team. Won multiple awards as a team, and consistently place above 50 individually among all peer competitors in the state. #3 Internship at local newspaper since last year. #4 Member of Student Council and NHS. #5 Consistent volunteer service at my church. #6 Consistent volunteer service at a local food pantry. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 FTC Dean's List Semifinalist #2 A Honor Roll all four years of HS #3 NMSQT Commended Scholar #4 School-level subject awards in STEM all four years of HS Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) Robotics coach: 10/10. I have had a class with this man every year since 6th grade, and consider him a friend. UIL coach: 7/10. We know each other decently, but I am distinctly not his favorite student because I had a panic attack at UIL meet last year and my panic rubbed off on the team. Interviews ( Briefly reflect on interview experiences, if applicable.) No interviews. Essays ( Briefly reflect on the quality of your writing, time spent, and topic of main personal statement.) Common App: 8.5/10. I used the free form prompt and wrote about how digital rights management systems hurt everyone but the platforms that use them. TCD: 7/10. Similar to above but with a lower character limit. As for the rest: I applied early on everything and have forgotten what essays I wrote. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances:

Trinity University +33k Murchison Scholarship (EA) Colorado School of Mines +14k President's Scholarship (EA) Angelo State University +unknown because FAFSA delays (EA, guaranteed) Texas A&M College Station Engineering (EA, guaranteed) University College Cork +25% tuition scholarship (Rolling) University College Dublin +4500 EUR scholarship (Rolling, committed) Waitlists: N/A Rejections: Trinity College Dublin Withdrew Application: UT Austin Rice University Additional Information: Please ask anything you want to in the comments!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of St Andrew's (Rolling RD): International Relations, honors \*Catholic University (EA): Accepted with \$35,000 in scholarships (\$31k+\$4k) to honors program and one of 40 semi-finalists for full ride scholarship, withdrew from consideration American University (RD), 17k a year Fordham University (RD); 29.5k a year Babson College (EA->RD) Wake Forest (RD) \*George Washington (RD); 17k a year",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: NJ Income Bracket: Upper (\$300k+) Type of School: private Catholic Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s) : Poli sci and international relations, will probably get another major or minor in Econ Academics GPA (UW/W): weight 3.94, scale for us is 4.66 max Rank (or percentile): N/A # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9 APs, 2 honors Senior Year Course Load: all AP: Stats, Macro, Gov, Lit, Psych Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1310 SAT II: 1340 SAT III: 1390 SAT IV: 1430. Superscore 1440 (700 English, 740 Math) AP: only submitting a 5 on AP world Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Run/co-founded a scholarship nonprofit, raised \$100k+ since 2021 Run/co-founded political non-profit that aids young candidates, nothing crazy but still pretty successful Serve as legislative director at youth-focused non-profit, met with dozens of members of Congress to lobby. Co-Prez of school's investment club, manage \$40k of endowment Worked at Jersey Mikes for two years Tour guide/ambassador for two years Debated for three years, nothing special results wise but taught the novices for a year as novice mentor Misc. campus ministry roles, nothing exciting Play rugby, varsity Served on Youth Advisory Council of US house member freshman and sophomore year Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. Presidential Service Award Governor volunteerism award AP Scholar with Honor 4 school level club awards, very common at our school. I'd say the average kid has 2 Letters of Recommendation ( Briefly describe relationships with your recommenders and estimated rating.) Macro

