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The Silly Essay

By Darrin F. Coe, MA

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I thought it would be fun to set down some of the random, silly thoughts I've been pondering over the last several weeks. In this time of geopolitical intensesness, I figure if I need a "silly" break than so do others.

I've been wondering what life would be like if candy bar companies also made condoms. I guess it would bring a whole new marketing strategy to the names snickers and whatchamacallit. I was also thinking that Trojan should diversify into the security business seeing as they are already 97 % effective.

I spent some time thinking about what the political campaigns might be like if their slogans were created by personal hygiene product companies. For instance you might hear something like, "Summer's Bush, when you're having that not-so-Kerry feeling" or "Try preparation-K to alleviate that irritable Bush and Cheney sensation".

I've been wondering about the practice of denouncing your opponent's military records during the presidential campaign. What would they fight about if neither of them had or allegedly had military records? I envision a campaign in which not listening to enough country music is equated with being unpatriotic and being indicative of poor leadership qualities.

I've always wanted to see the Olympics return to their original format. Athletes participated without clothing. The Olympic sponsors might be Trojan and Viagra. Their slogan could be "Nudity Promotes Unity". They probably wouldn't be able to make the same change for the Winter Olympics. I'm thinking "luge catastrophe".

Finally, given the casualness of sex in today's society, I've often wondered if the surgeon general shouldn't require a warning label on individual condoms, "Caution contents could be harmful to the rest of your life"; "do not dispense contents while under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, immaturity, or stupid". And finally my favorite, "Contents not appropriate for those without brains."

So what's the point of a silly little essay like this? It is to be silly and make an attempt to find some humor in a world that tends to be too intense or serious. The anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy is about one week away and we will be reminded of a terrible loss of life and of our own vulnerability. After honoring those who have passed away and saluting our country we'll need some levity to balance things out. Don't be afraid to be a little silly, it's healthy.

weekly columnist, published poet and short story author.

Using Low Grades As Assets In Admission Essays For College Or Mba School

By Thomas Suh

You are seriously aiming to apply to the college or business school of your choice. You have taken the required tests, and now, you are ready for the grueling application process. In particular, you need to pay attention to the College Admission Essay, or MBA essay as part of your application, since the college admission essay or MBA essay allows you to explain certain weaknesses in your grades. Many colleges and universities still have reservations on admitting applicants whose school records contain grades that they consider low as per their standards. And this is your big dilemma. How to explain your low grades. This is where the College Admission Essay or MBA essay will play a vital role.

In cases where you unfortunately received a bad grade, the best thing to do is to give a valid and genuine reason. Do not ignore it, but address it head on. In the college admission essay or MBA essay you have the golden opportunity to explain your low grades and provide rational reasons on why these grades are not necessarily reflective on your potential as a student. Offer a specific example to explain your side of the issue. For instance, you can say that personal problems (sick family member or unexpected accident) kept you from focusing more on your studies.

Just try to keep in mind that your aim in your explanation in the admission essay or MBA essay is not to make excuses nor create tall tales to cover the fact that you have a low grade in one or two subject areas. The goal is to emphasize the reality that the bad grade was not because you failed to study but because circumstances were simply beyond your control. Make it a point to stress that it was just a temporary setback and that overall, your school record is still academically excellent, and that you are worthy of admission to the school of your choice. In fact, you may want to explain how such unexpected experiences actually made you into a better person, a more mature and understanding person, who now appreciates life more and is more driven than ever before. Your primary goal should be to convey to the reader that you are a better person as a result of your personal experiences, which in turn make you a better candidate for admission.

Also, remember that different schools place different weights on test scores or grades and may emphasize your college admission essay or MBA essay instead. Rather, they look more into your extracurricular activities since the approach of their program is the total development of an individual. In such cases, lower grades may not be as crucial in the admissions process, but you should still aim to explain them as best as you can, and doing so can best be done in the College Admission Essay or MBA essay.

For more valuable information about the MBA Essay or the Collge Admission Essay, please visit



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