

Number 1

I have no doubt benefitted immensely from this forum. Thank you to everyone. My Visa was approved 18/5/2017 at the VI consulate. I hope this helps someone as much as some of the transcripts I saw prior to my interview helped me.

VO: Good morning

Me: Good morning

VO: Please pass me your passport and your I-20

VO: Why are you going to the US

Me: I am going for my Doctorate degree in Chemistry at Syracuse University

VO: what is your highest education qualification?

Me: BSc Chemistry

VO: Oh. How did you manage to get into a straight PhD Program?

Me: A combination of high undergrad GPA and research experience gained from working with one of the research-oriented faculty members in my Department. Gave her a breakdown of my prior research experience and my research interest.

VO: Tell me about your school application process to your chosen school?

Me: Well, when I discovered SU, my next point of call was the website of the chemistry department, after reading about the department, I went ahead to visit the web page of all the faculty research groups to know what research they were into. I requested for copies of recent journal articles from two faculty members with similar research interest after an initial electronic correspondence. They gladly obliged. Then I discovered that a particular professor had an ongoing research work that had a wonderful overlap with my research interest. I sent an e-mail to this professor, indicated my interest in joining her research group and requested to know if there would be space available in her lab for fall 2017. After this, I prepared and sat for the GRE exams, then I prepared my SOP and requested for letters of recommendation from my lecturer after which I completed and paid for an online application.

VO: Good. How are you going to fund your studies?

Me: I received a full tuition scholarship in an addition to a TA position during the school year and RA during the summer.

VO: Wow. Congratulations. Do you have any family member in Nigeria?

Me: My whole nuclear family resides in Nigeria.

VO: Oh. Okay. Sorry, my computer is freezing. If you had studied computer science, you would have been able to help me out with this. But, I think chemistry is better for you.

Me: *almost faints upon hearing "sorry"* Well, I like to think that chemistry is life, everything

around you is chemistry, but Computer science is a decent course too, computer scientists are like the doctors of today.

VO: *takes her hand across the stack of blue papers into a cabinet and pulls out one of the "whites"* your research sounds very exciting, pick up your visa on Tuesday.

I give all the Glory to God. God is good. While I was on the queue waiting for my turn to be interviewed, I could not help but notice a number of responses from people that were being interviewed seemed crammed. I think it is important that prospective applicants appear calm and confident. I do not think that the interview transcripts posted here are not meant to be crammed, but to serve as guidelines for preparation. Good luck to all future applicants.

Number 2

Good evening all, visa was approved today at US consulate Lagos. I just wanna thank everybody that has ever commented on this thread as I always learn from what I read here. Special thanks to @slimmy2005 for helping with my sevis fee payment and @holudarey01 for always checking up and of course @cutemorgan for introducing me to this thread. My appointment was 6:30am and I was the first person to be attended to today, here it goes.

V.O: Why are you going to the US?

Me: To pursue my doctorate degree in chemistry at Louisiana State University.

V.o: At baton rouge?

Me: Yes at baton rouge.

V.o: What other degree do you have?

Me: Bachelor's degree

V.o: In what course

Me: chemistry as well

V.o: great, did you get any kind of funding?

Me: Yes I did, graduate teaching assistantship, waives my tuition and with a generous stipend....couldnt help but smile

V.o: smiled back, thats exciting

Me: very exciting

V.o: So how did u know about Lsu?

Me: It was first recommended to me by a friend who did his graduate studies there, then I read up on the school, its chemistry program is rated top 100 in the entire country, and they have some really interesting researches going on.

V.o:* nodded* thats good, did you apply to any other schools?

Me: Yes, four other schools..

V.o: have you paid your sevis fee?

Me: yes I have

V.o: then he typed somethings for a bit, ok your student visa is approved, you cant enter the US until 30 days bfore ur program start date. Dont forget to have your I20 on your person and not in your luggage. Then something about Education Usa. At this point, I was too happy to say anything, was just nodding. Typing it now, it seems long but it all took less than 3mins. Thank you all.

Number 3

Oh! I am indebted to this forum if I didn't send my transcript, I would say it again everybody merits GBOSA!!!!!!!, most especially Slimmy05, Bigfrancis and Walspring. This forum is a live saver as it gives me total confidence that my passport is not going back home with me that day. IT IS GOD, BUT NOTHING MORE. I am a silent nairalander but I have been following and reading thru the transcripts since September 2014. This has made me to prepare more than ever. Like others say here that prayer, fasting and commitment to God is a fast way of visa approval, I fasted and prayed for 7 days and indeed it worked for me.

Fast forward to embassy after I left home very late around 5.50am and I was booked for appointment at 6.30am. I got to the embassy around 7am and immediately I am pressed, I don't know if that's interview fever like they used to say. I asked where I could ease myself, I was directed and one "aboki" told me I will pay 100bucks. I have no choice than to pay, I quickly ran into where F1 were queued up, we were directed and that and that and that until we got to the main room. Chai! It was like a market place that everybody with his/her own problem(s). I did my biometrics and we queued up. No sitting down! A good punishment for everybody, everywhere got filled up and crowded. It was this time they had the thought that we should be seated up and in order. While I was seated waiting for my turn, I quickly did "Amebo" and listen to interview going on in window 11. A white man and lenient with the willingness to issue visa. I heard their conversations and I prayed to God the man should interview me, why? He asked the lady in front of him "why she chose the school?" the lady was saying because the school has a balance something sha. The VO was very nice to ask her the same question four times and was even explaining to the lady the reason she chose the school over others while the lady was saying rubbish, at the end she was denied. Another guy was even arguing with the VO, I looked at them and said to myself "does it mean these people don't know about nairaland" I should have done better to help them but everybody with his/her own issues. Now we were called up to stand on the queue and while standing I saw this Chinko Oyinbo at window 1. I said hey, na the chinko guy people dey talk about for nairaland be this? In fact the guy is very strict and took him much more time to interview people. I prayed I was not directed to him, thank God I was directed to window 9. The lady in front of me was denied, I pitied her but I couldn't help. Next, to my turn but I kept my cool, stood on the number still and looked straight at her eye balls composed until she called me. Immediately I was there I took my brown paper bag containing my documents and purposely threw it GBAMM on the slab. At this moment the confidence just came from

nowhere, maybe because she called me herself, I just don't know. This is what transpired between the two of us:

VO: good morning sir?

Me: good morning ma with that warm smile

VO: how are you today

Me: I didn't answer, I just passed my passport, ds 160, sevis fee confirmation and I-20 without asking me to pass them

VO: can u pls place your left four fingers on the scanner?

Me: what do u say, I can't hear u clearly? She repeated herself. But I will tell u, am using this logic to calm my pressure and build more confidence. I did as she said.

VO: now, she was checking at my I-20 and at the same time checking her computer with fast typing. How do u come across this school?

Me: I was just looking at everything she was doing.

Me: Ok, during my NYSC programme, I attended an annual conference summit in Abuja which was organised by the Chemical Society of Nigeria about global climatic and environmental pollution, one of the keynote speakers there happened to be a Professor from ETSU, Prof. Adams. We spoke at length after the conference. I also google searched using chemistry.org and (the VO cuts in)

VO: ok ok ok, what concentration do u have your BSc in?

Me: can u pls come again

VO: she repeated herself

Me: Chemistry

VO: what specialisation would it be for your masters? She asked the question becos it was not specify in my I-20 but becos I ask many questions and read thru some of the transcript I believe u can get a nice and technical specialisation for yourself. Your school will not come and defend your visa for you, note this now.

Me: industrial and analytical chemistry

VO: ok. She looked confused a bit but I stood on my point. Industrial Chemistry? Where do u apply this industrial chemistry

Me: God! I didn't prepare this question out of 120 questions and answers I prepared for my interview. I answered;

Me: as the name implies, it is applied in the industries to analyse using instruments like AAS, GC-MS, LC-MS and colorimeter in order to determine, quantify and characterise the components.. the VO cuts in

VO: or is it the chemistry for oil and gas sector?

Me: NO, I mean industrial chemistry

VO: ok, what will this program do for you when u return?

Me: yes, I believe this is where I wanted her to go so I can handle her wella

Me: when I return to Nigeria, the program would give me the opportunity to work as an industrial and analytical chemist, it will also give me the in-depth knowledge and scientific skills required for me to head my dad newly set up food testing laboratory as well as working with the Federal government of Nigeria research institutes like NIMR and FIRO. By this, I can contribute positively towards improving human health, environment and industry in my country, Nigeria.

VO: how do u get your scholarship?

Me: again, I asked her to pls repeat what she said and a way of gaining more confidence. She politely repeated it with a louder voice

Me: it is a merit scholarship awarded to me based on my academic performance and the document I sen..the VO cuts

VO: ok ok ok, what's your total score in GRE

Me: 300

VO: can u tell me what you scored in each?

Me: analytical writing-3.0 , Quantitative reasoning- 157 and Verbal section- 143

VO: what does your dad do?

Me: He has a school and also the CEO of xyz food testing laboratory in Nigeria.

VO: ensure that u keep your I-20 very well as it will be useful for you. Also pick your passport at the circle place in the paper given to you. Congratulations, your visa is approved.

Me: was just standing looking at her face straight and said ALHAMDULILLAH. She was looking at me too but doesn't understand what I said. Na so I con bounce out with joy.

ADVICE:

1.Know that it is by God's grace and favour.