and APUSH teacher, also debate coach: 8/10 said it was one of the best he wrote this year, knows me very well Arabic teacher (3 years): 9/10 knows me very well, amazing writer and went to Middle West with me in the spring Interviews Georgetown: would say 9/10 but look below to see how much that meant lol. Lawyer in local city, spent like 3 hours with her at courthouse Princeton: not bad, 7/10, he was chill because his son went to the same high school as me but not particularly great. Essays Wrote about a death in my immediate family, kind of cliché but I thought I did OK relaying it to why it motivates me Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of St Andrews 2019s (Rolling RD): International Relations, honors \*Catholic University (EA): Accepted with \$35,000 in scholarships (\$31k+\$4k) to honors program and one of 40 semi-finalists for full ride scholarship, withdrew from consideration American University (RD), 17k a year Fordham University (RD); 29.5k a year Babson College (EA->RD) Wake Forest (RD) \*George Washington (RD); 17k a year Waitlists: \*Boston College (RD): Switched from ED2 to RD after deadline for RD so kinda surprised it wasn't a rejection Rejections: Georgetown (REA->RD) first choice, this will forever hurt Notre Dame (REA->RD) UVA (EA) Duke Brown Princeton NYU Cornell Additional Information: Probably going to St Andrews but who knows, this entire thing is gonna hurt for a bit"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UCSC (i was honestly so surprised) CC - Committed !!! Additional Information: My school only offers one AP, and it was released this year",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: Indian Residence: California (bay area lmao) Income Bracket: 150k-200k Type of School: Very Small Private School (80-100 people) Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): nuh uh Intended Major(s): Computer Science Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0 UW (no idea what my weighted was) Rank (or percentile): No idea # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc: 4 DE, 1 AP Senior Year Course Load: AP Lit, Advanced American Lit, Advanced Science Research, Gov/Econ, Spanish 3 Standardized Testing ACT: 28 (didn't report lmao) Extracurriculars/Activities oh boy here we go so many good ecs ikr. get ready for the wildest ride of your life this is gonna be crazy these also aren't listed in any specific order #1 - Created a curriculum and taught a two-week Python crash course at my high school #2 - Student Government Treasurer #3 - Software Internship at a small engineering firm #4 - Did software freelance work on Fiverr and upwork #5 - Did a small personal research project with a prof from OSU #6 - Recreational rock climbing (padding ecs hard) #7 - Made a small platformer game with my friend #8 - Built PCs and keyboards as a hobby (padding ecs HARDDD) #9 - Did online tutoring for underprivileged children #10 Awards/Honors #1 - Student Recognition

Award (this ain't shit ik) Essays I thought my essays were pretty good. I had them reviewed by an ex-AO and they said they were the strongest part of my application (bar is pretty low, I got a 4/5 on the essays) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Waitlists: None Rejections: UCSD UC Berkeley UCLA UCSB UC Davis Acceptances: UCSC (i was honestly so surprised) CC - Committed !!! Additional Information: My school only offers one AP, and it was released this year"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: EA: Purdue UIUC (instate) (committing here!!) Michigan State (+20k per yr) UMass (i think they gave me some money but i forgot) USC (deferred -> spring admission)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: male Race/Ethnicity: south asian Residence: Illinois Income Bracket: not getting aid Type of School: competitive(-ish) public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): cornell legacy Intended Major(s): Physics/Applied Physics Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.7/4.2 Rank (or percentile): no rank but top 25 percent # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 9 aps, some honors, a few standard level Senior Year Course Load: ap phys mech/e&m, ap calc bc, ap music theory, standard level english, top level school choir, pltw principles of engineering Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT I: 1460 (school day, didnt submit anywhere) ACT: 36 (36 english, 35 math, 35 reading, 36 science) (submitted everywhere) all 5s and 4s on APs Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1 show choir (11-12) - sang and danced and made finals at every competition attended my junior year, had a lot of fun, 3-30 hours a week (comp weeks were a lot lol) #2 jsa (11-12) - was president my senior year (due to decline in membership lol), organized meeting stuff and participated in discussions and debates, ngl senior year the club died unfortunately but it was already heading down that path at my school, maybe 2-3 hours a week #3 tri-m (10-12) - volunteered around music departments in district schools, on exec board senior year, 1-3 hours a week #4 acapella group (12) - went to rehearsals, did gigs, 2-10 hours a week #5 guitar/bass hobby (9-12) - lowk just messed around and played songs i liked for fun, no real huge commitment, 1-5 hours a week #6 jv tennis (10-11) went to practice and played matches, hated every second of it lol so i put it at the bottom, 15 hrs a week Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1 - ap scholar with distinction (11) #2 - ilmea all state choir (11) Letters of Recommendation ap lang teacher - i have a great relationship with her, as i still see her almost every week. i read this recently and it was really good, focused especially on my friendliness in her class. i got Bs in her class as shes a tough grader but a fantastic teacher, and it probs

