

Assignment: **Get to know you**

Rishi Kothari

ENG1D8

Part 1

Planning

Personality and Interests

- Programming
 - Been programming and designing for 6 years
 - Programming has taught me to think in creative but logical ways

Goals in School

- In past years, my goals for school have been to get great marks, and *just* get great marks.
- However, this made me prize my self-worth on marks
- This led to me having a very toxic attitude towards my friends and the people in my life.
- Eventually, I realized that marks were temporary, in a sense.
- They will always fluctuate, and there isn't really a point in putting your self-worth on test marks.
- This year, I'm putting a focus on the connections that I'll make in school, rather than focusing exclusively on my marks.
- This means that I have a focus on sociality in this semester.

Someone I'd like to meet

- I'd like to meet Leibniz
- He was one of the greatest polymaths of the 17th and 18 centuries
- This era was also called the "Enlightenment era", simply because of the amount of maths and science that were going on at that time.
- Expertise ranged from maths to philosophy
 - One of his greatest achievements was creating the foundations of calculus
 - This is one of my favorite units in math, and I would love to talk about it
 - He was also a theologian, and I'd love to see what his thoughts were about religion at that time.
- I'm by no means a good mathematician, but I enjoy doing maths, and Leibniz was one of the best in his field.

Paragraphs

I'm Rishi, a programmer, smart worker, wannabe mathematician, and someone who values connection. I've been programming for about 6 years, and in that time, it's given me a couple of things: my logical attitude towards problems and a sense of confidence; I can do anything with it! In addition, programming has also given me an interesting personality: one that works smart, optimizes tasks, and goes above what is expected. It's also pushed me to do good academically, but I took this to an extreme. I started prioritizing my academics over *everything* else in my life to get high marks, and near the end of Grade 8, when my marks started to drop, I paid the price, both socially and mentally. That's why in high school, I'm putting my connections with people as a priority and goal in school, so that I become a well-rounded student, rather than somebody who only cares about marks. However, programming isn't the *only* part of my life. I also love math, and I'd love to discuss it with someone else that loves math, possibly more than anybody else in history: Leibniz.

Leibniz is known as the greatest 17th-century polymath, and he is the person that I feel best aligns with my interests. Best known for his work in the governments of old, Leibniz consulted about obscure topics, ranging from math to philosophy to theology, which is why I'd love to converse with him. He was a pioneer of my favorite unit in math: calculus, and helped create the modern idea of philosophy. These are both ideas that have shaken the very core of thinking, and thinkers along with it. As a result, I think that a talk with him would allow me to approach function analysis and the rest of math with the eye of a true mathematician and philosopher.

Part 2

Planning

My word

Discursive

- Discursive mainly means to cover a wide range of subjects, and is mostly used in a negative connotation

My symbol

Wheel

Paragraph

The symbol I've chosen is the humble wheel, and is representative of innovation and symmetry. The wheel is constantly overlooked, even if it has solved some of the biggest problems in our civilization to date. What this means to me is that innovation can come from anywhere: nobody planned on creating the wheel, but lo and behold: it exists! I've taken this philosophy to my heart; in my daily life, I innovate. For instance, in a math test, answers to hard questions can come from anywhere, and just like the wheel, nobody planned it. I describe myself as being "discursive", which simply means "to cover a wide range of subjects". The wheel is also symbolic of symmetry, and by extension, well-roundedness. This is representative of my aim as a student: not to become a wheel, but to become a well-rounded student. This also ties into my word: "Discursive", which means to cover a wide range of subjects. Right now, I think that I have knowledge on specific subjects, but being well-rounded means having a skill set that is both usefully wide *and* deep. This is my aim in life, and is why a wheel best represents me.