

Ambition

Frank Olsson

An autobiography by the
one-and-only Frank Olsson.

TEDA Global
Academy

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Prologue

My name is Frank Oskar Olsson, I am currently enrolled in TEDA Global Academy in China. I love playing soccer and basketball. Over the summers in Sweden, I usually go out sailing or fishing with my brother. I also like to go skiing over the holidays. I am a mix of two cultures and ethnicities—Sweden and China. I spent the first four years of my life growing up in Sweden. I then moved to Shanghai China for two years, then Finland for two years, then Sweden for another five years, and then I moved to Tianjin, China. I have lived in a total of six cities for extended periods, this has given me a sense of the world and what it has to offer.

As a soon-to-be Aerospace Engineering student at one of the most prestigious universities in the European Union, I would classify myself as an “ambitious” person. Just a year ago, I had no clue about what I wanted to do in the future. I was considering becoming an economist or businessman. Though after reminiscing all of my interests and hobbies, I realized that engineering would be a perfect major for me. At the end of grade eleven, I started studying the courses necessary for me to get into the university of my dreams—The Technical University of Delft. I had to brush up on multiple skills related to mathematics and physics that I learned over that year. Having been decent in physics class and not having much interest in the subject of physics, I realized that I had a lot to do. Over the summer holiday, I began working on my calculus and physics skills. I had to go through multiple online courses in order to even be close to qualifying for the program. I knew that I wanted to pursue a career in engineering, I had to work an average of five to six hours per day over the summer holiday to review the mathematics, physics, and engineering courses I missed in High School. My ambition drove me through this long, difficult, and tedious process. Ambition took me to the position which I am in today. On my way to the fifth-ranked university in Aerospace / mechanical engineering and one of the most prestigious engineering universities in continental Europe.

This project is meant to combine multiple prompts and assignments that tell the reader about me as a person. Please enjoy!

What's in a Name?

The name assigned to us is meant to shape who we are. Our names are probably the words we will hear the most throughout our lives. Some of us are given names like Grace, which symbolizes generosity, or Kaitlyn, which symbolizes purity. I was given three names—Frank Oskar Olsson. The name Frank is meant to symbolize honesty. Although I have tried to live as an honest person, I am not a very honest person. I don't feel as though I am very attached to my name as it doesn't mean that much to me. I almost feel like my name was arbitrarily picked out of a hat, no offense to my parents. As for my middle name, it represents a name that was previously given to my great, great grandfather. I have always been told that he was a hard-working man who would work, day and night to improve his place in society. He is the definition of Ambition. This idea has led to me concluding that my middle name means more to me than my first name. My surname is Olsson, this name has been carried on for generations and I am grateful for carrying on my family's legacy.

Fun fact... A company was named after my initials—F.O.O. It went bankrupt, but it's fun to know that something was named after me.

Frank

My Personal Alphabet

A is for Ambitious—Ambition is behind the drive I have for completing tasks.

B is for Big—I am generally a big person. If you know, you know.

C is for Courageous—I am always ready for new challenges.

D is for Devoted—I believe that I am quite devoted to my studies.

E is for Encouraged—I am always encouraged to work harder.

F is for Funny—Making people laugh is something I value a lot.

G is for Gentle—Many people call me a gentle giant. I might look quite big and dangerous, though I am usually quite nice.

H is for Headstrong—When I decide to do something, I do it.

I is for Ingenious—I am a self-proclaimed genius. This is based on my metacognitive skills.

J is for Joyful—I like to see the bright side of things rather than the negative sides.

K is for Kind—I believe that kindness could take you a long way. There is no reason for you to be mean.

L is for Loyal—I stay loyal to the people I care about. This includes family and friends.

M is for Mature—I have a good work ethic, which would suggest maturity.

N is for Naïve—I have been sheltered from the bad in life

O is for Outstanding—I like to stand out when it comes to achievements. I also stand out because of my height.

P is for Patient—I have an ability to work for hours on end, without losing focus.

Q is for Questioning—I always like to question things as I go.

R is for regrettable—I feel as though I have made many mistakes throughout my life.

S is for Scientific—I like taking analytical approaches when solving problems.

T is for Thoughtful—I like to think about a lot of things. Whenever I encounter something I am not sure about, I think about it.

U is for Unique—I like to stand out from the crowd.

V is for Vibrant—I always want to change for the better.

W is for Welcoming—I like to make people feel good and safe.

X is for Xylophonic—I have an ability to make weird sounds.

Y is for Young—I definitely feel as though I haven't experienced much yet.

