

Diego Montana-Ramirez
Mr. Gonzales
English 12; Period 6
Personal Statement Questions
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1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time.

- Over my high school years, I have been involved in a club called FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America). I have seen all around how this club has been helping people and how much of an impact it causes to people's lives. My junior year, I started to get more involved in the club. I start to help out at a store located within the campus of my high school. This store is the biggest income fundraiser we have for our club; we call it the students store since we sell food products to students during break and lunchtime. I love to help out and see how people love buying the products we offer to them. I would always go in and help out during my break and lunch. Not only that, I would also attend the meetings every other Wednesday after school. Even though I did not have a position in the club or was an officer, I loved helping them with giving them feedback on how the meetings were and how they can improve on them. This year, my senior year, I became an officer. I am the 2016-17 treasure for FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America). This role is important to the club being that I must work with money and see how well the club is using their money. I help set up meetings/ plan them; I count money that is made in the student store and make deposits to the front office. Also, during our meetings, I give presentations on what events students should compete in and why they should do it. This club prepares students for future, ones who are interested in majoring in the business field. I have seen how students gotten jobs and have placed in the events they compete in because the effort and time I put in to help them.

2. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.

- Over my high school years, I have been involved in many educational programs. I was involved in FBLA all my 4 years of high school and also, I signed up to be in the upward bound trio program last year (junior year). Since 8th grade year, I was in the program REAP. REAP is more of a scholarship program where I get money for getting level 4, which are equivalent to an A+. I've gotten up to almost \$3,000 for earning A+ in my core classes. I've been in Trio since the second semester of

my junior year. They have helped me be more successful in my academics studies being that I was able to take summer courses at community college, during the summer of 2016. They helped me get a higher GPA and realize that going to a community college isn't all that bad like some people set it out to be. But an educational opportunity that i've gotten that helped me in the past get through an educational barrier that I faced would have to be AVID during my freshman and sophomore year. My freshman year, I was having problem on knowing what to do to receive a level 4 (A+) in physical education (PE). I had told my AVID teacher Mr. Guss that not only did I not know what to do to get a level 4, but that once I got, I had no minor idea on how to complete it. He guided me and several other people too to get level 4's.

3. What is the one thing that you think sets you apart from other candidates applying to the University of California?

- Something that sets me apart from other candidates would have to be that I have work experience since I was a kid. This will help me in the future since I would like to major in business and when you are in business, you must learn how to work. Not only that, I would want to work on campus so I would be contributing to the economics of the campus. Also, I have lots of dedication to bring to your campus. Being that I am the oldest of 5 children with parents who migrated here to the U.S when they were young. I want to make my parents proud and for my siblings to look up to me for furthering my education. Once I start doing something, I will not give up and will try my hardest to accomplish it. I would really like to future my education at your campus being that I love learning and I have an opened mind. I would like to see how much I can contribute to the campus and how much the campus/school can contribute to me. Not only that, but I would also get very involved with the campus life. I would join clubs that my high school did not have, I would want to join a fraternity, and study abroad. I would want to get a job on campus and also do research for not only the school's but also for the state. I would like to have the opportunity to go to your campus to be successful in the future. Furthermore, I've been involved in extracurricular activities here at my high school and also worked, so I would balance work and academics efficiently. It is important to balance out both so that you could be successful in school and in life.

4. What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?

- One of greatest skills that I have would have to be that I know how to sell products well. I've worked selling food at the Friday Farmers Market in the town

that I grew up in, Lindsay, CA. As a kid at age 8, I started working there at a stand. I would organize drinks and then from there I started handling food. I would have to make sure there was enough bread in the oven so that it could be soft. Once I started to get older, I was given the position to be a cashier. I learned how to attend customers and accustom to their personality. Learning to accustom to their personality is important being that it creates good customer care with the people. Obviously if you get mad quickly and not be patient with customers when they are being rude, then you will not handle the situation properly and give the wrong impression about the company. I've developed this wonderful skill by being cashier for 2 years. I recently started to work at a different job in the city I grew up in. McDermont is the place where I work now. I have encountered certain situations where my skill comes into play.