helps shes the department chair as well, 9.9/10 hon/ap physics teacher - probably generic as i think this teacher struggles to remember the names of people in our class, including those hes had multiple years in a row. i did solid enough in his class though, so maybe 6-7/10 Essays nothing super special, but i think my essays were good enough to make up for my relative lack of extracurricular commitment. my personal statement was about how my hairstyle reflects myself and how i interact with others Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: EA: Purdue UIUC (instate) (committing here!!) Michigan State (+20k per yr) UMass (i think they gave me some money but i forgot) USC (deferred -> spring admission) Waitlists: UC Davis UC Irvine UC Santa Barbara UW-Madison Rejections: Georgia Tech UCLA Berkeley Cornell Additional Information: i did try to appear likable in my essays and i want to say that was a big factor in my acceptances, however I do think also my act score definitely stood out and tipped the scale in some cases. overall im pretty happy with how these results turned out, wasn't super bummed about any rejections. uiuc was def my top school so im very grateful to have the chance to go there."

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: University of Tennessee, Knoxville (rejected honors program though, despite having better stats than a ton of people I know got admitted) Vanderbilt!!! Vassar",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Tennessee Income Bracket: Full Need Type of School: Homeschooled Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): None Intended Major(s): Pre-Med or Molecular Biology Academics GPA (UW/W): (4.0 UW, 4.4 W) Rank (or percentile): #1!! (class of 1 lol) # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 4 dual enrollments, 12 honors, no APs Senior Year Course Load: Dual enrollment calculus I, Dual enrollment chem I, Geography/world history, Government/civics, Microeconomics, English 4 Standardized Testing ACT: 34 composite, 35 superscore (36E, 30M, 36R, 36S) AP/IB: None Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. #1. Science Olympiad: Two-year captain. Led the team to three straight State Tournaments and one trip to the National Tournament, as well as dozens of nation-wide invitationals. Won a total of 19 Regional medals (11 golds), 33 Invitational medals (9 golds), 12 State medals (3 golds), and 3 National medals (1 silver, 2 bronze). Leading medalist on the team, tied for most National medals in State history. #2. Volunteer Teaching Assistant: Volunteer as a teaching assistant (in-person and online) for elementary, middle, high school classes. Subjects include science, geography, economics, history, and computer programming. Over 250 hours volunteered over three years. #3. Soccer: Four-year captain of varsity

soccer team. Lead the team to three straight District Championships and Regional Semifinals. Four-year All-District defender, three-year All-Region defender. Voted best District and best Regional freshman. #4. Refereeing/Coaching: TSSA-certified referee at the club and tournament level for ages 8-14. Often booked for tournaments because of the ability to handle unruly parents and coaches. Otherwise booked for regional club leagues. Occasionally work for middle school leagues if short-staffed. #5. Science Bowl: Two-year captain. Competed in three straight State Tournaments, ranking from Top 16 to Top 8. Lead deliberations during bonus questions, which requires base knowledge of all STEM categories. Leading female overall scorer 2020-2023, leading overall scorer 2023-2024 season. Became captain as a junior, with all other team members being seniors. #6: Student Government of Homeschool Co-operative: Four-year member of homeschool cooperative Student Council and two-year social media manager. Design and share posters and infographics as well as answer online questions about organized events. Fluent in multiple social media and creative design platforms and act as a spokesperson for the organization. #7. Quiz bowl: 4-year competitor in East TN PBS Scholar\u2019s Bowl, a televised contest. 2023 Secret City Invitational leading female scorer, team runner up. #8. Track: Competed in all track events (yes all, I'm a real jack of all trades but master of none). Set [redacted] High School freshman record in the 400m. Sophomore year advanced to Sectionals in the 800m and pole vault. Junior year advanced to Sectionals in the pentathlon (100m hurdles, long jump, shot put, high jump, 800m). #9. Volunteer through church: just a lot of community outreach. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. #1. National Merit Commended Scholar (really upset about this because I would've been at least a Semifinalist if I didn't get a really bad concussion several days beforehand. as it was I was like one question from the cutoff.) #2. TN Governor's School #3. Some local speech competitions Letters of Recommendation Science Olympiad Coach/teacher: 100000/10. I've known her since elementary school and she's become nearly a second parent to me. She's seen me come super far since then and I know her rec letter was the best I could hope for. English teacher: 8/10. Known her since freshman year, she likes me and probably had good things to say but nothing particularly impressive (unless I'm a lot better of a writer than I think I am). Interviews Princeton: 4/10. My interviewer graduated from Princeton before my parents were even born and he didn't seem really up to date with both the world and Princeton itself. He seemed nice but he talked about himself the whole time. He seemed to like me though. Dartmouth: 7/10. Took forever to get the interviewer to set a date but it went well. Nothing particularly remarkable but she asked a ton of questions about homeschooling, which I was very happy about because I was worried it would be a disadvantage. Lasted about 30 minutes. Duke: 8/10. My interviewer grew up near me and had a very similar career to what I want, so I learned a lot. She was able to answer my questions super well. The questions were pretty generic and weren't difficult, so I answered easily. Harvard: 10/10. Got along with my interviewer