Z is for Zealous—I am addicted to seeing people succeed, whether it's a friend or me.



As Time Goes Bye-Bye

As time passes by, I would like to visit as many places as possible. I like traveling because it gives you experiences that will never be forgotten. Over time, these experiences will form who I am. Something I would want to do by the time I am thirty-five is to be working for my Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering. I believe that this would help me throughout my life, both professionally and personally.

Throughout my years of moving from place to place, I have had to say goodbye to many things. Although saying goodbye to things could feel depressing, I will probably have a chance to go back. I have left many friends, places, and dreams. I have lived in five different cities throughout my childhood, left many friends, and given up on many dreams nurtured by the city I was residing in at times.

When I was eight years old, my family moved to Gothenburg, Sweden. I spent my entire primary there. I had many friends, I was active in many associations like soccer teams and chess clubs, but most important of all, it is where my family lived. I had dreams of starting a farm or of becoming a soccer player, though these dreams would all be crushed. When I was 13, my father decided to move to China. I was quite young at the time and did not realize what I was leaving behind in Gothenburg. I left a big piece of my life there for a new life that I have built up in TEDA. One must face the sad things in life with confidence to overcome whatever obstacles I face. That is exactly what I had to do. I felt out of place in an international school. I did not speak English, nor did I speak much Chinese. But I had to learn in order to move on, and so I did. Saying goodbye does not have to be a bad thing, it opens new doors that would have been locked. Saying goodbye could be the key to these doors that could have been locked in eternity.



My Own List of Lists

1. People who have influenced me...

1. My mother
2. My father
3. Henry (Brother)
4. Nadeem
5. My grandfather
6. Jeewoo



2. Places that make me happy...

1. Vastervik, Sweden—My hometown
2. Shanghai, China—My second hometown.
3. Gothenburg, Sweden—I spent a great part of my childhood there.
4. Tianjin, China—I spent my teenage years there.
5. Tehran, Iran—I like the city because it looks nice.
6. Courmayeur, Italy—My favorite skiing place

3. Places I would like to go...

1. I would like to go to Mount Everest.
2. Iran
3. Canada
4. Stonehenge
5. The Tesla Gigafactory
6. Universal Studios in Beijing.



4. Things in people which I like...

1. I like funny people.
2. I like hard working people.
3. Cool people.
4. People who care about things.
5. People who act.
6. People who are open about their lives.

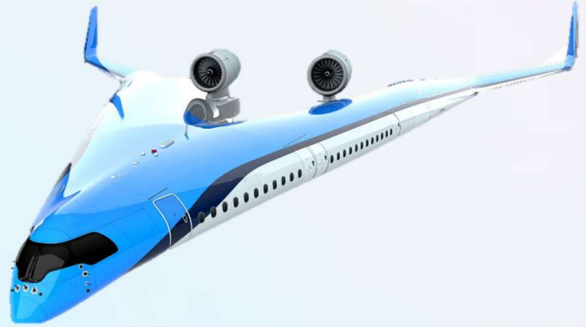
5. Things in people which I dislike...
 1. I don't like self-entitled people.
 2. Annoying people.
 3. Childish people.
 4. Violent people.
 5. Careless people.
 6. Ignorant people
6. Things that worry me...
 1. I worry about my future.
 2. I worry about my life.
 3. I worry about my grades.
 4. I worry about people I care about.
 5. I worry about the inevitability of death.
 6. I worry about everyday dangers.
7. Things I would like to know how to do...
 1. I would like to learn how to fly a plane, it seems like a fun thing to know.
 2. I want to master the field of aerodynamics.
 3. I want to learn how to build complicated structures.
 4. I want to learn a new language, French perhaps.
 5. I want to learn more about the art of presenting.
 6. I want to learn a new sport.
8. Things that have moved me...
 1. Once, I read a book in Swedish that got me to rethink life.
 2. My father's projects. They have literally moved me from place to place.
 3. My mother.
 4. My grandparents' wisdom
 5. Inspirational movies.
 6. Quotes.
9. Ideas that intrigue me...



1. Physics phenomena.
2. Cool cars
3. Cool planes and aircrafts.
4. Interesting technology
5. Architecture
6. Cool and utilitarian designs in general.

10. My personal favorites...

1. I like building things.
2. I love playing soccer
3. I like sailing
4. I like skiing
5. I like thinking about things.
6. I like to study things related to engineering.



Look Who I Look Up To

Several people have caught my attention as role models throughout my upbringing, though only some make it onto this list.