2.Prepare yourself very well. In fact, I spent more than one year studying people's transcripts and it worked for me.

3.Don't be scared to asked questions from somebody that knows. Ask slimmy05 and Bigfrancis, I asked too much questions from them

4.Reframe all these questions and answers into your own

5.Be confident and look straight at the VO's eye balls

6.Dress properly and do away with ties as I was advised here.

7. Fast, pray and commit yourself to God

8. Don't be the first person to be interviewed, be like number 30 on the queue during interview, this will let u hear different conversations and be prepared for yours with much confident.

9. Don't rush into given out your documents unless otherwise asked for.

Number 4

GOD IS GOOD!!!

Yesterday afternoon I posted transcript coming up soon with faith..because I have been denied my visa on monday (14/12/15)...the V.O that interviewed me a tall huge man asked me only 2 questions and denied me..(window 9)..today he was at (window 11) busy denying people... I got frustrated when I got home...but I still believed in God that my visa hustle can't just be gone like that....after all the fasting and prayers...so I had to pay for another visa appointment and the date I saw was 11th of January.. I kept on hoping and praying that God should use me as a 'living Testimony' to others..and suddenly I saw a date which was today 16/12/15 by 9:00 so I quickly applied... And I got it.....then today after the long process of going to Walter Carrington from ikorodu.. And my shoe even got spoilt by a bike man 🚲...I finally got there and stayed on the queue for the normal security checks....den got inside the consulate.. Den was on the queue...den one naija security guy just carry d sharing of people to Windows for head....he finally took me to a young lady who was just smiling at me while I was on queue (NA GOD!).. Then the interview began.

Me: Good morning ma'am

V.O: Hello!

V.O: pass me your documents and place your hands on the fingerprint scanner please?

Me: Did both while we were both still smiling

V.O: so why are you going to the U.S?

ME: Am going for my undergraduate studies in radiologic technology under health Science at Georgia perimeter college

V.O: How many schools did you apply for?

Me: I applied to three schools

V.O:name them please?

Me: Georgia perimeter college, Chattahoochee technical college, Georgia military college

V.O:so why did you choose Georgia perimeter college over the rest

Me: after thoroughly research through educationUSA...I found out that Georgia perimeter college has been the center of excellence especially in Radiologic technology and has provided quality education through practical ways as much as possible.. So it's quite an obvious choice for me and also a friend of mine who came back 2 months ago to work in my dad's company told me the school is good

V.O:so what is radiologic technology?

Me: Radiologic technology has to do with diagnostic imaging examinations and administering radiation therapy treatments

V.O: Why did you choose this course

Me: I have got strong interest in this field right from childhood and doing this course will provide me specialization in my field of interest and also my dad has a radiologic technology company which he started up after retiring from a hospital and also I lost my friend due to late detection of cancer cells in his body while I was in secondary school and cancer is one of the deadliest illness in the world now..so I have grown much passion to become a radiologic technologist and help people..cause that's what we scientist do..we help people

V.O did you write any standardized tests?

Me: Yes I wrote the SAT and TOEFL

V.O: How was your SAT?

Me: it was okay..I did well

V.O: so who is your sponsor?

Me: my mom

V.O: what does she do?

Me: she works at the board of Internal Revenue as a director and she also has a timber processing company which she inherited from her late dad

V.O: Alright you will be needing your I-20 at the POE and slide down the white paper

Me: thank you ma'am.. thank you ma'am

V.O: don't mention

No single document was asked!!

You see my people of Nairaland.. Am really a living Testimony of God's glory.... Walspring and slimmy05.....Your unlimited blessings is on the way...wait on it!!!...

GOD BLESS YOU'LL.. AND GOODLUCK ON YOUR INTERVIEWS

Number 5

I am so sorry my visa transcript is coming in so late.

Here is my visa story, This is based on a true life story...

I give all the Glory to God Almighty because all Powers belong to Him. He is indeed faithful and just. Even though I had been on nairaland for a while, I came across this forum not too long after I got admitted to WSU, I told a colleague of mine that knowledge is power, that things would have been different if I had discovered this forum earlier and all he said was "Its never too late". ffwd... I applied from Calabar, and Tuesday 06:30am 18th of July was the only available date that week. After all the preparations,i was interviewed by a lady Vo that approved the guy before me so for my mind i just happy say she will do the same for me...

The interview proper

Me: Good morning

Vo: good morning pass me your documents

Me: Passes them

Vo: which school are you going to

Me: Washington State University

Vo: how did you find out about this school

Me: I searched extensively using Google for schools offering my course and was referred to bodies like study portal,msinus and usnews I streamlined my search to schools offering a major in Environmental health

Vo: did you write any tests?

Me: I wrote the TOEFL test,GRE was not a required for env.engineering at WSU

Vo: How many schools did you apply to

Me: three schools, Eku,WSU and university of Sheffield on d uk

Vote: nodding and typing but glances at me once in a while. Then asked who is paying

Me: I am a beneficiary of a Federal government scholarship and my guardian will pay the rest

Vo: nods and ask how did you get the scholarship

Me: I applied using the scholarship link when it was advertised was shortlisted and invited for a computer based test after which successful awardees were invited for briefing and issued their award letters

Vote: nodded and said so why this school

Me: I chose this sch because their curriculum fits my profile and they offered a concentration on environmental health engineering

Vo: cuts in, I think they are other schools in the US that offer a major in environmental health

Me: I just continued but stammered here a bit that I carefully checked the ongoing research by the department professors and found one that aligns with my area of interest, by professor JJ whom I have contacted and he agreed for me to join his team. The research is on the transformation and degradation of graphene nano materials in d environment. I was also impressed with the prompt and timely response of the faculty members to all my inquiries

Vo: she allowed me finish nodded and repeated I think there are other universities in the USA that offer that same major. She then asked what do you do

Me: I am an environmental health officer with CRS min of health under the food safety and inspection unit

Vo: are you married

Me: no

Vo: any kids? She murmured to her self no kids since you are not married but i answered no and she just gave me d blue paper and said every am sorry your visa will not be approved at this time every thing you need to know is explained in this letter.

I left the Embassy with mixed feelings, I could not really place how I felt, i just wondered where i went wrong? but i immediately just said thank God and I felt peaceful inside from that time on, i kept on thanking God oh. Straight to GTBank and paid another 64k, came back to the hotel and filled my form 160 again. Tried booking an appointment but I was still seeing the old appointment. Next day I saw some openings from wed-fri, I decided on Fri 21st July 2017, 9:30am after some considerations.

Today Friday 21st 2017 9:30am Lagos US consulate

After all the security checks, i entered the main hall, omo it was filled up with people oh, all planning to travel for different reasons, I encountered the same lady that entered my details on Tuesday, she said "you are here again" she remembered me because of my name "ave" because she asked me the meaning of my name on Tuesday. I said yes, I was denied on Tuesday, "and you reapplied immediately" (am sure she was looking at the date on my GTbank receipt), i said yes. I saw the Vo that denied me tho she was in another window busy issuing blue papers i just smiled, lots of funny scenes maybe because of the crowd. FFwd... to my interview Today... The two people in front of me were denied but I was not disturbed

Me: Good morning

Vo: Good morning (in a very friendly tone) how are you doing?

Me: Great(i almost asked how are you too but i just kept my mouth shut)

Vo: So why are you going to Washington Pullman?

Me: I am going to study Masters in Environmental Engineering in WSU, Pullman

Vo: Why Environmental Engineering?

Me: Environmental engineering is a perfect merge between my passion an my training, I am aware that maintaining a healthy environment...(Vo no let me finish oh)

Vo: Your training was in what

Me: Biochemistry, I also did a certification course on Environmental Health (He just did as if he did not hear that part)

Vo: Tell me about Biochemistry

Me: Biochemistry is the study of chemical processes that takes place in...(Vo cuts in again)

Vo: How do you differentiate an organic compound from an inorganic compound (me i shock first, then i said sorry i did not get that, he repeated the question, for my mind i was like is this for real?)

Me: The carbon-carbon covalent bonds(not sure if i was 100% but then, its been ages i left chemistry)

Vo: Was busy typing and acting like he was comparing notes, for my mind i was like 'what is he looking at now? Then the next question came, it was as if i was expecting it) So why WSU?

Me: I choose WSU because(i could not remember again oh, he then left his system and was looking at me) I choose WSU because the environmental Engineering course curriculum relates with my career path...Vo cuts in

Vo: Which courses will you be doing at WSU that is related to your career

Me: Hazardous waste Engineering, Biochemical waste water treatment

Vo: and how is hazardous waste management related?

Me: I explained while he typed, he did not ask me but I proceeded to talk about water treatment oh, he did not answer me, he was just typing the next thing he asked was

Vo: Who will be paying for your studies?

Me: I am a beneficiary of a Federal government scholarship through the nddc

Vo: continues typing What do you do

Me: I work as an environmental health officer in CRS Ministry of Health in the Public Health
Dept under the Food Safety and Inspection Service

Vo: Are you married

Me: No, I am engaged

Vo: Any kids

Me: No

Vo: Have you traveled out of Nigeria before

Me: Yes, I went on a visit to Abu Dhabi with my sister, and her kids.

