

#2

Recently last year, my business academy decided that we needed to change the way our academy ran. We wanted to allow students to have a voice and opinion on how the academy should be run and be improved. Therefore, we decided to establish a team of student executives to help manage the classroom. The role positions include; Chief Executive Officer, Chief of Finance Officer, Chief of Creative Officer, Chief of Technology Officer, and Chief of Operating Officer. Out of the five positions that were offered, I felt that I was more interested in becoming Chief of Creative Officer the most. I decided that I didn't want to be a follower anymore but instead become a leader and inspire my peers.

In the beginning, I doubted myself and didn't know that if I had the courage and skill sets to apply in becoming the class' creative officer. Taking on that role involves listening to other people's ideas and incorporating it into your projects. By this, it allows people's idea to be considered, giving many different point of perspectives. In addition, being Chief of Creative articulates an individual's artistic mind and expands through designing and shaping the academy artiscally.

Prior to the interview, we were asked to illustrate a recruitment poster for next year's business academy. My work sample included a cartoon character which many students knew, from that it allowed them to think of money instantly from first impression from the character. I used the recruitment poster to the market the academy through expressing my creativity.

My creativity relates to my major which is marketing. Marketing involves being creative and by thinking outside of the box. Standing out throughout the crowd involves critical thinking on ways to be different from competitors.

#3

I have always been fascinated by the people who were able to talk in front of large group of people. The skill of socializing with others is a talent that is attainable through the process of hard work. After the years of my personal development, I conclude to say that my greatest talent is being social.

Being social meant that I would had to get out of my comfort zone of confronting people. As the years went on, I became more comfortable with talking to people. Last summer, I wanted to challenge my personal

development on being social. I applied to an internship where the requirements were to inform the youth tour groups about the SFPUC (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission). Immediately given the task to take initiative of leading tour groups, I was not in my comfort zone at all. After many days of practicing, I was ready to present. The first tour didn't go as well as I planned it to be. I felt that I didn't represent the company to the best of my ability, I personally noticed that I stuttered many times when I presented the presentation. I lost my momentum and almost forgot my lines and speeches for the duration. On the inside, I was panicking but didn't want to show it. My motto was "Fake it till you make it". This quote meant that if you're not feeling confident, you fake it till you gain the experience of the real life action.

At the end of the day, not only were I able to polish my skills, but I was able to attain connections through many different people. I got advice from my mentors and the opportunity to connect with employees that work in my desired major, marketing. From this experience, I am able to confidently able to approach others first and assist them to the best of my ability despite the flaws that I have. I use my weakness as my strength to have perseverance and succeed in my life.

#4

I personally think that taking AP classes was essentially a way to challenge myself academically. Though my high school offered a wide variety of different AP and honor courses, not every course was geared toward my interests. When I first saw that one of the courses included statistics, I was very intrigued by it, though I would like to say my weakest academic subject would be math. Therefore, with the opportunity to take AP statistics, I decided to academically challenge myself.

Being independent is one of my characteristic traits. I tend to keep my thoughts to myself because it is astonishingly difficult to attempt and approach others for guidance. At first glance, I didn't think I was mentally prepared to take that class, considering I am not that great in mathematics. I felt intimidated by the fact that it was an AP course too. At the beginning of the fall semester, I was having difficulty with the introduction of each chapter and understanding the concept of it. Before I realized it, I was falling behind and was beginning to have wished I never took this class.

I've learned my lesson through the hard way. For the fall semester, I got a C as an overall grade. To me personally, receiving a C made me reevaluate myself on what my weaknesses are and how to improve them. I've noticed that through myself constantly looking at the answers in the back of the textbook prior and struggling with asking others for help. I always searched up tutorials online and example problems with solutions to it.

With my motivation to do better, I overcame my educational barrier of asking others for help when in need and ask additional questions during lectures . I learned to get out of my comfort zone and thrive for success. Being able to ask for help have changed my knowledge and who I am today. As a result, I managed to earn a satisfied grade for myself in the spring semester.

Instead of struggling and being disappointed after each test, I can feel confident for each one.

#5

June 5th, 2017 was the day my grandpa has passed away. The day before the incident, I came home to my mom crying and explaining to me that my grandpa hasn't been feeling well for a couple days and was having

difficulty breathing on his own. Instantly, I had a bad feeling about this and I wanted to visit him.

I saw him lie on his bed looking miserable with his raspy breathing. The moment I saw, I had a bad feeling. My grandpa has passed away in his sleep in the middle of the night.

That moment was the worst day of my life.

It felt like my world was falling apart.

My grandpa's funeral was on Father's day, June 18.

Every night, I would wake up to myself feeling unhappy and I wasn't able to find the source of it.

Days, weeks, and months has passed and I thought that I have moved on and that it wouldn't be an emotional topic anymore. Before I realized it, I was depressed. I've lost the will to do anything, loss of appetite, and lost my smile.

One day we went through his belongings to clear out the room, we stumbled upon a photo album of him. It brought back many memories of how much I admired him, and I realized that though he isn't physically here, he'll always be in my heart.

Through the reminiscing, I came to a conclusion to give back on those who helped me through the hard times. As I reflect on myself, I realized that

I've changed not only physically but mentally. It affected on my well-being and internally scarred me. It made me stronger in an indescribable way. I used this setback as a way of viewing myself as someone who didn't allow to be dragged down but instead moved forward, I grew from it. Being in this family made me realize that we're here for each other through the thin and thick times.

I know my grandpa wouldn't like to see everyone sad, so I decided to bring everyone's frown upside down.