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Personal Statement Example for College

When my grandmother passed, I didn't cry. Not right away. I opened a spreadsheet.

She'd spent years running a tiny sari shop in Jackson Heights, managing her orders, vendors, and cash flow — all by hand. When she got sick, I promised I'd help digitize her system. I didn't know that project would turn into the first real spark of what I wanted to do with my life.

At first, I was just trying to organize her inventory. But the deeper I got, the more I noticed patterns: her top-selling colors per season, how certain wholesalers delivered faster but had more returns, and which customers only bought during holidays. I turned it into a mini dashboard and showed her. Her eyes lit up. "I've been doing all this in my head for twenty years," she said.

That small project taught me two big things: first, that I love solving problems through data. Second, that I love making technology feel human. I'm applying to college to explore both of those ideas further, hopefully through a mix of computer science, design, and maybe even business analytics.

In high school, I dove into data science bootcamps, joined our tech club, and started freelancing with small businesses in the neighborhood, helping them improve their online systems. I didn't charge much, I just loved the puzzle of it. Helping a tiny bakery reduce their delivery time by analyzing zip code clusters was weirdly satisfying. It made math feel alive.



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But beyond code, I'm also someone who writes poetry at 1 a.m., loves long walks without earbuds, and will argue that mango lassi is superior to bubble tea any day. I want to bring all of that to college to find people who geek out over optimization and still know when to slow down.

College, for me, isn't just about a degree. It's a launchpad. I want to take everything I've learned in messy, real-world ways and sharpen it. And someday, I hope to build tools that don't just help businesses run better but help people, especially from immigrant communities, dream bigger.