

PERSONAL PROFILE NAME:

1. What are your educational, vocational and career goals?

2. Right now, what are the top priorities' in your life? At present do you have a particular "Philosophy of Life"?

3. What are your personal strengths?

4. What is your biggest area of weakness? Why?

5. What points or qualities about you do you feel should be stressed in a letter of recommendation?

6. Give examples to describe your

a) Capacity for intellectual growth, academic potential and curiosity to learn.

b) Initiative, self motivation and responsibility level.

c) Leadership potential

d) Originality and creativity

e) Special talents

7. What additional information would be helpful in writing the recommendation? How can the 'real' you be captured on paper?

8. What kind of experience have you had outside of school that have developed you personally, and how?

9. What are the first three adjectives that come to mind to describe myself?

10. The accomplishments you are most proud of are

11. You have shown leadership skills by:

12. The out-of-school activity that has been most rewarding to you is:

13. The most meaningful extracurricular experience you have had is

14. School has helped you most by:

15. List any awards or offices that you have held

I certify that what is written above on this paper is true

[ALOR/ADMIN/GEN/PROFILE]

Personal Profile

1) What are your educational, vocational and career goals?

After high school, I plan on going to college, preferably, the University of Virginia. There I would like to major in Foreign Affairs / Government. After that, I want to join the State Department and be a diplomat (a political officer like my dad.) I love to travel, and this type of work seems very interesting.

2) Right now, what are the top priorities' in your life? At present do you have a particular "Philosophy of Life?"

The top priorities in my life include, keeping my grades up and doing well in school, in order to get in to a good college. Other priorities are my friends and family, sports (Basketball and Volleyball) and the International Youth Award.

I guess if I have a particular "Philosophy of Life" It's just to keep on going, to look forward to and search out the possibilities that life brings and to keep smiling.

3) What are your personal strengths?

I'm consistent in my academic work, keeping up with my studies. I try and stick to things, even if I feel that they are not working out. In sports for example, I kept trying and I made the volleyball and basketball teams. I also think one of my strengths is the amount of reading that I do, I love reading, it gives me a chance to explore different worlds and I believe that it has given me a broad knowledge of life and people. I also can write creative passages or poems very well.

4) What is your biggest area of weakness? Why?

I think one big area of weakness that I have, at least academically, mostly in English, is writing a really formal piece of writing. I don't like having to say what I think on particular things, I have this, I guess you could say yearning, to keep a type of anonymity about myself, not revealing much about my thoughts. I don't know, maybe it's because I'm not sure all the time if what I'm saying is right or wrong, but I also know that I have a need to keep some of my true self kind of obscured. When I do write I like to add a creative sense to it, and if I have to write formally, with not a lot of embellishments, I have a hard time really getting across what I want to say. This goes for orals also, if I do a creative piece, such as an interior monologue, or a poem, something of that sorts, then I'm fine and usually do it well. But when it's something more formal, I find it difficult to express myself.

5) What points or qualities about you do you feel should be stressed in a letter of recommendation?

I've always been able to adapt readily to different situations. I'm caring and

sensitive. I love beautiful, different and creative things. I try hard and I'm committed and consistent in my studies, and when I really want something, I try hard to achieve that goal.

6) Give examples to describe your:

- a) Capacity for intellectual growth, academic potential and curiosity to learn
- b) Initiative, self motivation and responsibility level
- c) Leadership potential
- d) Originality and creativity
- e) special talents

a) I've always looked forward to college and all the choices and possibilities that it will be able to offer me for my future, my career and life goals. I love learning, at least, more truthfully, I love learning about something that truly interests me. The feeling when you've finally understood something, or when you finish a big project or take a test and get a good grade, is great.

b) In the International Youth Award self-motivation is about all you have to keep you going, you have to do it for yourself, push yourself, to keep going. No one is going to check up on you and make sure your doing what your supposed to.

Until I was about eleven, I lived with just my mom and older brother, we never had that much money, and my mom was gone a lot of the time when I came home from school. Now my older brother kind of took the rebel path, always doing what he wasn't supposed to, and I think I took the opposite path. I learned from a young age to be independent and responsible and do the 'right' thing. I would and still do take things upon myself, doing jobs or errands without being asked, and always trying to make life as easy as possible for my mom.

c) Coming to O.C.S. has given me leadership opportunities. For example, at the International Youth Award camp-out (at the school) we split in to groups to work on trust building exercises, I found that in my group I was one of those who took on a kind of leadership role. I find myself, since coming here, speaking up more to answer a question or state my opinion, more than I have ever done before. I've gained much more confidence in myself and I feel that I have grown a lot inside, and could grow more, given the chance and time.

d) I guess you could say I like to dream and imagine. I feel things very deeply, and this gives me a different outlook on life. I love to write poetry, it gives me a chance to express myself, and how I'm feeling in a way that I can't by talking. I also love to read, my favorite genre is fantasy, and I think, because I've been reading ever since I can remember, and reading books advanced for my age, it opened up new worlds for me of language and life. When I do write poems or other pieces of creative writing, they *are* creative and original. I've always loved the creative or imaginative side to things, I feel at home with them. In books, I'm drawn in to them and feel them deeply.

e) If I have any special talents, I guess it would be my poetry.

