

Dear Admissions Committee,

My name is Valeria Mendoza, and I am a student from Cusco, Peru. I would like to study Computer Science at the University of Pennsylvania because I want to design technology that helps people solve everyday problems.

I **have been** (*be*) interested in computers for many years. When I was thirteen, my parents **bought** (*buy*) me my first desktop computer. I **began** (*begin*) learning basic programming through free online courses, and I **spent** (*spend*) many afternoons practicing.

Since then, I **have discovered** (*discover*) that I enjoy creating websites and solving logical problems. I **have built** (*build*) several small projects, including a website for my school's science fair and a simple study planner for my classmates. These experiences **have helped** (*help*) me become more organized and creative.

Two years ago, I **joined** (*join*) my school's technology club. Together, we **created** (*create*) an app that reminded students about homework and school events. Although our app **did not win** (*not win*) the regional competition, we **received** (*receive*) positive comments from the judges, and I **learned** (*learn*) how important teamwork is.

My experiences at school **have taught** (*teach*) me that technology can improve education. I also **have volunteered** (*volunteer*) to help younger students learn basic computer skills, and I **have realized** (*realize*) that I enjoy explaining difficult ideas in simple ways.

I believe the University of Pennsylvania is the perfect place for me because it values innovation, collaboration, and research. I **have always wanted** (*always / want*) to study in an environment where I can learn from talented professors and students from around the world. I hope that one day I will develop software that makes education more accessible in Peru.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Valeria Mendoza