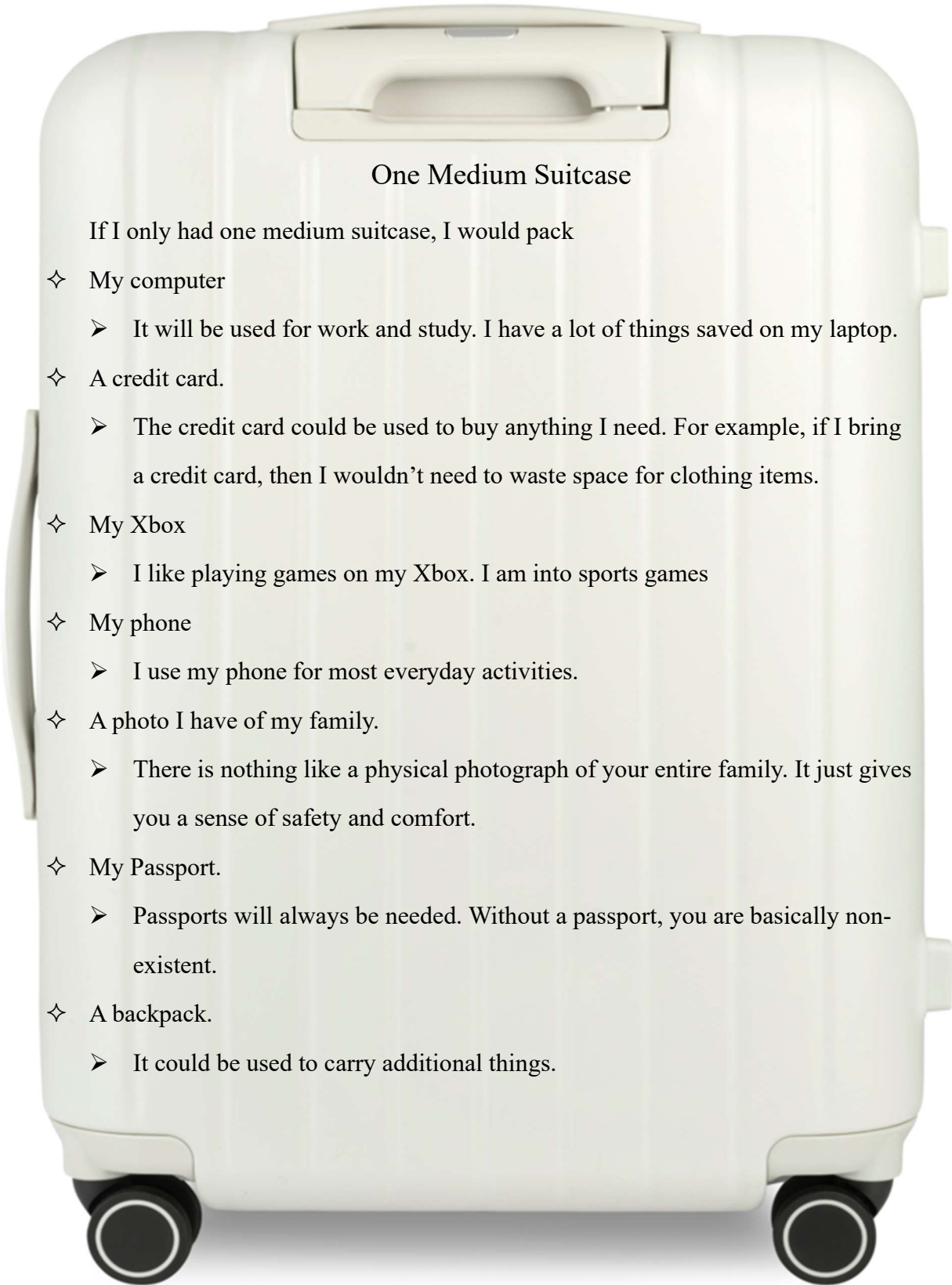
- Elon Musk.
 - ✧ Elon Musk has consistently ranked among the top in net worth. He founded numerous companies, like Tesla, SpaceX, PayPal, and The Boring Company. He did not come from a wealthy family and did not receive much financial aid throughout his life. Despite this, he has become the richest man on earth. I admire his ambition, hard work, and entrepreneurship. He is a true role model for engineers as he is the chief engineer at SpaceX.
- Albert Einstein
 - ✧ Albert Einstein was a Jewish, German theoretical physicist. He founded many theorems, including the theory of relativity, the quantum theory, and the mass-energy formula. His work changed the field of physics in astonishing ways, even though he lived during a period of constant war and chaos. I look up to him because of his intelligence and resilience against threats that interrupted his work.
- Zlatan Ibrahimovic
 - ✧ Zlatan Ibrahimovic is one of the best soccer players in the world. He comes from a poor immigrant family and grew up in the slums of Malmo, Sweden. He had a hard time making it to the top of his sport, but he did. He has won multiple awards and has played soccer for over twenty years now. At age 41 years old, he is still playing for one of the best teams in the world. The idea that he keeps doing what he loves for as long as possible inspires me to push on when I feel like I cannot accomplish certain tasks. When I start doubting myself, I think about Ibrahimovic. If he is still playing professional soccer at age 41, then I must be able to finish this task. Zlatan Ibrahimovic isn't playing the sport for money; he is because he wants to entertain and do the thing he likes the most—playing soccer.