famously. Not sure how to really describe it other than we just vibed. It was pretty informal but it went very well. He told me I was a perfect fit for Harvard but to not get my hopes up. Essays Personal statement: 7/10. I haven't had a super interesting life (that I'd be willing to put on an application) so I had nothing really grand to say but I did pretty well with what I had. Supplementals: 8/10. Re-used most of them at various schools but I had several people read over them and they thought they were fantastic. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: University of Tennessee, Knoxville (rejected honors program though, despite having better stats than a ton of people I know got admitted) Vanderbilt!!! Vassar Waitlists: Brown (deferred ED, rejected RD) Harvard!!!!!!! Cornell Wellesley Wake Forest Barnard Rejections: UChicago Johns Hopkins Amherst Williams Mount Holyoke Smith Davidson Northwestern Emory Georgetown Duke Brown Dartmouth Princeton UPenn Yale Princeton Columbia NYU Additional Information: Being homeschooled meant my applications weren't really standard (no APs, mostly), but I'd be happy to answer any questions!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UCF Rolling (3.5k/yr scholarship) FSU RD (4k/yr scholarship) UF RD",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: White Residence: Florida Income Bracket: Middle class (~70k/yr) Type of School: Small private high school Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): N/A Intended Major(s): Marketing at UCF, FSU, UF, and Tulane; sociology at Yale and Cornell Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.98/4.71 Rank (or percentile): 1 out of 18 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: Graduating high school with my associate's degree (60 DE credits), and then I took every honors class my high school had. They don't offer AP or IB classes. Senior Year Course Load: 9 DE credits the summer before senior year, 1 mandatory non-honors hs class and 13 DE credits (4 classes) during the fall , the same hs class and 13 DE credits (5 classes) during spring semester Standardized Testing ACT: 30 composite - 34 english, 30 reading, 27 math, 27 science I submitted scores everywhere except for Yale and Cornell. Extracurriculars/Activities #1 Barista for 1.5 years, controlled my job's social media account, trained coworkers, the usual. 25 hrs/wk 52 wks/yr #2 Community platform administrator of a relatively large community. 25 hrs/wk 52 wks/yr #3 Student government founder and president for two years. 3 hrs/wk 40 wks/yr #4 Volunteer at an animal shelter for a year. 8 hrs/wk 52 wks/yr #5 Entrepreneur's Club co-founder and manager, we ran a coffee shop at my school for two years. 3 hrs/wk 40 wks/yr #6 Trivia competition team captain for six years. 2 hrs/wk 13 wks/yr #7 Church attendee and volunteer, did a ton of work helping our community through job fairs, feeding homeless people, having block parties, etc. 5 hrs/wk 52 wks/yr