Vo: Nods his head, flips through my passport then drops it, picks the white paper circles the pickup point and said the magic words "your visa has been approved" returns my I-20 with instructions that I will need it at the point of entry and then Enjoy your stay in the US

Me: Thank you very much (and I walked out)

I no just sabi as those police people d know when person get visa, Omo, dey begin congratulate me even as i de bone like say nothing happen oh. 🙏

I must say, this thread was very helpful my special appreciation goes to texem, Oludare01, smithsydney, and everyone in this platform that criticized my initial transcripts and went out of their way to help me, I really do appreciate you all.

In all, prepare well (there is this confidence you have when you are well prepared), maintain eye contact always (I did that through out my interview), Pray(I did an hour of thanksgiving, worship and praise when men slept Acts 16:25-26, Psalm 24:1, Joshua1:3)My thoughts throughout was I will not leave this place with my passport today.

Number 6

A journey I was forced to take..... about 3yrs ago, my who was so keen about me coming over to the usa forced to apply to the same school who got admitted to and I obliged. Since it was not my own plan, I paid application fee and did not send my transcript till a year later after which I wrote the school to waive TOEFL for me because in addition to my first degree, I have obtained a professional diploma but the school rejected by saying I had finished the program over 2years and as such my proficiency in English needs to be proved (as if I don't forget how to speak the language over time). I enrolled for TOEFL then on the day of the exams, I was not allowed to write the exams because I had an expired International passport. I was so pained and frustrated (at this time, I already developed interest in schooling abroad). I decided I was going to renew my passport then re-enrolled. I however wrote the school requesting them to tick transcript as received on my account checklist on their site. That was when another person responded to my mail and told me he has received the transcript and having gone through it he has decided to push for TOEFL waiver for me....which he did (first miracle).

I was admitted by the school and I booked appointment at the embassy (21/7/2017). I discovered after booking that my current place of work (as filled in DS-160) does not really relate to the program I'm going for and that gave me a lot of fear. So I started praying about it. Prepared the best I can then I went for the interview yesterday at 6:30.

Went through all the checks but I think there was an issue with my ds-160 because after the biometrics, others were told to keep all other docs except their passport and I-20 but in my case I was told to hold on to it as other checks I have passed thru have been looking at the same form for too long than necessary. Eventually assigned to window 2, 'a black american'. She approved only one person before me (trust me, over 12 people were ahead of me) I was so nervous and scared.....

VO: good morning

me: good morning ma, (passing her my passport and form I-20 before she asked)

VO: after scanning my passport, please pass me your ds 160

Me: gave it to her (and she scanned too)

VO: I see you are going for ur masters in Geographic information science and cartography at Eastern Illinois University

Me: yes ma

VO: tell me the process of application

Me: I saw the programme I was interested in, Paid application fee, sent in my official transcript and then wrote my statement of purpose(trust me I was not that eloquent because of fear)

VO: how many exams did you write?

Me: None, they were all waived for me

VO: you mean you didnt write either GRE or TOEFL?

Me: waived

VO: how many schools did you apply to?

Me: just one, though I considered University of Maryland, Baltimore but I eventually applied to just EIU.

VO: how many unit course is required for your graduation

Me: 32

VO: can u mention some of the core courses?

Me: remote sensing, introduction to GIS, landscape ecology, accounting (den I wen blank) so I said and some other courses I cant remember right now

VO: how does your current work relate to your study and how will it help you

Me: (knowing so well that they do not relate at all, I had to cook something up) I was employed for a project in this company. we were to develop a map showing all telecomms mast managed by my company in the country, noting their distances to each other, the peculiarity of each of the sites etc. then after the project, I was en grafted into the system as 'diesel logistics' (which by the way is exactly what I do)

VO: what do you intend doing after this programme?

Me: I intend setting up a consultancy firm....because where I worked before, we contract some jobs because we couldnt handle them but with my first decree background in urban and regional planning and a professional science masters in GIS, I will be well grounded in getting required data analysed then used for planning purpose

VO: who is your sponsor

Me: my cousin and my sister (was expecting her to say where does she work but she didnt ask)

VO: hands over my form I-20....keep this very well as you will be needing it at POE then asked, u want to pick your passport up at ISOLO

Me; yes....thanks

no document was checked.....I see the hand of God in this.....wishing others best of grace.

Number 7

Abuja Embassy

Was the first person to be interviewed at window 9.

Appointment 7:30.

Approved 8:03 I think ???

ME: Good morning.

VO: Good morning.

VO: pass me your passport.

ME: gave her my passport, I-20, and SEVIS receipt.

VO: Why did you choose Tufts.

ME: the research in energy storage and conversion at Tufts closely aligns with my research interest.

VO: what will study?

ME: PhD in Mechanical Engineering.

VO: what's your second major? (She corrected her self on looking at my I-20)

VO: how will you fund your studies?

ME: I got a full tuition waiver + (at this point she was no longer interested in what o was about to say again) RA which comes...(I stopped talk since she wasn't even interested again).

VO: can I see a letter from the school showing this funding?

ME: gave her my admission letter.

VO: what do you do presently?

ME: Working as a Technical Support Analyst in an IT firm.

VO: what's your research interest.

ME: Energy storage.

VO: Are you married?

NO: No

VO: where do you work?

ME: Trefoil Networks.

VO: okay, its an IT company right.

VO: I will be keeping your passport (She already kept it the first time I gave it to her). So she smiled and said your Visa has been approved.

I heard everything she said afterwards but i did not just care.

Questions she did not ask. How many school do you apply to? What will you do after your PhD?

Will return back to Nigeria? (She probably did not want me to lie lol).

Number 8

I thought I would post this 12 days ago but as God would have it, I could not until now. I have been on 'Administrative Processing' from the day I had my interview (May 30) until today that my visa was finally issued. I interviewed at Abuja and the interview goes thus:

VO: Good morning

Me: Good morning and how has been work?

VO: Fine thanks.

VO: Pass me your passport and I-20

Me: I passed them* the VO looked at my I-20 for like 30 secs

VO: So you are going to the University of Arkansas

Me: Yes, for my PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology

VO: Nods, so tell me about the program at Uni of Arkansas

Me: The program is for five years and I will be required to take 42 credits hour in total, 18 for dissertation research and 24 for coursework. A minimum GPA of 3.0 must be maintained every semester* (VO cuts in)

VO: how old are you?

Me: 2_ years old

VO: Are you married?

Me: No I am not

VO: Any kid?Me: No ma

VO: Do you have any postgraduate degree

Me: No

VO: So you are going straight from BSc to PhD

Me: Exactly

VO: When did you finish your BSc

Me: I graduated in 2015 from Obafemi Awolowo University with a first class degree in** she cuts in (I was trying to sell myself here to provide 'reasons' for the BS to PhD route)

VO: Really?

Me: Yes really

VO: Do you have anything to support that claim?

Me: Yes, I passed both my transcript and certificate.** she looked at my transcript (a student copy but stamped by the registrar) placed on top my certificate. I think the transcript looked somehow to her (If I had known, I would have placed the certificate on top or better still just BSc certificate)

VO: Okay, so what have you been doing?

Me: I have been working as a research assistant at Obafemi Awolowo University * she cuts in

VO: Alright, I will hold on to your passport, I-20 and your certificates. I will verify your certificates and we will get back to you.

Me: I was then waiting for white paper but she did not pass any. I then asked, 'ma, how about my white paper'. She looked at me with a big grin (looked sarcastic though). I then smiled and zoomed off before she changes the story.

Thank you to everyone that contributes to this platform. Even though I hardly comment, I visit often to learn from folks with wealth of knowledge.

Number 9

My Visa was approved today at Abuja Embassy.

My transcript goes like this:

VO: Good morning, can I have your passport and I-20?

Me: Good morning(with a smile). I gave her.

VO: You are going for a Ph.D. at the College of William and Mary?

Me: Yes

VO: What course?

Me: Computer Science

VO: Are you married? Do you have kids?

Me: No, I am not married. I have no kids.

VO: Do you have any relative in the US?

Me: No

VO: What do you do?

Me: I am a network security administrator at *bleep* company.

VO: Your visa has been approved. She gave me my I-20, a white A4 paper with all information on where to pick my passport. And another small white paper with reminders I should note before I travel to the

US. I walked out cheerfully.

Thanks to all my fam on the GRE thread, you guys are terrific. And to those helping folks with information here, thank you so much. I learned so much searching for answers from past threads.

To all those going with VIU, please reconsider. I witnessed a guy being queried with his VIU admission. He answered all questions confidently. However, if you were there, you would observe that the VO would not give the VIU guy the visa. Please be wise. If you like, you can contradict my opinion, I won't reply. Thank you all.