Remembering the Child

As a toddler, I was very curious. People who knew me as a little kid has told me that I liked exploring things. I was also polite and did what people told me to do.

I interviewed my mother about how I was as a small child. My findings were not out of the ordinary. She told me that I was sweet, curious, and had a bad habit of rolling around on the ground. This was annoying because my mother would have to wash my clothes and jacket after. Her favorite memory of me was when we were in Vastervik, Sweden. We had two pet rabbits at the time. One was my brother's, and one was mine. When we took the rabbits out to play with them, one escaped. We thought it would get eaten by a fox or just run away. But after a few weeks, I found it underneath a tree. This experience was sad, but it ended up positive. I also played a lot of sports when I was young. I was part of a youth soccer team. We competed in a lot of tournaments and won lots of trophies. These memories lie close to my heart because I would always compete with my little brother about whose team was better, I won most of the time, not because I was necessarily better, but because my teammates were better. I also remember that I liked to build things when I was young. We would always get LEGO sets to work on. This is probably the spark that led to me becoming interested in engineering.





One Medium Suitcase

If I only had one medium suitcase, I would pack

- ✧ My computer
 - It will be used for work and study. I have a lot of things saved on my laptop.
- ✧ A credit card.
 - The credit card could be used to buy anything I need. For example, if I bring a credit card, then I wouldn't need to waste space for clothing items.
- ✧ My Xbox
 - I like playing games on my Xbox. I am into sports games
- ✧ My phone
 - I use my phone for most everyday activities.
- ✧ A photo I have of my family.
 - There is nothing like a physical photograph of your entire family. It just gives you a sense of safety and comfort.
- ✧ My Passport.
 - Passports will always be needed. Without a passport, you are basically non-existent.
- ✧ A backpack.
 - It could be used to carry additional things.

The Perfect Present

If I was able to choose a perfect intangible present, it would be self-confidence. I am usually quite shy. I have trouble doing presentations in front of large crowds. I believe that this fear or trouble stems from my fear that I could convey the wrong information, mispronounce words, or perhaps the mere idea that people are watching me. On the other hand, I have no trouble playing sports in front of large crowds. This might be because of the competition and that the spectators are often focusing their attention on other people. Maybe some of my self-confidence in sports should be brought to my academic presentations. Self-confidence doesn't only boost your grades in school or make you look better in front of others, but it also makes you believe in yourself. I often doubt my abilities when it comes to things like mathematics and physics. For example, when I do physics problems and end up getting weird-looking answers, I usually change them because of my lack of confidence in my abilities. A lot of times, my answers are right, but I just don't have the confidence to believe in myself. If I was able to get over this feeling of not being good enough, I would probably get a long way.



Memorable Event

My most memorable event this year was when my family and I went to the Olympic ski resort. We encountered multiple problems when going there, but once we made it, we received an unforgettable experience. When entering the province the resort is situated in, we had to provide passports, travel-codes, COVID-test results, and purpose of entering. For a while, we thought we wouldn't be able to get in. Though they eventually let us pass. After making it through, we had to take even more COVID tests. The next day, we were allowed to start skiing down the Olympic slopes. There is something special about skiing down a slope and familiarizing yourself with it. I was mainly skiing with Henry, my brother, because we are somewhat on the same level when it comes to skiing skills, my father and younger brother were skiing by themselves. Funny enough, we met Miss. Yuan Yuan on the lift. This was a pleasant surprise because we ended up skiing with her and her friends. After a few days of skiing, we got tired and set on our way home.

