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

My dream job is anything that involves utilizing computers. Network engineering, Computer Sciences, Information Technology, and other related fields. I have been using computers since my third grade, and I realized that the internet could provide most of the information you can think of. I am a bookish person and I always rely on books to gather information. Even now I still utilize my notes to check if the information provided is correct. I guess the main reason I am drawn to using computers is the vast amount of information you can acquire as well as the efficiency of tasks when it comes to processing digital files and providing aid virtually.

Protection of information is also a thing that always comes to my mind. That is why I took the Cybersecurity Introduction seminar to familiarize myself with that topic. It is still quite hard to understand the whole concept, but I got the idea of why we need cybersecurity. When I found out that Pathcutters also value the information of the clients, I took interest in applying.

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?

Yes, I encountered several situations. One of which was studying. This is one of the stressors that most of the students have. Understanding unknown concepts and ideas that are new to me. I overcame this by disciplining myself to listen to the professor when they are teaching and at the same time, understanding the lecture. It is very tiring to listen, sometimes I go to sleep without even knowing. But I strived to overcome that by being optimistic and water can sometimes help with sleepiness. During the last two months of my college, I also took my ECE board review. This was the time when we were finalizing our thesis and preparing for the final exam. This moment was my most stressful because I was already preparing myself for the board exam and I was also trying to finish college. My mindset is that if I cannot pass college, then I cannot take the board exam. So, I prioritize my final exam and thesis first. I attended the scheduled online reviews, but I did not answer the online assessments during that time. I am glad that I disciplined myself to listen because I was able to take down notes during the online review session.

Another stress that I encountered was my thesis. Although it is less stressful than the latter, we would not have passed the thesis if I only focused on studying. Balancing the time to work on our thesis and studying is very crucial in my situation. I had to stop going to vacations and school events because I was busy with the research paper. Not only that, but we had to conduct several tests for our prototype as well. It is a good thing that as a group, we were organized with the specific roles we were assigned. Each of us has a specific task to complete. Because of my time management, I was able to do my part.

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

The thesis was one of the projects that I found challenging. With my academic studies and board review, it is hard to find balance. I had to sacrifice my social life and vacation to maintain my activeness in the necessary activities. I also had to study so active retention of information is also necessary. It was one of the most exhausting parts of college that I gladly overcame.

My internship was more of an immersion so there was no actual task assigned to us. We were immersed in the Radio Station and the Radio Transmitter Station. Although there was not much to do, I was having fun with the information that was shared with us and the certain protocols that we needed to follow. It was our first and only time to experience a workplace since we had a pandemic, and we were not allowed to go outside for an internship. I was ecstatic to be able to do actual work in my internship, so I did not pass this opportunity to do my best to follow and take notes.

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

I had feedback from my internship. In the internship booklet, the project manager wrote that I have the initiative to do work. My colleagues also have remarks about me being punctual: I am always the first person to arrive at the Radio Station. I think moving closer to the workplace helped me being able to save a lot of travel time. I was also meticulous when it came to our thesis. I was assigned to collect receipts and compile the records for our materials bill. I always keep a record of our bill of materials in a spreadsheet and it was useful when tracking our expenses, especially when doing reimbursements. I was also a secretary in our organization, Institute of Electronics Engineers of the Philippines Negros Occidental Chapter Student Council. Every meeting I always do our minutes of the meeting. I also made a temple for minutes of the meeting.

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

My personal accomplishment is becoming an Electronics Engineer. I am the very first in our batch to pass the board exam. During the last two months of college, I was already reviewing for the Electronics Engineering Board Exam. As mentioned above, it was a ridiculously hard experience passing college while actively studying for October's board exam. Even when I was a DOST scholar, I did not have the financial capacity to afford a face-to-face review; more so when moving and staying in Cebu. I had to resort to a cheaper program which is an online review. I only study in my house, completely isolated because I do not want to be distracted. Every day after class at 6 pm, I go directly home to attend the 6-9 PM schedule for online sessions. I cannot afford a preboard exam, so my chances of passing are low. I took my board exam in Iloilo alone. By the grace of God, I passed the board exam. With the help of my friends and family, I achieved the unexpected, and I am proud of it.