Why Computer Science classes were enjoyable…

* Enjoyed doing CS to numerous algorithms and code.
* Set a foundation and solidified a basic understanding of CS
* Set up the course of what they wanted to do in the future.

Why CS classes (AP CSP, CSA, etc.) were helpful…

* Taking classes such as Intro to CS and CSP helped with web design and understanding interactions, UI, interface, etc.
* AP CSA helped build skills to help with real-world problems.
  + Ex. COVID-19 database project.

Challenges (at the start and even after highschool)…

* Starting out and trying to maintain motivation - projects and understanding certain concepts can be quite frustrating for many people.
* Dealing with egos, people trying to flex their achievements -
  + Trying to focus on yourself and working on our own learning curve.
* Learning CS theory, structures that were not thought about before
  + College courses are typically structured differently than high school classes.
* Persevering through the problems and hardship - finding solutions.
* Making sure to not cut corners (don’t take the easy ways out)!
* Trying to go above and beyond the standard
* Adjusting to the way tests are done and how they are not always structured in a way that is totally straight-forward.

Project based learning (PBLs)…

* PBLs and tests are typically similar/the same. Though, PBLs are largely embedded in CS as a whole, rather than just theory.
* Group studying helps with understanding concepts especially during project based learning
  + Don’t be scared to ask questions.

Applying CS in non-CS majors:…

* Writing scripts to make life easier (ie. programming converters for documents)
* Programming stress tests, manipulating certain code from class to help them work better, or 3D printing are things that use CS.
* Problem solving skills developed during CS courses help you to learn other concepts such as mathematics.
* Majors like statistics and cognitive science are not technically CS majors, but prior programming knowledge can be helpful.

Jobs/internships with a professor or teacher…

* Stand out to teachers, interact with them, go above and beyond,
* Submit resumes.
* Work close to what you want to specialize in.
* Work on personal projects to show that you know what you’re doing (even 2-3 projects is sufficient)
  + This shows a company/interviewer that you are knowledgeable in the field of computer science.
  + Sorting algorithms and path finding are some examples of things one can program.
* Have a resume and know when to apply for said internships/jobs
  + Many companies try to hire a year before, at the beginning of the school year (early September - mid November)
  + Apply ahead and have a resume done by that time
  + Have a LinkedIn profile
* Build a network of people you know and reach out - add people on LinkedIn.
  + This helps with referrals and overall networking