A month later, the Olympics kicked off. Millions of people were watching the event and athletes from all over the world attended. I was particularly focused on the downhill skiing because I skied on the same slope as those world-class athletes only a month ago. This made me feel proud and happy. I would definitely do it again. Skiing is one of my favorite things to do.



Always Say Never

Books I do not want to read

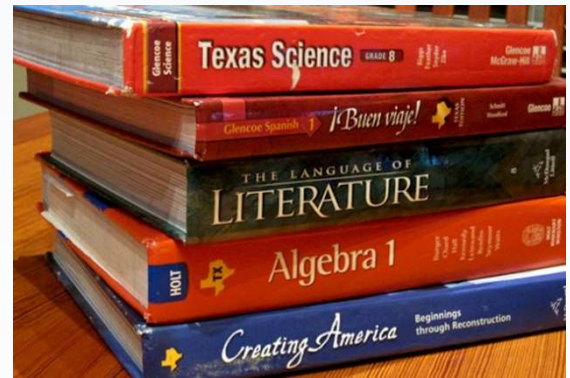
1. Literature textbooks.
2. Social Studies textbooks.
3. Any textbook that is not about science, math, or engineering.
4. The Bible, even though I should read it.

People I never want to see again

1. Certain teachers at school.
2. Certain students at school.

Things I never want to do again

1. Eat sour herring, it is disgusting.
2. Study certain subjects.
3. Go bowling, I am bad at it.
4. Dress up during Halloween.
5. Crash a go-kart. It hurts.
6. Walk into our school as a student.



Places I never want to go to again

1. Yangshuo, I have multiple bad memories stemming from our Week Without Walls there.
2. Tianjin International School, I do not see any reason for me to go back there.
3. Eco-city, I just do not like that area.



The Examined Life

Good Qualities	Bad Qualities
➤ I have a good work ethic.	➤ I am quite anti-social.
➤ I like getting things done.	➤ I am shy.
➤ I like learning.	➤ I do not like attention.
➤ I am patient.	➤ I do not enjoy making friends.
➤ I sleep a lot.	➤ I often assume the worst.
➤ I am close to my family.	➤ I could often be a pessimist.
➤ I do not easily get angry.	➤ I am very bad at small talk.
➤ I try to be polite.	➤ I often over-work.
➤ I am determined to finish whatever I start something.	➤ I do not take breaks very often.
➤ I focus on the “important” things in life.	
➤ I believe in hard work.	
➤ I am resilient.	
➤ I like helping people.	
➤ I avoid taking shortcuts.	
➤ I don't show my bad qualities.	

Lessons I Learned After It Was Too Late

One lesson I learned after it was too late is to not take shortcuts. In grade ten, I only took one AP class, with the difficulty being the priority. I would choose the easiest classes and often, the most useless ones. This was not very smart because this means that I would have to work harder in the future. If I took AP Calculus and AP Physics in grade ten or eleven, I wouldn't have had such a hard time in grade twelve. Even though I learned this lesson after it was too late, I would have learned from my mistakes. This lesson will be very useful and important going forward. I value it as one of the most important lessons I have learned.

Another lesson I learned after it was too late is that time passes by way too fast. I feel like no time has passed since I was in primary school. But obviously, a lot of time has passed, seven years in fact. I guess going on about your life just makes you forget about time. I should be cherishing my time wherever I am and wherever I go, though it seems as if I haven't enjoyed my time very much. Nevertheless, everyone should realize that time passes by much faster than one thinks. I have to live in the moment and make the most of my time on earth.

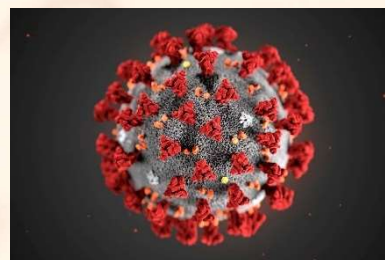
I learned that you should start working on your life skills and hobbies. I haven't had many hobbies and my social skills have been and are to the present not up to par. I have trouble speaking to strangers and presenting. I don't feel like I have many hobbies, other than sports. This could hurt my future because hobbies are vital to a person's happiness and satisfaction. On the other hand, social skills also help. Being able to present things and feel confident about yourself is very important when it comes to work-life. Without it, life will be hard. Humans are social creatures; we rely on communication when solving problems and learning. If I am unable to present and talk to strangers, then I will be in deep trouble.

