



1. If anything was possible, what would your dream job be, and why?

When I was young, I always wondered where the stars and the moon went when it was day. I once thought, was the sun that high and mighty that even galaxies chose to hide in its presence? I was so fascinated by the twinkling beauty of the stars back then, well, even now. Despite the darkness, they were like beacons of hope and magnificence that could lure me to my dreamland. Mom and Dad used to say, ask the moon for bread, and I, ever as obedient, asked it and got disappointed with my own acts. There were times that I was so immersed in gazing at the heavenly bodies above as if I could hope to bathe in starlight. During those times, I realized that I wanted to become an astronaut. I wanted to explore the space outside Earth and step foot on the moon I adored so dearly. It would be so rewarding to accomplish such a dream. Just imagining it made me realize how insignificant I and my worries are to the universe. This dream of mine ignited once again when I watched the Interstellar movie by Christopher Nolan. I just hoped that my other self in a faraway universe got to become an astronaut like she always wished.

Although becoming an astronaut was my original dream job, now I just want to become a full-time fur mom of rescued animals. I want to build animal shelters that can cater to many stray dogs and cats. If I have all the resources, I want them to be taken care of, play, and feel all the love this world has deprived them of.

2. Have you ever experienced a stressful situation in your past workplace (college if fresh graduate), what was it and how did you overcome it?

During my final year in college, I had so many tasks to attend to. I joined the student organization of our program and ended up as External Vice President. In addition to it, there were upcoming activities to accomplish as part of our organization, and I headed a major event in it. On top of it, I did not have the luxury to delay my internship since graduation was fast approaching and I had to complete the course. I had the second part of my On-the-Job Training in the guidance office of our school. While I was doing my OJT, I had a thesis to finish and submit on time, together with my group. I was assigned as the leader of our group, and I got the brunt of it all. It was so stressful that even though I told them to do their assigned parts since there were deadlines set for a draft of our paper, they were not doing it and I had to do it by myself. It really filled my pockets with stress. I told them that their behavior regarding our tasks should stop. To overcome a stressful problem, it is best to look into its causes. I overcame this stressor by talking to them one by one and told them that it bothered me a lot. After that, they tried to do their assigned tasks well, though not on time, but there was improvement, and it was something that lessened the stress I had.



3. In your previous position, what task did you find most challenging and why? What task did you enjoy most and why?

During my college internship in our guidance office at school, we were given a chance to conduct a counseling simulation. Among the tasks the guidance associates gave, it was what I consider the most challenging. Since we continued most parts of our college years in a virtual setting, we did not have a chance to undergo proper lectures on counseling and its process. Knowing how to conduct counseling sessions is crucial to us as Psychology students. I was challenged when we were tasked to perform a counseling simulation where each of us was presented with a client, I had to figure most of it. I admit that I am having difficulty in sorting out my emotions and feelings at some point, thus, it was challenging for me to sort out the worries and feelings of a client and help them with it. Additionally, when I was having a counseling session, I had to be quick-witted and knowledgeable in asking the right questions to the client for me to understand the nature of the problem better and to explore the possible solutions that the client could explore with me as his/her counselor.

Part of our internship course was to facilitate and conduct seminars. This phase was the most enjoyable for me. We chose to conduct a seminar for our Psychology juniors and chose topics that were related to our course and relevant to our lives. I made our presentation and had the chance to talk in front of our juniors and inspire them with my words to continue to be a mental health advocate.

4. How would your previous managers/coworkers describe you?

I once asked my friends and classmates about the adjectives that they could use to describe me with. I was kind of shocked when they told me that the best word that described me was "persistent." I did not notice it about myself and asked them how they could say so. They told me, "You never back down, no matter what." I tried to look back on my life and reflect about the things I did and went through. Most of my friends and classmates knew that I lost my father a long time ago and it was mom who supported me and my siblings. It was really difficult for me to continue since I studied far away from home where the cost of living is also high. Given my situation, I still chose to persist and continue. Moreover, there were times that we, thesis leaders, had coffee breaks where we talked about our frustrations about our groupmates and most of them cried. One of them told me that I was persistent with my work and understanding with my groupmates. I think being described as persistent is a good thing because it is an indication that I defied and willing to defy all odds.



5. What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

16 years ago, my father died due to a lung disease. It was really a dark age for us, especially for mom who had to support us all by herself. I have many siblings and they were not able to complete their education. I was terrified that I would end up in the same situation, but I did not choose to walk in the same path. I wanted a better life for mom, and I had to persist. Being able to finish college all by myself is what I consider a personal accomplishment that I am most proud of. Seeing mom go up on stage with me on my graduation day is the most rewarding sight I have in my photo gallery. I was able to complete college through scholarships I could get and even asked our City Mayor for assistance. Mom told me that her heart swelled with pride. With her words, I knew that all my hardships paid off and it was the best feeling.