I am currently a member of the Carmel High School Vex team. I was motivated to become a member because of its small scale development. This combined with its in depth application of electrical and mechanical engineering found members for the team from all specialties**.** Today I enjoy the freedom of adding my ideas in to the pool which my teammates have placed theirs.

My experience as a builder of Vex robots has given me confidence in classes at school and other teams I am a member of. Before this team, I barely knew how to use a wrench, and now I am familiar with most every tool that we use. I do not look at problems as obstacles to be avoided, but as flimsy constructs able to be destroyed with the right idea. This vision lets me see ways to bypass mechanical issues with time and resource efficiency.

The competitions in which we have participated were learning experiences. Starting off the season, we lost miserably, but learned from our mistakes. We progressed and began to strive for success, and gave our design a much needed revision. Our second competition was a great success, ending in a nearly undefeated streak and veteran drivers ready for a third round. In the third competition we placed in, our opponents learned to fear us and our allies grew to love us.

Vex has overall made me a more confident person, no longer afraid of trying difficult projects and going the extra mile.