Number 10

Hallelu juah---Got my Visa approved on the 14/09/18.This is Heavenly favour! Had never been to any embassy in my life(even Benin Republic if that exist) The interview was like 3-5mins.I prayed for favour all through last week,even while the interview was going and God favoured me. Celebrate with me cos God is faithful and will favour you when you sincerely cry onto Him. My transcripts...I just got my visa approved today(14-09-2018)

This is beyond my ability(dont say am claiming holy holy).when God is involved you will ascribe all the glory to Him which is my case. The story.....I will try to keep this short I have been aspiring to further my education in developed countries USA as my target.Written GRE also did WES evaluation as required by the school I finally applied to. Miraculously, I was awarded FULL scholarship and in addition,i would be paid monthly stipend in August 10 2018 and I have to resume by 27th of August.hmmmmm. My heart started beating like the heart of rabbit oooooo.I borrowed money to pay for SEVIS cos I was damn broke.I also hustle the visa application fees but the earliest appointment date available was 14/09/18.Cold and POOH catch me cos i was thinking I would not make it with the resumption and probably loose the juicy scholarship oooooo.I started sending mails to the school,the department,international admission office like a sales man that wanted to keep tracks of his customers.Nairalanders I sent endless mails ooo stating my situation and condition.Surprisingly,I was moved to Spring 2019(Jan) with the scholarship and stipend still intact.Halleluyah! Started praying for Favour on my appearance,Favour from my voice and words of my mouth ,Favour all round.Today ,woke up 4:00am hit the road 4:30am declaring favour on the road and on the traffic oooo.The traffic at Island today(14/09/18) was scaring cos am not use to this axis at all.Got to a point and jump on Okada.Got there 7:50 and I was scheduled 6:30am.Started panicking cos I have never been to any embassy before .Started asking people about my situation ,one young lady understood my situation and said I will be attended to.8:30am I was in ,going thru security screening.I never knew there was one small flash drive hidden inside my file oo.The security lady asked:Do you hhave flash in your file ? I said No(confidently oooo).The lady screen the file and said you have flash in that file.Lo and behold I saw the evil flash oooo.I immediately i was directed back to square one(Join the queue from beginning.This time it was 9:00.and seems the whole of lagosians were on the queue.Some how,I jump to the front oooo.by 9:10.I started seeing blue papers like no tomorrow.

The interview started

V.O: Your documents

Me:Good morning

V;O: she did not reply my greetings ooo

V.O: how do you know about the school?

Me: I started saying story oooo

Vo: Calm down

VO:HOW DO YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS SCHOOL

ME:ONLINE

VO:WHAT DO U DO NOW:

Me: I work in a research and development of company.....

VO:WHY MSC IN CHEMISTRY

ME: THERE ARE ALOT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT THAT ARE going in the USa that are ALIENS TO ME ,I WANT TO STAY INFORMED IN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORLD SO THAT I COULD BE BETTER EQUIPPED AND ALSO get BETTER job

VO: ARE YOU MARRIED

ME :YES WITH 2 KIDS

VO: Are they coming with you during your program

Me: No(which kind witch question is that)

VO: I have to ask you now so that your family wont be denied visa when they plan of coming to join you during your program

Me: No

VO:started typing oooooooooo

Vo: who is sponsoring this

Me: the fact that I got full schorlarship with monthly stipend, my cousin will take care of my welfare

VO: Where does your cousin work

Me: XYZ as

VO: have you travelled ouside Nija before

Me: No(with smile)

VO: started typing like no tomorrow

VO: I have approved your VISA,she circled the collection point on the white paper and started talking oooo

ME: Joy unspeakable blocked my ears oooooooooo.I didnt hear anything again till I stepped out to get my phones from the police officer.

MY advice: Pray for favour and ensure all your documents and your responses during the interview align with whatever you are going to do in USA.

IT IS REALLY A NEW DAWN ERA Same is mine , because what eyes have not seen nor ears heard shall become the order of the day.....this is really Gods doing

Number 11

Hello NL family,I guess it is time to upload my transcript,my visa wasn't approved on aug 24th. It was my first trial,date was initially on aug 15,2018 but was rescheduled to aug 24th. It was a cold n rainy morning. All aug 14,15,16,17,18,20,23,and 24th applicants were scheduled together to 24th,all 7am,7:30am,and 8am applicants were joined together. Queue was like that of judgement day queue....the one we usually see on jehovah witness books of people going to hell. My time was 7am and

I came before that(abuja). Was interviewed by a nice white guy in his mid-thirties or later than that at window 10. After praying silently not to be interviewed by a mean white skinny woman at window 6. I escaped her though. Vo smiled and gave me a thumbs up to come quickly,I smiled back and came.

Vo: good mnin,you hear english right?

Me: yes,sure(surprised)

Vo: pass me ur documents(I did)

Vo: so you are going for an F1 visa?

Me:Yes

Vo:so.....where is the sch?

Me: st. Cloud(waited for a sec wondering if he meant state or city)

Vo: No,I mean state.

Me:Minnesota

Vo: what are some of the courses you would be taking?

Me:physics,gen.Engr,maths,statistics,chemistry...basic chemistry(was chemistry really there).

Vo🤔(not bothered)so this sch is a 2 yr sch,right?

Me:no,4yrs....(see this mumu o,u wan fall me)

Vo: He asked again

Me: 4 yrs(i repeated)

Vo: sowhat does your sponsor do?

Me: he is a professional lawyer who owns a law firm...beside that,he has acres of lands in two diff locations he leases out to commercial farmers...he gets a lot of income from these(both law firm n these)

Vo:what percentage of your tuition will he be covering approximately cos ur sch fees is 29,00usd.

Me: about 60-70%

Vo: how much does ur statement read in usd?

Me: about 55,000usd

Vo: can you approximate how much he earns...like monthly?

Me: i cant be specific but I can assure you it runs into millions

vo: so u said u would be taking statistics,physics n basic chemistry in program?

Me: Yes(guy physics n statistics d dia bt chemistry got me confused)

Vo: why this course?

Me 🤔waited for like a second for my memory to download)....I have this plan of setting up an ict firm somewhere in lagos or my state after my program... So with this course.....(he cut me short)

Vo: why the sch?

Me:[still recovering from all the abrupt cut n join interview....the guy no d wait make u hit am] as an..*ABET*(I corrected and expanded the meaning),the engineering curricula at st.Cloud is so standardized at bachelors level and it ensures students(he cut me short again saying ok)

Vo: thank you....u can have your passport,nice time(put the pink paper in my passport,kept a kind of sorry face...like u almost made it).

Me: but where did I go.....

Vo: the paper will tell u....feel free to reapply anytime

Reason for denial in pink paper: said I didnt prove I would be coming back to naija after my studies...That my intention for travelling wasnt clear so I appear as an intending immigrant.

BigFrancis,lagosismyhome,naughtyvirgin,nahum,freshstarz,walspring,roenix(my

dear).....where did I go wrong ??? 🤔 Could it possibly be the chemistry I mentioned? But that is not home-tie.

Number 12

Good morning house

Visa Approved this Morning 8:15 batch.

I am one of those silent readers

First of all i want to thank God the almighty for his grace and favour (no be by how prepared you are)

Secondly i want to thank @Rashfad for the Mock interviews, corrections and hint on how to answer some questions.

Vo - Good morning

Me - good morning ma

Vo - pass me your Passport and i20

Vo- So you going to morgan state University for African American studies

Me- yes ma

Vo-how long will this course take

Me- 24 months

Vo- how did you know about Morgan

Me- the school was recommended to me by one of my colleague at work who finished from morgan, i also came across a book written by one of the professor of the school Professor Dibua on Mordern Africa

Vo- why Morgan

Me - morgan offer me major concentration in African diaspora studies and its also one of the most diversified historical black colleges and Universitied

Vo- how many school did you apply me

Me- 3 schools

Vo- which course did you study in your first degree

Me- History and international studies

VO - what do you plan to do after this program

Me- after my master degree i want to apply as a lecturer to one of the newly established federal universities

Vo- did you took any english test

Me- none was required for this particular course

Vo- tell me about this course. Your study plan

Me- i will be take a 30 hours credit course over the period of 24 months. 16 hours of required credit course, 10 for elective credit courses and 4hours for Thesis all in the same 24 months period.

Vo- who is your sponsor

Me- my dad

Vo- what does your dad do

Me- He is a commodity trader. He buy and sell cocoa and coffee and sometimes export it to Europe

Vo- have you travel out of Nigeria before

Me- yes. I have been to Benin republic (cotonou)

She typed for a while and said the Magic words i will be approving your visa and brought out the white papper.

Anu ni mo ri gba

Number 13

visa approved this morning

USA embassy Abuja

Abuja makes sense... Fewer ppl than Lagos..cool environment... No unnecessary wahala...seats are comfortable...But Abuja dey expensive if u cannot look for cheap things. Stayed in a the closest hotel to the embassy..optima hotel.. 5k per night... Na Hausa ppl plenty.. Food dey okay for UTC...Marwa na #50 drop. School...Missouri University of Science and technology, rolla.

Gre...308

TOEFL...104

Full scholarship with a monthly stipend of \$2019 PhD in chemistry

Finished B.sc last year

As much as dressing corporately is advised. I am a Muslim and I wear a long hijab that covers from my head down to my feet..

Me... Good morning ma

Vo...Good morning

Vo... Pass me ur i20 and passport

Me...passed them

Vo...Sincerely, I didn't hear the first question well. But I have read more than a 100 transcripts..I guessed it would be about the school.

Me.. I am going to Missouri university of science and technology

Vo...what's your PhD in?

Me...chemistry

Vo... Who's sponsoring you?

Me...I got a full time employment assistantship that qualifies me for a full tuition and supplementary fees waiver and a monthly stipend of \$2019.

Vo...what will ur PhD do for u

Me... I will like to be a university lecturer and researcher in the university where I did my undergraduate degree

Vo.. Are you married with kids?

Me.. I'm married but no kids

Vo...Do you have family in the USA?

Me... No

Vo.. Will your husband be travelling with you (i asked her to repeat the question)

Me.. No ma, he's currently studying in Obafemi Awolowo University.

Vo.. I would be approving your visa..gave me a white paper.

I wasn't asked for any documents but I brought all the broughtables.

There are major mistakes that can ruin your interview even if you get admitted into Harvard.

