

# **Carolina Silva**

## **Coronado High School**

Essay - (500-750 words) - Explain a situation where you had to overcome an adversity.

Bounce, set feet, shoot, swish. It feels amazing, contributing to the team. Assemble, cut, serve. Wow, another team to help out with! Having to choose between something that I absolutely love, and supporting myself financially, was unequivocally a heartbreaking and challenging decision.

I myself am a person who commits to what I start, I won't leave a job unfinished, I have to complete it. I began playing basketball only in my freshman year, and I eventually gained a newfound love and passion for basketball! I cherished the time I spent with my teammates to create memories and work hard to win games. Through every up and down, we worked in tandem to be successful and better ourselves at a game we all loved. In April of my junior year, however, I gained an opportunity to work, in order to support my family financially and to save money for college. I have since then been working and have come to enjoy my job and work harmoniously with my work family. Through my job, I have been able to aid my family with finances, including paying for groceries, gas, household essentials, and clothes for my little brother. I am grateful for the resources I have to provide for my family and I. When Saturday came around and I showed up to tryouts, I assumed it would be routine, and that I would continue my pursuit of the sport I loved best. However, when my new basketball coach gave me the ultimatum to choose between work or basketball (with the fact that he gave me only two days to decide), my soul was struck. I was torn between two things I had grown to adore and invest myself deeply in. Tie in my personality of trying to get things done, I didn't want to leave high school with an unfinished season. I also didn't want to leave my job with one less teammate. But I was also burdened with financial restraints. Should I play and have fun, or work so I can pay for my future? After a grueling weekend of crucial contemplation and qualm, I had come to a decision: I would have to continue working, and abandon my team. This dismal event profoundly saddened me, yet I learned to make important decisions on my own. I am an extremely indecisive person, even for little things like where I should eat or what color phone I like best. Having this enormous choice forced me to stand up and understand just what life was full of: choices. I made my choice, and I await its effects and how I will flourish from this experience. I have already learned to be more mature and sincere when making decisions, so I appreciate the opportunity I had to make a decision. In decision there is choice, and in choice there is freedom. I felt slightly liberated after being able to make my own choices and being an autonomous person. I am decidedly a new person, my life has begun to take a new course, and I await my new developments.