Personal essay Lauren Dana

In a world where everyone wants to make something of themselves, whether it is to be remembered, loved, or wealthy, we're all here in hopes of accomplishing our goals. I think there is a lot about me that make me stand out from the sea of other writers and entrepreneurs in my future career path. One thing that makes me stand out is the way I am able to connect with others. Something I hold an enormous amount of value on and something I think makes life worth living is the ability to connect with other people and relate to others' experiences. Throughout my life, I have always struggled making genuine friends, it always seemed like I was holding back in every relationship I made, but through growth and maturity, I am now able to meet people and create a bond and connection effortlessly. Once people get to know me, they seem to be able to open up to me and let their guard down because I show such genuine interest in everyone I meet. I know this will make me stand out in a sea of interviewees or people in an office building, because when I personally meet someone who makes me feel important, I usually don't forget.

Something I notice about myself is that I definitely take my time and calculate my reaction to things. Sometimes it can be to a point of weakness, because I weigh out the pros and cons of my decisions to a point where it gets timely, but overall I think it is a strength that I hold. I am not so much impulsive as I am a rational thinker and value making decisions that I don't have to worry about regretting later on. I know this can be different from the typical college student, so I think this makes me unique.

Time can be something that gives me anxiety throughout my life, whether it is a fear that I am wasting time or that I don't have enough time to accomplish something. While this can hold me back sometimes, it mainly pushes me to make the most out of any situation I'm in. I notice almost to a fault, how often my friends and people around me don't consider time, as if it's not a factor and places no hold on their life. For me, however, time haunts me and follows me around nagging me throughout my day, pushing me to do it all and not waste a second. I think this quality helps me stand out, since it allows me to place value on everything I do and every decision I make, because I understand the time that went into it and the time I don't want to waste. I think it is really important to circle around every so often and understand how unique everyone is, especially in a time where all we seem to worry about is making the next step in life and making sure we accomplish everything. If we truly understand how impactful we all are in our own way, we will naturally stand out from the flock of people trying to accomplish the same goal.