#8 Coordinated a ton of events for my school (i.e. prom, homecoming, and then a dual enrollment event for my DE college), I also entirely planned and coordinated my senior homecoming. 5 hrs/wk 6wks/yr #9 Engineering competition team member for two years. 5 hrs/wk 4 wks/yr #10 Ceramist for a year. 1 hr/wk 52 wks/yr Awards/Honors #1 President's list at my DE college (two years) #2 3rd place at a regional engineering competition (one year) #3 250+ community service hours #4 Homecoming court + Ms. [school name] award Letters of Recommendation I have an amazing relationship with my two recommenders. They've known me on a personal level for 5+ years, and I've gotten to work with both of them a lot outside of the classroom. I think one of them is a 9/10, and the other one is probably a 7.9/10. Interviews I had a Cornell interview, but the interviewer was odd. She was telling me that I should go to college in Florida since I'll have half of my bachelor's degree completed if I do. She like.. actively tried talking me out of going to Cornell. She also brought up some incidents that happened on Cornell's campus that were pretty alarming. Essays I loved my Cornell and Tulane essays more than anything. The rest were still solid, in my opinion. The only essay I disliked was my "Why Yale" essay. My personal statement was about taking pictures on my iPhone to feel more connected to my experiences and the people around me. It was wholesome I think. Decisions Acceptances: UCF Rolling (3.5k/yr scholarship) FSU RD (4k/yr scholarship) UF RD Waitlists: Tulane RD Rejections: Yale REA Cornell RD Additional Information I committed to UF! Go gators!!!!

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: UMich EA (for statistics) U Wisconsin Madison (EA- for statistics) UIUC EA (statistics) Ulowa EA (statistics)",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: Asian Residence: Midwest Income Bracket: upper middle class Type of School: public Intended Major(s): for my reach schools (which I got all rejections from)- English/humanities (with the intention of becoming a novelist/poet/arts journalist). HOWEVER for the schools I got accepted into I applied as a statistics major because I was very indecisive. Academics GPA (UW/W): 4.0/4.75 Rank (or percentile): 96th percentile of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 honors, 13 aps, 2 dual credit Senior Year Course Load: ap lit, ap macro, 3 highest-level science classes (even tho I'm not going into science my parents made me take them because they're "useful") Standardized Testing SAT (only time): 1590 (800RW, 790M) ACT: did not take AP/IB: apwh, calc ab, bio, stats, comp sci a, physics 1 (5), apush and stats (4) Extracurriculars/Activities Dance (ballet, modern, etc)- 4 years Musical theater- played lead roles in 3 school productions Choir (sophomore year) Self-published a poetry book School-level key club officer Volunteered in hospital's

infusion unit and surgery clinic Ambassador for a nursing home thingy Awards/Honors National merit semifinalist State level gold medals for English testing competition Received merit scholarship from founder of well-known poetry journal 3rd place in a college-sponsored poetry contest (sophomore year) Letters of Recommendation English teacher: 8/10 he likes me Physics teacher: 7/10 he likes me but i have no clue what he wrote about Counselor: 5/10 no offense but she's not a great writer and even though she likes me idk if she could convey that in a letter Interviews Washu- I failed this on purpose because it was my parent-imposed ED but I didn't want to go there Northwestern- good but nothing special MIT- this one just sucked lol Princeton- now this one was amazing. he really vibed with me and smiled/laughed a lot, called me mature, and said I would be a \"great fit for Princeton\" Essays I think i was relying on my essays to be my main selling point. I think they were very unique and I wrote a variety, some about my relationship with writing/the arts, and how I would like to study abroad in Europe, and some emotional stuff about wanting to travel with my dad My main personal statement was about the difficulty of finding my identity because I moved to different states a lot I literally only spent like 2 weeks writing my supplementals though Idk if my essays were bad...I tried really hard not to write anything too dramatic/ostentatious/fake, but I am really particular about my writing, being a poet and all, and it might have come off weird or overdramatic Decisions Acceptances: UMich EA (for statistics) U Wisconsin Madison (EA- for statistics) UIUC EA (statistics) U Iowa EA (statistics) Waitlists: None. Damn they must have really hated me Rejections: Harvard RD for humanities Northwestern RD for English Washu ED for statistics (but I failed this one on purpose) Yale RD for humanities Brown RD for humanities MIT RD for humanities If anyone can tell me what the weak point of my application was, I would really appreciate it, thanks!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: WWU, UCSC + 30k, UCD, Cal Poly SLO (college of science and mathematics) - still don't know how this one happened lol",