Lack of confidence...smiling brings confidence. I was nervous too..but I smiled from the beginning of the process till the end..that boosted my confidence. Not looking into the consular's face. Speaking in an inaudible tone. Not answering the exact questions asked. Other factors are based on the individual's specific case.

FILL YOUR DS160 YOURSELF

FILL YOUR DS160 YOURSELF

DON'T LIE IN THE FORM...BE SINCERE

Focus on your interview... Don't listen to bloody stories

Don't let the guys at the gate disturb u at all..No matter what they say, don't listen to them.

Take all the necessary things you need

Number 14

Oya the interview don cone and go but it is the best ever.

Lodged at the almighty sapphire lodge with no network .

We went out before 6am with no problem because we already told the soldiers out intention.

Now we don show for the VO side

VO : good morning

Me : good morning

VO: pick the phone

Me : OK

VO: what category of visa

Me : student

VO : MSC or BSc

Me : MSC

VO: what is the name of school and course

Me : materials chemistry and mineralogy

VO: who's sponsoring you

Me : my uncle and my personal savings

VO: have you funded, if no y

Me : no , cos my sponsor have not sent the cash required

VO : can u speak German

Me : leaning small small . he tell me stop before u kill the language

After biometrics he asked the questions again gave me my receipt and ask me to sign that the data entered where correct I did and he gave me a paper to sign and also told me to copy the email address so I can send my blocked account confirmation.

Left me for like 30 minutes

Interview proper

VO: why the course

Me : I talk am as my friend say make I talk am

VO: why Germany

Me: tell say e cheap and get quality

VO: facts about Germany

Me: give am all I have copy from internet

VO: are you coming back

Me : before

VO: your BSc thesis title

Me : this na question

VO: where you wan apply the knowledge

Me : federal university of technology owerri .

VO: make sure you fund early and send the prove to the email address you copied .

He repeated many of the questions .

I was interview by the black guy with punk so lovely and making sense guy I get one Frau for him

Number 15

My Transcripts to the glory of God.

My appointment was scheduled on 4th of August. Even getting an appointment was testimony. If I should start sharing all the testimonies from the beginning. I think I will take pages.

When I got to the "strong room" after the serious security checks. I was so nervous having seen many people rejected, even a woman with kids rejected. Of all the minutes I spent there I saw only one lady being approved, all others are refusal blue papers. All I was saying was quoting bible verse and saying the prayer point my pastor gave me.

After finger prints I was directed to window 1. Two guys ahead of me on the same window were rejected. All I discovered (may be) was that they could not answer properly or convince the VO of their study plan.

Now my turn to cut the long story short.

VO: Greeted good morning sir with smiles

Me: I smiled back good morning sir

VO: can I have your documents?

Me: I gave him my passport with Form I-20, Passport and Sevis Fee and Appointment Confirmation

VO: Why are you going to US?

Me: I am going to US for my master degree in chemistry (Biochemistry concentration), Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee

VO: How many School did you apply to?

Me: two

VO: which other one?

Me: Middle Tennessee State University

VO: Why the same city?

Me: Thank God for my coach Bro. Omoyeni. He prepared me for this question. My answer: After thorough research, (I don't even know exactly my initial statement). Living expenses or cost of living in Tennessee is quite lower than average American states. I am satisfied with the research done in my area of concentration in the universities and I find the schools affordable

VO: What is your study plan?

Me. I think this was where the people ahead of me failed. Thank God for coach Omoyeni. He encouraged me to research about my study plan, which spurred me to contact my course advisor through email. He gave me my study plan and names of lecturers handling them for

the fall semester as requested. Now my answer: A minimum of 3.0/4.0 is required for my graduation. For fall semester, I will be offering 9 credit hours sometimes I call it credit units. 3 credit units for Advance Organic chemistry handling by Dr XYZ, he looked at me in awe, I continued another 3 credit hours for Advance Biochemistry taken by Dr ABC and Spectroscopic Methods taken by Dr NPK which is another 3 credit hours. He was impressed, shaking his head. He did not even allow me to mention my thesis credit hours, then he moved to the next question

VO: Oh you have graduate assistantship, how did you get it?

Me: I submitted my transcripts for evaluation by ECE and official one was sent to the University. I wrote standardized tests (TOEFL and GRE), Recommendation letters were sent by my lecturers to the University.

VO: How will you go about sponsoring?

Me: I was offered graduate assistantship which covers my tuition fee and more than 80% of my living expenses. I have personal saving to cater for the rest

VO: Where do you work?

Me: I work as a class teacher in XYZ and as a private home tutor of A, B, C, D within Lagos axis.

VO: Are you married?

Me: No

VO: Have you traveled out before?

Me: No, I have had no reason to

VO: I will be holding on to your passport. He gave me white paper. He didn't ask for my SOA. I didn't wait to hear anything again. Thank you. The interview was just like 1-2 minutes to me. I picked up my passport today at DHL office and my F1 visa was on it. I bless God for His favour, His banner of love. I encourage people to trust God and prepare well. Like my pastor W F Kumuyi said in one of his Messages. He said pray and plant, pray and purge, pray and pursue, pray and press on, pray and pour out, pray and persevere. I am saying in short words pray and plan, pray and prepare.

I want to thank nairaland, the trusted man who paid for my sevis fee Mr walspring on nairaland here. People who posted their transcripts here and my coach Mr Femi Omoyeni, He got his visa ahead of me, God really used him for me and he's still using him. We will both meet at Tennessee by God's grace. Thanks Who says there is no God, by the time I share the story of my life and how Mighty God is. He/She will surrender to God. Jesus saves!!

Number 16

I just got denied

Me: good morning ma'am

Vo: Good morning

VO: where are you going

Me: baltimore maryland for my masters degree in chemistry at morgan state university

Vo: how did you hear about the school

Me: I searched online using websites such as us news and princeton review to narrow down to schools offering masters in chemistry then I consulted websites of such schools and find morgan state university to have an ongoing research in my field of interest

VO: what's your research interest comparative determination of matter in chemical substances using magnetic resonance imaging

VO: What have you been doing since after graduation

Me: I went for a one year compulsory youth service after then I picked up a job at nwafor orizu college of education nsugbe anambra state orlu study centre as exams and record personel which I did for 1 year and left after the contract elapsed, then I joined the federal government teaching scheme as a teacher and I have been teaching since

Vo: did u apply to other schools

Me: yes I apply to two other schools cleveland state university and tennessee state university

Vo Did they admit you

Me: yes they all give me admission

Vo: Why morgan

Me: morgan state university have a very good research and curriculum that is in line with my career pursuit which will be a pathway towards achieving my career goal as an analytical chemist

Vo: Have you travelled outside the country before

Me: no

Vo Are you married

Me: no im single

Vo: What do you plan to do after your studies

Me: I have a concrete plan to apply as a lecturer in my alma mater where I graduated. I have established a strong connection with a professor who happened to be my undergraduate supervisor and he assured me that I will have an an edge on completion of my masters degree at morgan state university

Vo: Have you travel outside the country before

Me: no

Vo: Who is your sponsor

Me: my uncle

Vo: What does it do

Me: he is a commodity trader he buys and sells palm kernel oil and sometimes export it to europe and china

Vo: Well im sorry at this time you are not illegible to be granted a non immigrant visa.

Number 17

My transcripts goes thus:First interview may3 I was interview by a fair lady like that.

Vo:Pass me your document

Me:I passed it

Vo:Tell me where you are going to

Me:California state#looking like mumu 🇳🇮

Vo:To do what

Me:To study pre nursing #fuvk up number.Instead of me to say to study bsn but starting as pre nursing.

Vo:Why california state uni

Me:I.....hmmm.i.....m..mmmmm i was like in my mind last last village follow me come here

Vo:Can you repeat that

Me:I forgot what i wanted to say,just stammering

Vo:Why pre nursing

Me:To eradicate disease hahaahh imagine that.Seriously at that moment i knew i bleeped up big time.

Vo:*fed up.Just vex ask me you are not qualify for visa bla bla bla bla

Me:carried my document jeje begin swear for village people as i dey go out.

Second interview june1

Was interviewed by a white man like that,he should be around 45 to 50 years.

Me:Goodmorning sir

Vo:With smile goodmorning and asked for my document.I passed it

Vo:You are going to california state uni fresno

Me:I said yes

Vo:To do what?

Me:Was bold this time around:Going to california to study bsn but i am starting as prenursing.

Vo:why cali?

Me:I choose california state uni also know as fresno state cos of the excellent qualities of the tecnological skills and unique facilities which the school*vo cut in technological skills?i said yes.He said how will it help me.Na,so i no remember wetin i go talk oo.#i be like devil you are a liar but i know i bleeped up.

Vo:Why nursing?

Me:I'm going for nursing because i always want to involve my self in a career where i can save lives and take care of people.After my i.t i volunteer to work with.....beca....stammering he cut in

Vo:what is your highest qualification?

Me:told him

Vo:what year to what year

Me:2011 to 2015

Vo:What have you been doing?

Me:working with so so and told him my duties.

Vo:Who is your sponsor

Me:my dad

Vo:what does he do

Me:business man bla bla bla

Next thing i heard was you are not qualify,i jejely waka and told myself i will not give up.I must collect this visa.I was so pained but i did not cry cos i know i had a dream that i was given a visa and my dream do come to pass lol.So i tried the third time and visa was approved after Ap.It was so fast,i couldnt believe when i saw visa issued the second day. So I bless God. Sharing the approved transcript later,my thumb hurts.