The Door

When I walk out that door, I want to make sure I continue to perform at a high level. I do not want any of my hard work to go to waste. I also want to live my life, without focusing way too much on work and studies. I want to relax and have fun, not only work myself to my limit. When leaving the English classroom, I simply want to enjoy life to the fullest. When I walk out of this room, I hope to see an end to all wars in the world. I want to watch a newscast with the presenter saying that world peace has finally been restored. I also want to see my favorite soccer player win the Champions League. I want COVID to just end.

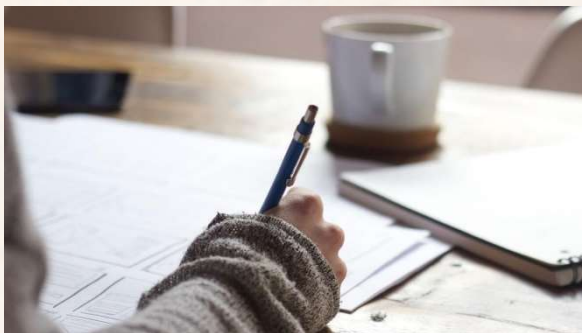


When I walk out that door, I don't want to see myself fail a class in school. I don't want to see any AP grades under a three. I do not want to see Sweden get into a war with Russia, that would be devastating for my future and the future of my country. I don't want to see the Chinese government reinforcing COVID restrictions, pretty much the rest of the world has moved on from the coronavirus, but China hasn't. I don't want to see a letter from the university I got into saying that they are rejecting me—although this is almost impossible, I already got accepted. When I walk out of this classroom, I do not want to hear that anyone in my family has passed away or that my dog has contracted some disease.



Advice to the Young

If I was young, I would start working on my social skills and hobbies. The earlier you start, the better you will be once you get older. I would also practice speaking and writing multiple languages. The more languages you know, the easier life will be for you. I had the opportunity to grow up with parents from two non-English speaking countries. This has helped me develop fluency in two languages and semi-fluency in another. Being multi-lingual helps a lot when it comes to communication. Imagine being able to speak to half of the world's population. If you are able to do that, then you are quite well off. I recommend starting to take school seriously as early as possible. You must get into a habit of not taking anything for granted when it comes to schoolwork. You must work hard to achieve good grades and achievements. School is your first step to university and hopefully a good career. If you do not capitalize on your schoolwork, then you are making a big mistake. Moreover, you should also start learning about whatever you want to do in the future. I started learning subjects related to my university major when I was in twelfth grade. I reckon that this is a bit late. You should make up your mind about what you want to do as early as possible. Time is limited but your ambitions and dreams are not. Familiarize yourself with the important things in life, do not waste time, and enjoy life. You should never overwork. This is a habit that my mother keeps telling me to get out of. I guess when I get into a rhythm, I cannot stop. This might be a good quality in the short run, though it will almost certainly catch up to you one day.



Who Am I?

A soccer player, basketball player, volleyball player, and hockey player.

- I am into sports; I play sports every day. During lunchtime, we play basketball. On the weekends, I play soccer with my friends. I just really enjoy playing sports.



A Sailor, skier, and hunter.

- I love sailing, skiing, and hunting. My family comes from a long line of hunters. We own land on which we hunt over vacations. I am particularly fond of skiing and sailing. These sports are considered extreme sports because of the danger associated with them. I think that the danger is the fun part of the sports.

A brother, son, cousin, and grandson.

- I am very close to my family, without my family, I am not much other than a hard-working student.

A student who enjoys learning.

- I like studying content related to engineering. I am not always a happy learner, though I have become one because of my interest in planes and cars. I realized that studying is the key to making it into those industries.



A wonderer, who wonders about how his future is going to turn out.

- I am always thinking about how my future will turn out. Will I be successful, or will I not accomplish much? These are exciting times; I look forward to seeing myself in the future.

This list suggests that I am athletic. I like playing sports and I enjoy a large variety of sports. My motivation seems to stem from my interest in engineering. I am a dreamer; I dream about tomorrow and what it has to offer.

Valuable Lessons

1. You will be rewarded if you work hard.
 - Working hard has helped me a lot throughout my academic career.
2. Losing out on one thing opens doors to other things.
 - I adapted this mindset when I realized that I might not get into my dream university; fortunately, I got accepted.
3. Never stop learning.
 - Wherever I go, I must learn something new.
4. Don't waste time.
 - Time is one of the scarcest things we have, one day we will run out of it.
5. You never lose before you stop trying.
 - Through playing sports, I realized that you should never give up.
6. You are in control of your destiny.
 - I believe that you can accomplish anything if you put your mind to it.
7. Forgiveness is beneficial for both the giver and the receiver.
 - I learned that you should always forgive, there is no reason to be angry.
8. Violence is never a solution to a problem.
 - I used to turn to violence when I was angry, though I quickly realized that it only makes things worse for everyone.
9. Do not forget to live your life.
 - I have recently been caught up on schoolwork and university applications, so much that I have almost forgotten to live my life.
10. Take care of your health.
 - I used to be overweight. My experience of being overweight was not very positive, so I decided to change and lose weight.