"answer": "A: I actually didn't take any standardized tests but that isn't a tag option with STEM and my GPA so ignore those! Demographics Gender: female Race/Ethnicity: white, Greek Orthodox Type of School: tiny catholic all girls school Intended Major(s): chemistry Academics GPA (UW/W): 3.69 UW, 3.93W Rank (or percentile): n/a # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 7 honors, 8APs Senior Year Course Load: AP English Lit, AP Calc AB, AP Studio Art, APUSH, Physics Standardized Testing List the highest scores earned and all scores that were reported. SAT: didn't take AP/IB: 5 AP Lang, 5 AP gov, 5 AP World, 4 AP envi sci

Extracurriculars/Activities List all extracurricular involvements, including leadership roles, time commitments, major achievements, etc. Equestrian (25hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr, 4yrs) - Developed my jumper horse in equitation and dressage. Trained and studied daily. Compete in shows across the country. Assistant barn manager (32 hrs/wk, 10 wks/yr, 3yrs) - Feeding, watering, and turning out 20+ horses. Twice daily blanket changes, tacking and untacking, general cleanup, organization, lunging and riding 3+ client horses per day. Clipped my own horse and client horses. Designed and set courses. Managed horses and clients on lesson days. Job (32hrs/wk, 30 wks/yr, 2yrs) - Took the city metro downtown each day. Youngest employee at my company. Served food, communicated effectively with customers, worked on grills, cleaned dishes, and performed closing duties. Money earned was used to pay for my riding lessons, shows, and my horse. volunteer at local food bank (3 hrs/wk, 6wks/yr, 2 yrs) - Packaging and shelving donated items. Bagging groceries and communicating with clients. public relations manager for national honor society (5 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr) - coordinated volunteer opportunities by contacting local organizations, promoted volunteer opportunities on social media, increased member engagement Outreach Volunteer for local mental health org (1 hrs/wk, 5 wks/yr, 2yrs) - Created posters and promoted the organization, attended monthly volunteer meetings. Student ambassador (5 hrs/wk, 10 wks/yr) -Speaking on student panels to incoming students and parents, educating perspective families on the school, working and coordinating schoolwide events and outreach. Sport and Spirit Officer: Attending bi-weekly meetings to coordinate and discuss sport and spirit events. Collecting and communicating information, promoting assemblies and sporting events, promoting participation and excitement for activities. Sharing and listening to input. Awards/Honors List all awards and honors submitted on your application. AP Scholar with honor Ushja emerging athletes program participant Hamel Regionals and finals qualified Accepted with honor to my school Bronze medal in a national French comp Letters of Recommendation AP Gov/apush teacher - I participate a lot in her class, she really likes me I think. We had a really heartfelt intense conversation last year where I explained my mental health issues to her and she asked to write my letter of review. Physics teacher - I\2019m probably the best student in her class, she is very complimentary of me and I help her teach sometimes. She was very enthusiastic about writing the letter. Essays I loved my UC essays, looking back I don\2019t like my common app one much. Special Circumstances I was hospitalized for my mental health freshman year and have struggled a lot with it since then which took a toll on my grades, I\2019m honestly impressed I did as well as I did. Diagnosed with and treated for ADHD junior year which MASSIVELY improved my grades (3.8 -> 4.6 W) Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: WWU, UCSC + 30k, UCD, Cal Poly SLO (college of science and mathematics) - still don\2019t know how this one happened lol Waitlists: None Rejections: UCLA (a little sad about this bc I got a request for supplements from them), UCSD, UCSB, UW Seattle, Northwestern Waiting

for: Berkeley, Columbia (big reaches I know) Additional Information: For how much I've struggled in hs I'm pretty happy with the results! I haven't visited any colleges yet but I'm eh about UCSC, mostly choosing between Cal Poly and Davis- if anyone has any advice pls share! EDIT: HOLY CRAP I GOT WAITLISTED AT BERKELEY!!!!!!"

