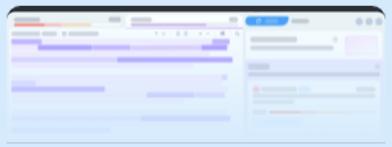Common App Essay — Background, Identity, Interest, or Talent The first moment that I was up till morning solving a coding problem, I believed that something was wrong with me. My classmates would be commenting on snacks or movies in the middle of the night; I silently enjoyed the sound of my computer and the excitement of solving logic riddles. It started as an interest in middle school but soon became a major part of my personality. Computers were not merely for use - they were languages in my capacity to create, to connect, and to contribute. I became a member of the computer science club during my junior year. Initially, I was just having fun being together, sharing screens, and sharing problems. However, when my team was assigned to create an application to assist in the gathering of volunteers to support a local charity, I understood the importance of this interest. I was not merely writing code; I was finding a solution to a human problem. The reward was neither completing the app nor making any monetary gain, but watching happy faces as volunteers responded to the app to organize their food-drive pickups better. The experience made me realize that having an interest is not a hobby; it is a window through which I seek purpose. It encouraged me to recognize that technology is not needed to fulfill some purpose, but rather it ought to serve people. Today, I work on all the projects with that same twofold orientation: beautiful design and practical effect. The next chapter in which I am hoping to sharpen these skills is college, to study intensively, to work with many people, and to create worthwhile solutions. Code writing made me what I am; it demonstrates what I aspire to be.

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