

Personal Statement

It has been a long journey from speaking very little English to be able to speak, write, and read English fluently. My English has improved significantly in the last four years. I did not like English until my parents and I decided to go to Toronto. I feel English is very important in this global world, especially for my major, Electrical Engineering. I chose Toronto, Canada as my first place to study because it was affordable and easier to apply, but my decision was wrong. I had originally thought that I would be surrounded by English speaking students; imagine my shock when I realized that ninety percents of the students speak Mandarin in school. Thus, it was very hard to learn English. That is why I chose Seattle to learn more English, to get a better education, and obtain new experiences. In addition, there are many high tech companies located in Seattle, so it is better suited for me to explore my goal. From this experience, I also learned that you should not make decisions until you do some research.

Have you ever had culture shock? I had it when I was seventeen. I left my parents for the first time to study in a foreign country. It was my first time being alone and independent. Additionally, it was also a scary experience to take my first airplane ride where only English was spoken. The biggest obstacle I faced in Toronto was language. Have you thought about living in a new place without your native language and culture? While I was in Toronto I got home sick. I tried to get used to living in this new environment, where the culture, language and food were completely different from Taiwan. There was no one there to help me so I had to rely completely on myself. I tried to make new friends whenever I had a chance to meet people, and I found out their interests to have a conversation. I talked with many Canadians and learned about their

culture. My English improved dramatically because of that. After a year in Toronto, I decided to move to Seattle. Once again, I had to make new friends and get used to a new culture. While being away from my parents, I learned how to cook, clean, assemble furniture and handle finances. It was hard for me to do these things initially because I never had to do them in Taiwan. In the end, I am a better and more matured person because I have faced and conquered these obstacles.

You might be wondering why I chose Electrical Engineering as my major. My father has been a huge influence in my life ever since I was little. He is an Electrical Engineer, who graduated from the best university in Taiwan and owns a Technology company. My father would take me to work with him whenever he had a chance. He taught me with patience, and I received much information and gained good experiences from him. I also learned that a focused work attitude is very important. Moreover, my father never gives up nor stops working, until the problem is solved. I feel that I have the same drive as my dad. Because of my dad's influence I learned how to make motors for car toys when I was junior in high school. In fact, the motors that I made were faster than the ones that they sold in the stores. Many children bought motors from me! Now, I fix and build my own computers and my friend's computers since they trust my skills and experience. I enjoy fixing computers because every problem and challenge is different. I will not stop until I can solve a problem on the computer. In addition, I also found several ways to fix virus problems without a virus program. Sometimes it takes me a week to figure out a solution, but I won't give up until I find it. My father always tells me, "In order to succeed, you have to work hard." My computer skills get better and stronger because of my Dad's influence. I love the feeling I get when I am deeply

involved in solving a computer problem. I can feel that my brain is burning. My dream of becoming an Electrical Engineer is becoming real. I do not feel my job will be just making money. It will be my interest. I am just like my father; I will never get tired of working with new technology. Additionally, majoring in Electrical Engineering is not only part of my interests. It also benefits all of the people in the world with part of my design and knowing that millions of people are using my design. Moreover, I have many oriented ideas that I want to achieve in the future even though some of them are already invented. However, I believe it is never too late to start them right now. It is my dream to work for R&D as I love the idea of designing or developing something, and Seattle University will help me to achieve my dream and goal to become a successful Electrical Engineer. I have never seen a school like Seattle University which has the best professors in a small department. They are so knowledgeable and helpful, and they all love a challenge. Because of the size of the department, we all have a chance to know all of the Electrical Engineers and professors and have a chance to work with everyone in the E.E dept with different ethical groups. It helps me to build up my communication and cooperation skills which help me to work with other engineers more easily. All of the equipment that we learn to use at Seattle University is really useful. They let us perform some real hands on projects instead of just theoretical calculations. Moreover, with the amount of projects, laboratories and homework, I can understand all of the topics easier and learn more computer skills. The only thing that I think Seattle University has space to improve is more variety of classes that we can take because sometimes SU only offers two courses for electives, so we don't have any choice to choose not to take it because some of the classes are only offered once a year, so if I don't like the subject I still have

to take it since I want to graduate on time. Electrical Engineering covers a lot of areas, so everyone has different interests in some specific parts. Thus, E.E department should offer more elective classes, so we can pick what we like. This will be easier to achieve my goal. After I graduate from Seattle University, I want to get an internship for electrical engineers, so I can apply the theories to real world problems, and obtain some work experience. It will be a different level in my life, and I know it will be hard for me. After my internship, I will decide to get my master's degree which is really important for getting an R&D job now days. Without a higher educated degree I won't be able to get an R&D job. Therefore, these are my plan for the future.

As you can see my personality is constantly influenced from my father. His foot step is like a path for me to follow. I know I won't be lead in the wrong direction because he is always there to lead me. Moreover, Seattle University is my flash light which helps me to see my path more clearly. I can't wait to see my future unfold. Hopefully, it will be similar to my plan.