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"question": "Q: What resume did you have to get accepted with? Accepted schools: Oregon State University (RD) - state school and safety Arizona State University (RD) Michigan State University (RD) CU Boulder (RD) - but not for my major James Madison University (RD) UW MADISON (RD) - Directly admitted for mechanical engineering!!! SO SURPRISED!!!!??",

"answer": "A: Demographics Gender: Female Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic Residence: Oregon Income Bracket: \$60-70k Type of School: Rural public Hooks (Recruited Athlete, URM, First-Gen, Geographic, Legacy, etc.): First Gen Intended Major(s): Mechanical engineering Academics GPA: 3.9 W / 3.7 UW Rank: 34 / 372 # of Honors/AP/IB/Dual Enrollment/etc.: 8 AP / 1 Dual Enrollment Senior Year Course Load: AP Calculus AB, AP Government, AP Literature, AP Drawing Standardized Testing: Test Optional for SAT/ACT AP Scores: AP Lang (4), AP Spanish (5), AP Comp Sci Principles (4); didn't submit AP Bio score (2) Extracurriculars/Activities Grantmaking President: fundraised money for local non profits, raised over 20k, led a small team of a dozen students Assistant for Trucking Company: Translated documents and emails, organized finances, calculated mileage Key Club: About 100 hours at community events and also attended annual conventions, just a passionate ordinary member Space Web Dev: Compiled data on spacecraft materials and built simple CSS and JS site to organize it Yearbook: Photographed long sport and band events, interviewed students, designed pages, and helped underclassmen Link Crew: Completed summer training, mentored a group of 15 freshmen, orchestrated orientation day activities Editing YouTube Channel: Made videos on editing help with voiceovers, earned over \$1k in ad revenue and had over 800k views. Awards/Honors AP Scholar (..) Honors Diploma (school distinction) Letters of Recommendation Key Club/Grantmaking Advisor: 7/10. Known each other for years through volunteering. She's a really sweet lady and we've had pretty good conversations. Said she focused on my service accomplishments. AP Lit Teacher: 6/10. Lowkey she rambled a lot about pretty general stuff and we didn't know each other that well, but she likes me in her class and I do really good work in there. Def would've chosen someone else, but I was running low on time. AP Gov Teacher: ??? I have no clue But I've had him for two years and he's a really funny and easy-going guy, plus he likes me in his classes and we've chatted a bit. I gave him my activity sheet and that's it

lol. Counselor: 6/10? Super nice guy, always has your best interest in mind. We know each other briefly but he coaches my brother and seems to like me for that so, hoping it was alright. Essays Common App (6/10): Not all that good, I hate rereading it. Wrote about how I've discovered all of my interests and dozens of hobbies through my local public library, ranging from sewing to coding. At the end I highlighted how all my craftmaking hobbies have prepared me to enter my career path. Kinda cliché and hyper-specific. Syracuse (3/10): I hadn't even finished my main common app essay when the deadline arrived and I was screwed. Wrote the essay in one night about a stargazing trip to the Arches National Park. Supplements (7/10): Some of them were mid cause I was doing them in a rush (CU Boulder, Virginia Tech). But the rest were so good I love reading them. I talked about how my Sci-Fi movie obsession along with helping my dad fix his semi truck got me into engineering. Then talked about the school ofc, I just loved my rythm and I think it really showed my personality. Decisions (indicate ED/EA/REA/SCEA/RD) Acceptances: Oregon State University (RD) - state school and safety Arizona State University (RD) Michigan State University (RD) CU Boulder (RD) - but not for my major James Madison University (RD) UW MADISON (RD) - Directly admitted for mechanical engineering!!! SO SURPRISED!!!?? Waitlists: Virginia Tech (RD) - reach for me, so it didn't upset me Syracuse (RD) - makes total sense lol Rejections None Final Thoughts: To be totally honest, I'm not sure if it should've gone this well for me but I won't take it for granted. I just feel heavily underqualified ngl. I've always heard UW Madison is somewhat selective for engineering and I'm genuinely very shocked I got in. But I am also eternally grateful and I'll most likely committ there!! Waiting on: Purdue (RD) - another reach! not expecting to get in but I'm happy already!"

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