7) What additional information would be helpful in writing the recommendation? How can the 'real' you be captured on paper?

I'm kind and considerate. I love beautiful things - I feel inspired by them, and try to immortalize them, their words, their meaning, on paper. Sometimes I have to be alone, as everybody does, and I withdraw in to my own world, and read curled up in my space, write poetry or dream away the hours. I'm very sensitive and feel things very strongly and deeply. I'm very often quiet, that's my nature - not shy, really - just quiet, thinking my own thoughts. Though with my friends I can sometimes be quite loud and talkative. Yet most people don't know the 'real' me, they see what I choose to show them.

8) What kinds of experience have you had outside of school that have developed you personally, and how?

One of the most significant experiences that I have had, I believe, is French camp. Last summer ('93) I went, as I had when I was younger (8,9 & 10 yrs.. old), to French camp. This two week session, though, affected me much more than any previous one, probably because I'm older now. I had just left Islamabad and all my friends, and I was about to be thrown together with about 100 other people, who were to become my family for the next 2 weeks. I went up to and was able to talk with people I didn't know. We formed friendships quickly, with each other and the monos (counselors - many were close to our age.) I stayed in a cabin with 7 other campers and 2 monos, and we all became very close. There was a campfire each night, where we would all gather at the end of the day, to sing or tell stories, and then give good-night hugs, around the fire, to our friends. At the last campfire those who had been monos or campers there for years said that this was the closest they had ever felt the camp. I'm glad I got to be a part of it. Making so many friends, so easily, and becoming so close felt great. Friendships mean a lot to me, and I remember, there on the last day as the tears came to my eyes, I knew that I wouldn't be the same again. I felt alive, like a flower was blooming within me, bursting with the knowledge that you mean something to a lot of people. The night before we left everyone in our cabin had a piece of paper that everyone else signed, saying something about them, that we were to read the next day, as we drove away, with tears shining in our eyes and love in our hearts.

9) What are the first three adjectives that come to mind to describe myself?

1. Sensitive
2. Creative
3. Caring

10) The accomplishments you are most proud of are:

One accomplishment that I am proud of is making both the basketball and volleyball SAISA teams. Being part of a team, makes you feel like your worth something, and when you score, or stop the other team from scoring, it makes you feel like you've added something to the team by being on it.

Another thing that has made me feel like I've accomplished something is the plays that I've been in. For example, in a Midsummer Night's Dream, I sang my first solo, acapello, and when people come up afterwards and tell you that you did a great job, you *feel* great.

Also, by joining the Youth Award program and sticking to it, it makes you proud of yourself, and gives you a sense of duty and service

11) You have shown leadership skills by:

I guess that I have shown some leadership skills, as I mentioned earlier, in the International Youth Award program. Also, I've always babysat quite a bit, and that requires you to take charge and show leadership skills. I've never been that much of a leader though, it's not really my nature. I like to let other people take charge, so I can stay in the background, doing what I want to do.

12) The out-of-school activity that has been most rewarding to you is:

Moving overseas is probably the most rewarding experience that I have had. Being able to experience different cultures, and see the world, gives you a whole new out-look on life, the experiences that you have change you, mold you in to a different, more interesting, and maybe better person. You also are able to receive the benefits of a wonderful education, preparing the way for your future life.

13) The most meaningful extracurricular experience you have had is:

It would have to be my involvement in sports. In Islamabad, I never made the teams when I tried out, and here, with practice and hard work, I'm able to make the SAISA teams. Being part of a team, and being able to contribute something to them, makes you feel really good. It shows that if you really set your mind to something and really want it, you can get it.

14) School has helped you most by:

School has helped me most by giving me a great education. I appreciate school more, since I started going to overseas schools (this is my fourth year) and coming from public schools in the states I am able to see the difference in the level of education. Both O.C.S. and I.S.I. (Islamabad), I think, do a pretty good job in preparing you for college, at least better than a public school. You have to learn how to *really* think and analyze, these schools unlock your mind and set you free to roam through the world of knowledge.

15) List any awards or offices that you have held: