**Monday, June 10th, 2020**

**Assignment 1**

**Personal essay**

My name is Maria Andrea Domínguez Osorio, I am a 22-year-old student and in this essay, you will find some of the highlights in the history of my life along with some aspects of my personality, which have made me who I am today, and will continue to shape for as long as I live.

To start with, I was born in Bogotá Colombia and have spent most of my life here. I grew up with my parents and my twin brother, which was fun since I always had a partner in crime growing up. Unfortunately, physically we are nothing alike, so stories like *the parent trap* were impossible in our case but we still made our share of trouble for our parents. One of my favorite memories as a child is of our trip to Argentina where we discovered new places and had a lot of fun. For me, the best part was that we went during the winter, so we were able to play with the snow. We also went to a beautiful city called San Carlos de Bariloche which had a big population of St. Bernard Dogs, and that was also amazing since I’ve always loved animals.

As for who I am now, currently I am an economics and chemical engineering student at the Universidad de los Andes. Truth be told, I started studying economics by chance. I first enrolled in chemical engineering, but I soon realized it wasn’t what I wanted, so I started studying in economics because one of my friends told me it was fun. Luckily, I agree with him. One of the areas of economics I enjoy the most is data analysis; I love how each data represents the reality of a person and how you can identify problems and propose different solutions through its analysis. I believe this is not only interesting but also can be helpful to society, which is why I enrolled in this class: I hope to learn and further my knowledge in this area. (Note: if you are wondering why I didn’t quit engineering if I don’t like it, it’s because I believe everything you learn is useful and, I really don’t like quitting).

Additionally, in my spare time I love to read, watch tv series, and learn new things. I particularly enjoy middle grade books because they’re really fun and they also teach you a lot about the values you should have as a person (in my opinion). One of the best books I’ve read recently was Watership Down (not sure if it qualifies as middle grade), and my favorite character was bluebell, because he used jokes and laughter as a way to go through hardships and to lift the spirits of his companions, which I think is admirable. As for the things I like to learn, I enjoy learning new languages and different crafts. For example, I am currently learning French and how to knit. Furthermore, another thing I really enjoy doing is spending time with my cats, I have two of them and I love them more than anything.

Finally, for the future I hope to continue growing both career wise and as a person. In one year, I hope to start working, continue my studies and perhaps be working on a master’s degree, I should also start going to the gym and maintaining better eating habits. In five years, I would like to travel a lot and learn about different people and cultures, also while continuing with my studies and my job, maybe by then I will be working on a doctorate. Lastly, in ten years, I also hope to continue with my studies and my professional career, and I would also love to adopt a lot of animals and maybe volunteer to foster a few. However, what I hope the most for the future is to be at peace with myself regardless of what I’m doing at each given moment, and to do the best I can in every task I decide to take on.