

Angel Lycka A. Avila

Topic 1: Tell us what course you want to study and how you believe that your education will prepare you to contribute to your country's development.

Choosing what to study in college is an important step, and I want to pursue Information Technology (IT) because I enjoy learning about computers, the internet, and how technology works. IT is becoming more important in our world today, and I want to be part of this exciting field. In this essay, I will explain why I want to study IT and how it can help both me and my country grow. I've always been curious about how gadgets work. I enjoy exploring apps, fixing small computer problems, and understanding how websites and programs run. Every day, I use technology to study, connect with friends, or play games, and I want to learn how to create these things myself. Through IT, I can learn useful skills like programming, building apps, and managing computer networks.

One of the reasons I want to study IT is that it opens the door to many exciting jobs. With an IT degree, I could become a software developer, web designer, IT support specialist, or even a cybersecurity expert. Since many companies and industries need IT professionals, I will have good chances to find a job that I enjoy. This will help me have a stable career and contribute to my family's future. In addition, since our future is bound to become more technologically advanced, it will be easier for me to adapt new technologies if I begin taking IT courses. Technology plays a big role in a country's progress. If I become skilled in IT, I can help improve the services in businesses, schools, hospitals, and even government offices. For example, I could develop apps that help students learn better or programs that allow people to access public services faster. With good IT systems, life becomes easier for everyone. Another way IT helps the country is by attracting businesses and investments. When companies see that our country has talented IT professionals, they will want to open more offices here. This will create more jobs and opportunities for others. If I specialize in cybersecurity, I can also help protect important information and systems from cyber threats, keeping our country safe online.

I want to pursue IT because I enjoy technology and want to build a successful career in it. With my education, I can make a difference by improving services and creating opportunities for others. I believe that by studying IT, I can help not only myself but also contribute to the development of the Philippines.



Topic 2: Describe any personal hardships or barriers you have had to overcome; OR, describe an event in your life that either demonstrates your character or helped shape it.

When I was younger, one of the biggest challenges I faced was learning how to speak confidently in front of others. I was really shy, and every time I had to say something in front of my class, my heart would beat fast, and my hands would get sweaty. I felt like everyone was watching, and it made me very nervous. Sometimes, I would even avoid raising my hand in class, even when I knew the answer. It was hard because I wanted to share my thoughts, but my fear held me back.

One day, my teacher announced that we had to do a group presentation. I was really scared because that meant I had to talk in front of everyone. But I didn't want to let my group down, so I decided to try my best. I practiced at home, standing in front of a mirror and pretending the mirror was my audience. My family also helped by listening to me and cheering me on. The day of the presentation came, and I was so nervous, but I remembered all the practice I had done. When it was my turn to speak, I took a deep breath and spoke slowly. At first, my voice shook a little, but I kept going. To my surprise, everyone listened carefully, and no one laughed or made me feel bad. After we finished, my classmates even clapped, and my teacher told me I did a great job! That moment made me realize that even though being scared is normal, it shouldn't stop me from trying. Since then, I've kept practicing speaking up, and I've gotten much better at it. Now, I feel more comfortable sharing my ideas and participating in class.

This experience taught me that it's okay to feel nervous, but if we practice and try our best, we can do things we didn't think we could. It also made me understand that challenges help us grow. If I had never faced my fear of speaking, I wouldn't have discovered how strong I could be. Even though I was nervous, I pushed through, and that made me stronger. So, whenever I feel scared about trying something new, I remind myself of that presentation. I learned that challenges help us grow, and with practice and determination, we can become better at things we once found difficult. This moment shaped who I am today and gave me the confidence to keep trying, even when things feel hard. Now, whenever I face something difficult, I remind myself of that presentation and know that I can overcome it if I keep trying.



Topic 3: Describe an example of when you volunteered either as a leader or participant in an extracurricular activity that supported your community. What did that experience teach you about leadership and service to your community?

One summer, I volunteered at a community cleanup event in my neighborhood. The local park where kids played and families had picnics was filled with trash, and a group of people wanted to make it beautiful again. When I heard about the event, I decided to join. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I knew I wanted to help. At the start of the day, I was just a participant. We were given gloves and bags and split into smaller groups. Some people picked up trash, others swept the paths, and some planted new flowers. It felt good to be part of a team, working with people who wanted to make the park a better place. As I picked up candy wrappers and plastic bottles, I realized how important it was to take care of places we all share.

Then, something unexpected happened. The team leader in my group needed to leave early, so I was asked to help guide the others for the rest of the cleanup. At first, I felt a bit nervous. I wondered, "What if I make a mistake?" But I reminded myself that leadership isn't about being perfect—it's about doing your best and helping others do their best too. I started by asking everyone in my group how they wanted to help, and together, we came up with a plan. Some people preferred to focus on sweeping, while others wanted to collect trash. I made sure everyone had the tools they needed and checked in with them as we worked. If someone looked tired, I encouraged them to take a short break. I also tried to set an example by working hard myself, showing that we were all in this together. By the end of the day, the park looked amazing. Seeing how much we had accomplished made me feel really proud. I realized that leadership isn't just about telling people what to do, it's about listening, supporting, and working alongside others. It's also about knowing that every role, no matter how small, makes a difference.

This experience taught me that service to the community is not just about doing things for others, but also about caring for the spaces we all use. It made me understand that small actions—like picking up trash—can create a big impact when people work together. Leadership, I learned, is not about being the boss; it's about teamwork, kindness, and encouraging others to do their best. Now, I try to volunteer whenever I can, knowing that even small efforts help make our community a better place. This experience showed me that anyone, no matter how young or old, can make a difference with a little effort and a lot of heart.