The third successful interview july20.

Entered the hall with a very big smile on my face,i prayed silently and wish myself goodluck.

I was interviewed by a white fine young guy with nice beard.

Vo:Goodmorning,how was your night?

Me:Goodmorning,my night was great and urs?he said fine and asked for my documents.

Vo:Why california state uni?

Me:I chose California state uni also know as fresno state because is a public research uni and its nursing program is ranked as the 24th by nurse journal in its america best nursing school. And also after realizing the excellent qualities of the tecnological skills and unique facilities the school has with which will provide me with the right academic and pratical tranings for a career in nursing. The school tecnological skills is top notch because its provides robotic patients with diff kind of aliments to student in order to treat actual or potential health problems.

Vo: Looking at the system, typing and nodding his head and asked me why what is my study plan.

Me: I am going to cali to study bsn but i am starting as pre nursing because i have to take perequisites courses where i will be having my academics and practical trainings in nursing. The program will last for 48 months with a minimum of 121 semester units. I mentioned the courses as well and he was staring at me, smiling and i also smile back. At this moment i knew he will approve my visa.

Vo: Do you take any test?

Me: No, the school did not require for any.

Vo: What are the courses you will be taking

Me: Human anatomy, general chemistry bla bla bla

Vo: You were here twice with smile

Me: Smile yes

Vo: Is there anything i need to know about why you were denied

Me: I said the vos did the right thing cos i was not prepared, nervous and not bold enough to ans the questions asked. He murmured the word 'nervous' and smile again

Vo: What will this course do for you

Me: After my studies i am coming back to my father's land nigeria to make use of the acquired based knowlege to provide direct or indirect care to individuals, families, friends and the health sector in my country. I will also saves lives. He was impressed and smile.

Vo: When do you graduate and what year?

Me: 2014 and went for my it in 2015

Vo: what school and what is your major.

Me: told him

Vo: Who is your sponsor

Me: my dad

Vo: What does he do

Me: he is a business man bla bla bal

Vo: Can i see his bank statement

Me: I gave him, he did not bother to check. Gave me a white paper and tick Ap. I collected and didnt wait to hear any story cos i know he will approved my visa. Thr second day which saturday 21, saw visa issued when i tracked it and on monday i got my stamped passport. Everything was so fast. I bess the name lord for his mercy and favour. My people dont give up, keep trying till you get there. God bless nairaland.

Number 18

My F1 visa Transcript @ Lagos US Embassy

The Interview proper went thus:

(I took a little while before I approached him and He was smiling to me here cause of the drama I saw between him and an applicant who he just denied visa, and how the guy refused to go and insisted that the VO should tell him what to do or school to choose or even course to apply for)

VO: Good Morning, how are you?

Me: I am fine Sir thank you, Good Morning and how is work going?

VO: Very fine. Pass me your documents

Me: I passed him the document very slowly

VO: Which school are you going to?

Me: Loyola University Chicago

VO: What Course?

ME: MSc Bioinformatics

VO: How many schools did you apply to?

ME: 4 Schools in all. And they are Loyola University Chicago, University of Memphis, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, and Virginia Commonwealth University at Richmond

VO: How many admitted you?

ME: All 4 schools admitted me.

VO: So why did you choose Loyola

ME: Well, I chose Loyola mainly because of the perfect research fit i have with my supervisor whose work on predicting gene regulation across diverse population is a specialised extension of my bsc project. Secondly i got full scholarship that covers all my expensis; that is, full tuition scholarship, full health and dental insurance coverage and a very generous stipend.

VO: Tell Me about your BSc Project?

ME: I worked on targetting the 16srRNA, dupA, and ureA genes in H.pylori, and by extension to develop a method that could be used for diagnosis of H.pylori and ulceration in paediatric population (He Seemed Impressed here with a smile and cut me short)

VO: What year did you graduate?

ME: 2015, from the University of Lagos. I studied Cell Biology and Genetics

VO: I know you did NYSC? What year did you finish the NYSC? And what have you been doing since then?

ME: Yes in 2016. I served in a Village secondary school where i taught chemistry and physics to ss1 to ss3 students. However, after service i stayed back to see my ss3 students through to their waec and neco, and the principal and the village community were very supportive of me. After that, I came back to Lagos and took a Job with a pharmaceutical company as a medical sales rep. However i resigned few months later to ready my applications for my msc academic pursuit, I also continued private tutoring for students.. (Then He cut me short)

VO: Did you write any test?

ME: Yes, I wrote GRE and TOEFL

VO: What are your scores?

ME: Well i wrote GRE twice actually and I got 304 and 306. On TOEFL i got 103. (He Looked very impressed here too, and kept giving me glimmer of smiles)

VO: How much is your stipend? (He asked is it 1500\$ per month?)

ME: No, it's 2000\$ per month (He smiled again, I was also smiling too)

VO: So what will you be doing to receive this stipend?

ME: I will be working as a research assistant for my supervisor. So i will be assisting in carrying out genome sequencing and analysis, and also tutoring undergraduates in the Lab.

VO: Have you travelled out of Nigeria before?

ME: Yes, I have been to University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus for a Summer School on a Commonwealth scholarship. The scholarship was awarded to me because of the essay I wrote on the prospects of transgenic technology in solving world food crisis. (He kept flashing smiles and looking impressed)

VO: So what will you do after your studies?

ME: I will return back to Nigeria to take up lecturing and research position in my school. My department has plan underway to create a bioinformatics unit that will be charged with genomic data analysis, I will also be working and consulting with several research institutes in Nigeria (He cut me short again)

VO: So you do not want to go for PhD after your MSc?

ME: Well, because of the changing nature of the field of bioinformatics as it is relatively new, research questions will also be diverse in the years to come. So i will like to work in order to determine that research question I want to answer before considering PhD.

VO: So you are saying if Loyola gives you fully funded PhD that you will not take it? (He was smiling at me here)

ME: I will like to return back to Nigeria (He cut me short and laughed at me plus smiles)

VO: well it is not bad for you to go on to PhD.

ME: Yeaaaaaaa (Me Smiling too)

VO: Your visa has been approved. (He circled the Muri Okunola address for my pick up, Then I smiled and brought my ear closer to hear all he was explaining. And he also had this excited expression on his face as he was instructing me about my I-20)

VO: Remember to have your I-20 on you when you are travelling or else they will send you back at the POE (I laughed here, and he smiled too and advised that I should travel before class starts on 27th August)

ME: Thank you and do have a great day.

Very special thanks to Walspring009 for also assisting in paying my sevis fees. Thank you very much ProfOjah1234 for all the Ginger and help. And bobority I appreciate. And Much thanks to Learner007 for the numerous mock interviews you had with me. Boss I appreciate greatly.

Boss Bigfrancis21 thank you very much for the supports your are giving me.

All Thanks be to God Almighty!

Number 19

Morning people, kindly criticize my proposed transcript

VO: Good morning

Me: Good morning ma or sir

VO: Can I have your I-20 and passport

Me: Sure, why not?

VO: Why are you going to US?

Me: I am going to the US because PhD in the US distinguishes itself in terms of research and mentorship. The PhD is structured into coursework and thesis, this will make me grounded in both theoretical and practical areas of my chosen line of research. Academic mentorship is also direct in the US, thereby having direct and ongoing mentorship with my thesis advisor until the completion of my studies. Also, studying in the US will expose to me to latest research in the field, prioritized by the US CDC and funded by National Institute of Health.

VO: Where are you going in the US?

Me: I am going to United States for a PhD in Bioenvironmental Science with concentration in Environmental Health Science at Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland. This will enhance my competencies in understanding the impact of environmental variables on biological systems, especially on chronic and endemic infectious diseases in Nigeria. Upon completion, I will return to Nigeria to take up academic and research positions with utmost aim of identifying the effect of these health challenges in Nigeria health sector. Also, I hope to work on the best diagnostic, management and treatment approach of these infectious diseases from the environmental point of view.

VO: How many schools did you apply to and how many gave you admission?

Me: I applied to MSU, ETSU, University of Salford, University of Otago and WIU and four gave me admission.

VO: How did you hear about the school?

Me: I did an intensive online search, focusing on the schools that combined Biomedical Science and Environmental Health Science together owing to my academic and research background. I am a Biomedical Scientist by undergraduate degree and did my MSc in Environmental and Public Health. Also, my academic mentor at the University of Salford recommended the school to me because of the brilliant research work going on in the university in the field of biological and environmental health science.

VO: And why Morgan State University?

Me: The Ph.D. program in Bioenvironmental Science at Morgan integrates strong academic training, fundamental and applied research practices which focuses on an array of environmental issues that affect biological systems. In addition, the program has five areas of concentration which include: Environmental Toxicology, Environmental Science, Environmental chemistry, Environmental Health Sciences, and Environmental Biotechnology. My area of concentration will be Environmental Health Science. Also, there is an active ongoing research on Hepatitis C virus and HIV which is my area of research interest. Apart from the fact that it is my area of research interest, I have work and research experience in the field of viral hepatitis and HIV. Also, Morgan State University excellently combined these courses together with structured curriculum that will allow me to choose my area of concentration after completion of my core courses. The tuition fee is also moderate and has multi-cultural environment with the hope of transcultural exchange of ideas.

VO: How long is the program?

Me: The program is for maximum period of five years and I hope to finish within four years.

VO: How many credit hours is your program?

Me: I will take a minimum of 33 credit hours which will include core 22-credit hours courses such as cellular biology, toxicology of biological systems, seminar on modern biology and bio-environmental science, advances in Biochemistry, environmental chemistry, bioethics and communication. I will take additional 11 minimum credit hours chosen from elective courses which will include Microbiology of emerging pathogens, immunobiology, advanced molecular genetics, modern research techniques, environmental genetics, environmental carcinogenesis. Five core courses will be taken in year 1 and seminar, this will qualify me to write the comprehensive exam to become a PhD candidate at the end of first year.

VO: Can you tell me about yourself?

Me: I hold a Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science degree from Bleep and Master of Science degree in Environmental and Public Health from Bleep. I recently completed my internship job at Bleep hospital, England with focus on diagnosis, management and treatment of sexually transmitted infections in the community.

VO: What are you doing now?

Me: I am currently a freelance medical researcher and I also tutor students at various College of Health Technology in Southwest, Nigeria.

VO: Do you get paid for it?

Me: Yes, I get paid

VO: What will you be working for your research thesis?

Me: I will be working on the co-infection of HIV and Hepatitis C Virus in Dr. Chen's lab in susceptible people such as MSM, Drug users and sex workers. He has an ongoing research in this area and we've discussed about taking up research assistant position in the laboratory on resumption at the University.

VO: What's your highest qualification?

Me: Master of Science degree in Environmental and Public Health, from Bleep.

VO: What were the processes involved in the application?

Me: I wrote GRE, SOP, Reference letter and made my application with these documents. My degree evaluation was sent by WES to the University. I had Distinction which is 3.72/4.0 in my MSc and the best student on my course.

VO: So, you've travelled out of the country before?

Me: Yes, I have been to six countries, mostly Europe and USA.

VO: Who is sponsoring you?

Me: I got a funding of \$18,000. This came after the I-20 was issued and I have a letter to support that. Other expenses will be taken care of by my uncle. He has been supportive since my undergraduate. He promised to sponsor my PhD if I get an excellent grade in my MSc, which I did. I graduated with a distinction and as the best student in my cohort.

VO: What does your uncle do?

Me: He is into exportation of Agricultural products such as cashew nuts, cocoa, charcoal into countries such as Vietnam, China etc.

VO: Why are your parents not sponsoring you?

Me: They are retired.

VO: Are you married?

Me: Yes, I am married with a daughter.

VO: Are they going with you?

Me: No

VO: Who will be responsible for their upkeep while you are away?

Me: My wife is working and also have some savings for them.

VO: And will she be comfortable leaving you?

Me: Before we got married, I told her of my willingness to pursue a PhD in a reputable university as Morgan, and when the offer came she was very supportive.

VO: What do you intend to do after your study?

Me: I will be coming back to Nigeria to work as a lecturer at Bleep University because I did some collaborative research work there. I will also engage in high level research on Hepatitis C virus and HIV among Nigeria population which will seek to proffer a solution to how to reduce the incidence of these chronic diseases in Nigeria.

VO: I will be approving your visa.

Me: Thank you and God bless

Number 20

visa approved 3rd of July, 2018. Lagos Consulate.

My interview transcript: 😊😊😊

After highlighting from my Camry (LoL. I mean a Uber ride o) at the US embassy, I was motioned to come in for a check by a security officer. After the check was completed, he explained that a phone won't be allowed into the consulate. I had this knowledge even before he said this, but I had to come along with my phone because of the Uber app. Well, I was granted access into the consulate after giving the security officer what he requested for (N1,000 to help secure my phone). 😊Everyone just using the slightest opportunity to hustle in Nigeria.

Well, after progressing through that stage, another check was done on us by some security officers too, to confirm that we are not in possession of the prohibited items mentioned. On completion of that, we were addressed by a female consulate officer and were told to arrange ourselves in two rows; first row was for immigrant visa, and the second row for non-immigrant visa. (while all these transpired, we were still outside the consulate). We were then ushered into the consulate. In the consulate, another security check was done. This time, we were told to unhook our belts and place in a tray. The tray contained our belts and our documents; the trays were taken past a security check machine to check for any suspicious object. When the checks were completed, we retrieved our belts and documents.

We were then ushered into another office for documents verification. When that was completed, we progressed into the next stage, which is the biometrics, where we had to do our fingerprints.

And here comes the next stage, which happens to be the most crucial stage; the interview proper - The Judgement Day (LoL).

The atmosphere was pretty tensed, seeing applicants receiving blue papers made matter even worse. At some point, I was getting scared, but I had to summon courage based on Edo boy wey I be. There was a guy who I even thought would have his visa approved; Lo and behold, he was denied, even after all his elaborate explanation. The guy already has a master's degree, but was going for another master's degree in the USA. There was another man who works with MTN Nigeria as a site engineer, but wanted to go for a master's degree in the USA. The

guy did well to answer the questions thrown to him alas, he was still denied. At this point, I was scared to the bones. While I was standing there waiting for my turn I witnessed countless interviewsAnd out of those interviews, I only noticed 3 approvals (one was an elderly woman approved by a white American man at window 2. The other was a lady going for her master's degree approved by a white American woman at window 6. The other was a young man approved by a man at window 4).

Well, I happened to be interviewed by a black American woman (chubby and darker than the black American woman at window 7) at window 5. Well, to my interview proper:

The black American woman at window 5 motioned me to step forward. I advanced forward immediately.

VO: Good morning (before I could say good morning, she greeted first).

Me: Good morning, ma'am.

VO: Pass me your passport and I-20.

Me: I passed the requested documents.

VO: How did you hear about this school?

Me: I first read about it on some educational magazines. However, I didn't stop there, I had to do an extensive research on it using websites like usnews.com and thegradcafe (while I was saying usnews.com she joined me in saying 'oh you came accross it using educational websites!', and I responded to her in the affirmative).

VO: How many other schools did you apply to, and name them?

Me: 4 other schools. I was naming them as e dey hot, but she quickly jumped in by saying 'Hold on. Take it slowly'. I started again, and named all the schools while she typed, but this time, I did it slowly as she requested (Georgia State University, Ohio University, Louisiana State University and Oregon State University).

VO: What's your highest qualification?

Me: Bachelor of Science, chemistry.

VO: When did you graduate?

Me: I graduated February 2012.

VO: So, what have you been doing since then?

Me: I went for a compulsory National Youth Service Scheme. After that I worked in XYZ Table Water Industry for 1 year as a quality control officer/production manager. I then proceeded from there to my current organization where I work as a billing officer.

VO: What is the name of the organization you currently work for?

Me: XYZ Electricity Distribution Company

VO: So, it means that your total work experience doesn't have any connection with your course of study (She said this with her eyebrows raised and a weird look on her face.)?

Me: I quickly read her body language, and I knew that this woman was going to change me. For the first time, I thought to myself "Na so my village people won't win this war?" . So I quickly responded, "that's not exactly the case ma'am". Like I said, I have worked as a quality control officer at XYZ Table Water Industry (While I was still talking, she realised this and quickly corrected herself by saying 'oh, you were once a quality control officer, I see') and this is related to chemistry in every way.

VO: how did your course of study help you ... muttering.. muttering....

Me: Ma'am, I didn't get you clearly.

VO: She repeated the question again, but I still didn't hear her clearly.

Me: I'm sorry ma'am, I still didn't get you well.

VO: This time around she then spoke up louder than before, and I heard her correctly. The question was, how did your course of study help you in your previous work experience?

Me: I responded, 'oh, my course of study chemistry, has a branch known as Analytical chemistry. Analytical chemistry deals with the qualitative and quantitative analysis of compounds, which of course deals with the determination of impurities in substances and as well as pH level when necessary. I was able to use this knowledge to determine the presence of impurities and pH level of water produced prior and after production as a quality control officer at XYZ table water industry.

VO: She nodded her head suggesting she's impressed with my response. She continued by asking another question: Who is paying for your tuition?

Me: I was offered a full tuition waiver, and a graduate assistant position worth BE,000 USD annually.

VO: But I can't see a full tuition waiver on your I-20. I can only see BE,000USD for an on campus job....still muttering some words.

Me: While she was muttering, I was searching for a document showing proof of my full funding in the documents in my possession. She noticed I was trying to reach out for a document, then she responded, 'don't worry, I don't need any other documents from you'. At this time, she realized I got a full tuition waiver after taking a sternly good look at the I-20.

VO: What is your on-campus job about?

Me: It's a graduate assistantship position where I would work as a teaching assistant in the first semester, and then apply for a research assistantship position in the second semester if I choose to.

VO: She nodded her head in affirmative.

VO: What will this degree do for you?

Me: I have a concrete plan, and that is to pick up a lecturing job at my Alma mater on completion of my PhD program come Fall 2023.... I was about adding more points when she interrupted me...

VO: What is the name of your Alma Mater

Me: The university of Benin.... I continued my conversation by adding that I have established a strong connection with a professor in my Alma mater who happened to be my undergraduate supervisor, and he has assured me that I will have a strong edge over other applicants by the time I am done with my PhD at Brigham Young University. I will also love to work as a research consultant for multinational organizations like shell and Chevron while I lecture in the university.

VO: In response to my reply she nodded her head again.

VO: Are you married?

Me: No, I am not married.

VO: Engaged?

Me: Not at all.

VO: Have you traveled out of the country at any time?

Me: No, I have never had any reason to travel out of the country until now.

VO: Then she typed for some seconds, and said those sweet words. I will be approving your visa.... Congratulations... Bla bla bla.

I was trying to get the other things she was saying, but I couldn't get her clearly at this point. I only heard that you will be notified when your passport is ready for pick up. LoL. I think I also heard her say something about keeping my I-20 safe... Bla bla bla. LoL. I couldn't believe it at first, because the way she was asking me questions looked like she was finding a fault in my application so as to use that to deny me. I almost gave up and was like, 'abeg do your worst, I don tire jare'.

To God be praised. I walked out majestically while still trying to curtail the joy within me. I almost got myself imploded because the joy within me was massive and was ready to come out. LoL

Cheers!!!

Number 21

visa approved @ US Embassy Abuja this morning. I want to appreciate everyone who has contributed to this platform, you are too much most especially the likes of Big Francis, Walspring, OluDare, Imperious and the rest. I got loads of information from Part 3 - 13. I appreciate you guys. I was interviewed by one American lady and it went like this:

ME: Good morning ma

VO: Good morning. Pass me your passport and I -20. I did and she said why Mississippi State University? She was busy typing.

Me: The department of chemistry MSU provides a flexible and dynamic curriculum which aligns with my intended course of study and their research area suits my career plan. Their research laboratory is supported by an array of in-house equipments and instruments. Having earlier discussed with Prof. Todd Mlsna whose research work focuses on adsorption using Biochars have agreed to supervise my work having earlier published articles on biosorption studies.

VO: How many schools did you applied to?

Me: Six schools I all

VO: Mention them

ME: LSU, FIU, USD, MTU, OSU& MSU

VO: Tell me what you are doing now

ME: I have being working with Kwara State Teaching Service Commission

VO: Are you married? She was busy typing all through

ME: Yes I am married.

VO: Any children?

Me: Yes, 1 child

VO: How will you cover your tuition fees?

ME: I got tuition waiver from the school and I was given studentship with stipends worth of \$22000 per annum.

VO:Have you travelled outside Nigeria?

ME: I have not gotten any need to travel outside the country except now.

VO: Tell me the schools you attended?

ME: I attended Kwara State College of Education Oro where I bagged NCE chemistry/Mathematics before proceeding to University of Uyo for B.Sc degree. I did a masters program @ the University of Ibadan bagging M.Sc Analytical chemistry.

VO: What will you be doing after the program?

ME: I will be returning back to Nigeria to pick up position as a Lecturer with the likes of Covenant University, Afe Babalola University and Landmark University. I'll also be consulting for multinationals like Shell, Chevron, Mobil and Agip in the area of environmental monitoring and remediation.

VO: Have this your I-20, I'll be approving your visa. I was given the white paper to pick up my visa

Number 22

Hi guys, I got a lot from this tread and I know it's only natural to give back. visa approved on the 25th of April and this is how it went.

VO: (with a smile) Good morning.

Me: Good morning sir.

VO: How are you?

Me: I'm fine thank you? How are you?

VO: I'm fine. Thank you. (I have already passed my passport, sevis receipt and i20 to him by now). So, you're here for a student visa.

Me: Yeah.

VO: Tell me about the program you're going for.

Me: I'm going for a chemistry doctoral program at Florida State University. I'd be taking courses in Molecular biology, cell biology, bioinformatics... (he motioned for me to stop).

VO: Tell me about your background.

Me: I have a bachelors degree in chemistry and Masters degree in analytical chemistry. I currently work at a Pharmaceutical firm as a Medical Sales Representative (motioned me to stop. He was typing all along).

VO: So your 2nd degree is from University of Ibadan?

Me: Yes

VO: And you've being working at a pharmaceutical firm since...

Me: February last year (he nodded).

VO: how many other schools did you apply to?

Me: five others.

VO: five in total?

Me: no. Five others aside FSU.

VO: oh... Six in total. Who's paying?

Me: I got a graduate Assistantship (nods and reaches for white paper).

VO: I have approved your visa. Congratulations and have a good day (I didn't here more than this).

Me: Thank you. Have a good day too.

Thanks to everyone in here whose stories have one time or the other inspired hope.

Number 23

I have been a silent reader in the form. And trust me it has been helpful and am grateful to the authority of this forum. I had my interview yesterday 23rd January in Lagos around 8am with my wife and 4months old baby

Transcript

Vo: good morning

Wify and I: good morning

Vo : passport please

Me: passed the passport over to her

Vo: you are a couple

Wify and I: yes

Vo: why are you travelling to the Us

Me: for a short family vacation

Vo: where do you work

Me: I work at the federal *****

Vo: what position

Me: Administrative officer

Vo: you have been to London before(saw that from my old passport Wify and I : yes

Vo: did you go there for schooling

Wify and I: we went on a vacation

Vo: how long have you been working sir

Me: 6years

Vo: where do you work ma

Wify: bla bla bla

Vo: what position

Wify: laboratory chemist

Vo: how long have you been working ma

Wify: 6yrs

Vo: tell us about you job

Wify: she started blasting the vo with some chemistry terms

Vo: how do you separate your samples collect from the drilling mud

Wify : started blasting the Vo again with some terms

Vo: do you have anyone in the united states

Wify and I : no

Vo: brought out the white paper and told us to get our visas from the address circled on the paper next week tuesday.

Wify and I : thank you ma with a broad smile

My little advise is that this visa thing is subjective. Everyone will be interviewed differently. Jst be confident and be clean.

*Dress decent, suit is not compulsory, Na native and sandals I wear. Wify wore a shirt and pant trousers. More than half of those who came in for the interview wore suit and tie or long sleeve and tie.

*Most importantly pray for grace and favour. Its very important. My son stated crying when we were on the interview que at the back. When the Nigerian security organizing the que called us " the woman with the crying baby come to the front. He took us straight to the vo who immediately interviewed us. All through my son was crying.

* My wife's passport still has her maiden name while my sons passport has my name.
No single documents checked

Number 24

I have been a silent followers since over 4 months now and I came across nairaland when I was making research on some visa stuffs and I just continuing reading it every day.... Special thanks to olumighty who help me paid my sevis fee and so to those who transcript I read here.

visa Delayed.....: Dec 7th 6:30am

visa Approved.....:Dec 29th 9:30am

My story goes like this,

I choose La Roche College as my school of choice and my major is Biochemistry with the aim of goin for forensic courses....I applied for interview on the 7th after which I was denied by the Vo all she said first was this school has an acceptance rate of 94% and denied me I was confused and I promise to refire after 3 days I paid for another appointment... then the earlier date I saw was Jan 14th so I book emergency appointment and got Dec 29th lets go to the main deal..On the 29th I woke up in the morning around 3am and go through my points and I prayed ... so by 7am I got to Orile by 7:30 and I enter CMS I got to CMS by 8:10 na so me and my dad drop as we no know road to embassy with the hope of asking for road and we my dad dey ask for road na so one man come met me show me ID card say let me see what you carry I was like shey this one mad nii I quickly call my dad he con say he be police after 5mins of argument we give am he con check and he saw my dad SOA and he was like this is OLUWOLE DOCS, all my brain don scatter I forget everything I read becuz I no cram and its going 9am already and I have appointment for 9:30 no time to go bank go dey confirm... so my dad settle am like 1k after making calls..... got to the embassy by 9:15 I enter... thank God people Plenty so I just organize myself After all so we cue for line and we remain like 15 people to be interview the day was a blue paper day ... so the CGI guy just direct 2 guy and me say make we go new window , the man doing biometric was the one who want to interview us.....The man was very very friendly and lively .. the 2 guys b4 me he approved them both but he can type for Africa ... so he remain my turn..

Vo: Good Morning, How are you today?

ME: Good morning sir, I'm Fine and how about yourself?

Vo: I'm good, pass me your docs and I did

Vo: then he type for like 2mins and said where are you going to?

ME: I'm going to La Roche college, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania to pursue my bachelor's degree in Biochem

Vo: then he type for like 3mins again and said Major chemistry and I said No sir it's Biochem

Vo: I see you just finished High school and I said yes sir, let me see your Transcript

Me: I shocked and said I don't have my transcript here sir, I have my WAEC Cert and he said just show me something and I gave it to him a then he types again..

Vo: what will this course do for you?

Me: It will equip me with strong foundation in chemistry and it would give me the hands on experience required to be a forensic sci and he types again

Vo: what does your dad does sorry who is paying for this

ME: My dad

Vo: what does he does

Me: he's a fluid and pipeline Engr he works as a contractor to NNPC and Mobil then he types

VO: is it Excon Mobil I said No Mobil oil & gas and he said here in Nigeria I said Yes and he said so you have anything tp show me you have the amount stated on this i20

Me : yes and I showed him.. my dad SOA and he checked for like 2mins and types then he give me bak my Cert and sevis and i20 and he continue checking the statement and I begin pray for mind say God pls no make am put me for AP because I heard it can be frustrating and he types againVo: he gives me back the SOA and said sorry give me the i20 back and I did and he just dey fold the i20 inside my passport and begin dey say the magic words your visa is approved and you would receive an email on where to pick it and tell me I would be needing my i20 at the Poe I should keep it with me but he no give me the i20.. so I just collect my white paper and said thank you sir and leave...**But Gurus since then if I track am I dey see Administrative Processing and I'm worried and confused as my i20 resume to Jan 8th but I have a letter from the school saying I can enter up till Jan 16th**