Futures—Fantasy and Fact

If my dreams of the future would eventually come true, then I would be a billionaire working as the chief engineer of Tesla. I would be in the second-highest position in the company, under Elon Musk—my role model. Elon Musk would have appointed me after seeing my capabilities when it comes to aerodynamics. I would be twenty-eight years old with a Ph.D. in aerodynamics, with a high position in a multi-billion-dollar corporation. This is highly unlikely to happen, which is why it could be considered fantasy. How would I become a billionaire at the age of twenty-eight, when I finished my education only three years ago? It's almost impossible.

A more realistic view of me in ten years would be that I would be finished with my bachelor's and master's degrees in aerospace engineering. I would have started working, probably at Boeing or Airbus. My salary would not be anything close to that of a billionaire, it would be more of an entry-level salary. Probably around eighty thousand dollars a year—aerospace engineering is a lucrative business to get into. I would be living in either the Netherlands, France, the United States, or China.

There is a large difference in my predictions for the future, especially when it comes to money. I would be more famous in the “romantic” future whereas I would be less famous in the realistic future. This is a major benefit of a realistic future. Being famous and having a high position in a company also brings lots of responsibilities and attention. I usually try to avoid attention; therefore, I would prefer to live my realistic future. Money isn't everything in life, I could live a good life without billions of dollars in my bank account, and I could still live a happy life. Aerospace engineers are known for making good money, I will probably be quite well off anyways. The steps I would take to find a sensible compromise between my romantic and fact futures would be to just live my life. Having a large amount of responsibility on your shoulders is not my idea of luxury. I wouldn't really mind living a humbler life as an aerospace engineer.

Love Blows Past Like a Breeze

1 Oh, love moves in dark, mysterious ways,
It travels west when it doesn't work out
And may be east when it sees better days.
Sometimes we wonder what it's all about.

5 Love blows past, creepily without a sound.
Just like a poor poltergeist passing by
In the castle of which the ghost is bound.
But it is silent, you won't hear a cry.

A humble hiker that comes by from time,
10 Politely asks for warm food and cold drink,
And leaves on the once full table, a dime.
He walks out the door before you could blink.

Love is a kind wind; it comes by unseen,
But once it leaves you, it leaves quite a scene.



This poem represents my view on love. I believe that love is quiet. I used an extended metaphor to compare love to the wind. The wind blows by unnoticed, but it is there—just like love. Love leaves a mark on your soul and in your heart. Love is mysterious, silent, on the move, and effectful—Just like the wind. This is how I experience love.

Oh, How did We Lose?

“How did we lose?”

Jeewoo asked.

TGA made it to the finals,

Won all but one game.

Confidence was through the roof.

But disaster was about to strike.

“Oh, why did we lose?”

Lost the first set,

But won the second.

All squared.

“Oh, why did we lose?”

“We had it in the bag!”

Up by seven points—

Only two more to go.

A player injured,

Only two substitutes.

All the players tired.

But the team never stopped believing.

The championship stolen right from our grasp,

The final serve, sharp as a bullet.

As the receive flew to the heavens,

We all knew it was over

The crowd goes silent.
The ball hits the floor
As cheers start echoing throughout the arena.
But we must move on.

Now, players are determined than ever,
“We will win basketball” Jeewoo said.
We got the big four— Nadeem, Frank, Jeewoo, and Henry.
“We will bring home the victory.”

“Oh, we must move on”
We must move on,”
Frank said.

This ballad is dedicated to the TEDA Global Academy volleyball team. We were in the finals, winning by seven points. Though we ended up losing the game. This was extremely unfortunate and emotional because we deserved the championship. Jeewoo and I wrote this ballad back in October shortly after ACAMIS. We were quite shaken up after the loss, that’s why we decided to write our assigned ballad about the volleyball game.

