My form of self-expression is best defined as – Real life storytelling.

My stories are inspired by life’s experiences, my own and others, and of incidences I read about or watch on media. And while I started with Phine as and Ferb, and Mickey Mouse, overtime, my writing became more imaginative and confident. I started writing about life in an alternative universe before finally settling with real-life experience writing.

Writing remained more a hobby till I took over the position of the Minister for Information and Broadcasting in Grade nine. My work - poetry and stories got published on various platforms - school magazines and another publication by the school called ‘*Uncensored.*’ Simultaneously, to enhance my writing skills, I took up a class for Creative Communications as a part of our school’s co-curriculum. It engaged my writing abilities and also helped me develop collaborative skills. I worked along with my peers, presenting my views and infusingdiverse ideas which resulted in a publication of our own -*‘The Thought Jar.’*

It was in high school when I started studying subjects like *Economics, Political Science and English Literature* that I developed a better understanding of the world around me. However, I was most inspired by travelling and my travels across Asia and Europe along with many states in India gave me a unique insight and appreciation for diverse cultures and people. I learnt the art of observation. Travelling also made me more retrospective and compassionate. I met a variety of people, each with a unique story and awaiting someone who would listen to them and share their story with the world. That was when I knew my calling. I decided to write as a Journalist.

My experience while travelling across Europe,passing through some of the best known universities in the world for art and literature prompted me to research on study opportunities for pursuing my undergraduate education in Journalism. UK with its flexible study programs, diverse course options and opportunity to learn through industry collaborations was a natural first choice for me. That fact that many UK universities also offer courses for filmmaking and digital media interested me further. Besides studying for the undergraduate program, during my stay in UK, I wish to also open myself up culturally, socially and mentally to dwell into more aspects of the society which I wasn’t able to in the short duration of my trips.

Throughout school, I have been an active participant in co-curricular and extracurricular activities. The *Beijing International Education Exchange (BIEE)* introduced me to the Chinese language and culture and gave me a chance to interact with other students from over 11 countries from around the world. I have participated in many Model United Nations which has helped enhance my public speaking, research, debating, writing, critical thinking and leadership skills. In *VMUN’14, MODMUN’ 17, WIMUN’ 18*and *MayoMUN’18,* I participated as a delegate and collaborated with delegates from other schools and countries. But I gained real Model UN exposure when I headed the committees of *WHO, UNICEF, and UNFAO* in *SNSMUN* for three consecutive years from 2016-18.

I also hold a keen interest in expressing my opinions through the means of street plays. During *Economite' 17 and Joie De Vivre' 17,* my team and I presented our street plays and won the first place in the latter. I have also trained under Mr. Dananjaya J. Hettiarachchi, the World Champion of Public Speaking, 2014 and honed my public speaking skills.

I strongly believe in the power of the written word. By attending your esteemed university, I wish to expand my pool of knowledge in Journalism so as to do justice to the real-life stories I wish to tellespecially in this day and age of fakenews and social media journalism. By choosing Journalism as a career, I believe I will be following the universal mantra to work satisfaction - *‘Love what you do, do what you love.’*