The Life of Frank

I, Frank Oskar Olsson of two distant kingdoms,
A descendant of the greatest soccer player the world has ever seen.
Son of Rikard Olsson: the great master mariner,
And Yini Olsson: a master of linguistics.
I have endured many great dangers...
Long hours spent skiing
Down deep-death-threatening mountains in the Alps,
Spent several hours beneath the surface of some great seas,
Sailed seventy miles on end
In weathers so extreme even the great Lightning God would have been in fright.
I have spent two winters in the treacherous cold of the Finnish Metropolis.
Wishing to move back to the gentle warmth of the great West Gothia.
Clearly, I have been through times of hardship,
But never did I shed a tear,
Never did I ask for any treasures,
Never did I ask for a return of favor.
Never did I stop to rethink my decisions to do such splendid and superhuman deeds.
Therefore, I will take on the world with might and bravery.
For when I finally finish my education,
I will become well known and design world renowned cars.

This is my boast about myself, inspired by *Beowulf*. The objective of this assignment is to boast about yourself. I attempted to do this through talking about my past accomplishments. This is basically a compilation of my attributes, accomplishments, and ideas.

Who I am

I am a mix of two worlds,
The western world and the eastern world.
I am Swedish and Chinese.

I like to play basketball, football, and volleyball.
I enjoy sailing, fishing, and diving—
I am a man of sports.

I appreciate nature,
I see it as an escape from the world of stress and anxiety.
Therefore, I am nature.

I like math, science, and humanities.
I dream of future innovations and technology—
I am a dreamer and a man of science.

I hope people see me as funny and smart,
Though I do not know if that's the case.
That's why I am somewhat insecure.

But I am a man of hope for the future,
And I am Frank.

This poem is literally about who I am and what my name means. It is the embodiment of me. This poem shows how I view myself. I am quite interested in science, technology, and math. This is emphasized in my poem.

My Favorite Childhood Book: *The Brothers Lionheart*

The Brothers Lionheart by Astrid Lindgren was originally published in 1973. I was in second grade the first time I read this book. After reading the novel, I realized that whatever happens when you die, you will live the afterlife you believe in. Even to this day, I dream and think about death because of this book. My favorite thing about the book is the plot. The novel is about two brothers, one brother is fatally sick. As the story progresses, the reader starts to learn about the brothers' personalities. One morning, there was a fire in their house. The two brothers suddenly died in the incident, with the older and healthy brother sacrificing his life to save his younger brother who only had a few months left to live. The two ended up in an imaginary world where they got to start all over and live a happy life together. This plot got me thinking about whether you could choose your "life" after death.

My understanding of this book has remained the same ever since I read it in second grade. Though as you grow older, you start thinking more about abstract concepts like death and what it means.

When I was in elementary school, I couldn't grasp the idea of death. I knew that different religions had different afterlives, though now I have found a solution to how the reality could be. People live the afterlife they imagine that they are going to live. Therefore, all religions could be true. Thinking back at reading the book, I realized how much I have grown in abstract thinking. When I was younger, I didn't pay much attention to what the book meant, though now I do.

This short essay gives the reader an insight into the younger me. As a young boy, I would read the books recommended to me by my grandmother. She does not speak English, that's why most of the books she recommended are in Swedish. *The Brothers Lionheart* is an inspirational book that dives into the idea of death. This led to me thinking about death and the implications of it. I believe that this is one of the first instances in which I got thoughtful.

Epilogue

If a complete stranger would read this autobiography, he or she would think that I am a relatively anti-social, smart, high school student. Though I can certainly assure you that I am much more than an ordinary high school student. I have the ambition to make a name for myself. Just a year ago, I did not have a clue about what I wanted to study at university. My physics and math skills are poor, and I did not have any idea of what the year ahead of me was going to offer. After making up my mind about what to study in college, I began my long and difficult journey of preparing myself for it. It would take long study periods and late nights of studying to accomplish my goal, but in the end, I did it. I made it into one of the best engineering universities in the world. My ambition has taken me from a normal high school student to an ambitious future aerospace engineering student, this is a big step that cannot go unnoticed. Self-studying three years' worth of physics and math classes in one year was hard, though my ambition and drive pulled me through these tough times. I am a hard-working student with ambitions for the future. I want to become successful and smart; I want to become someone.

The person captured in these pages also has an interest in sports. I like playing normal sports like soccer, basketball, and volleyball. This is what I play with my friends and family whenever I have spare time. When I am on vacation, on the other hand, I would prefer to go sailing, skiing, or diving—depending on where I am at. Sports have played a big role in my life, it serves as an escape from everyday life and studying> Whether I'd be doing extreme sports or “normal” sports, they would always help me escape from reality and have fun.

