



Just a girl

Perhaps many of difficulties affect on us and our dreams but it teaches us how to go into the challenges that we hesitate to get in it, and forces us to fix the mistakes that we made before, and make us know some people we didn't expect that they might be near to us.

So here... in this I'm going to write about a life of a girl who has lived an interesting experience and I think that it won't be forgotten because she has learnt many things and has overcome the difficulties that she faced in dealing with people

And the one who is writing this story is the same girl who fought that experience and she is still trying to success to reach her goal.

My name is Yasmeeen, I'm a student at SSSPC (Suez STEM School for Petro Chemicals) in this place I knew many different and special categories.

Right here we use STEM concept in learning; many of us know don't know what does STEM mean ? but it's a new thing in our country.

This word for science, technology, engineering and math as it is very important for improving various stages of education

When I entered this department I was 15 years old I was so excited for learning with this new way of learning and I didn't expect that this method will be so useful for me not just in my education but also In my daily life too. When we entered this department we knew for the first time in our lives about the robotics competitions, I've never known about the robotics field but in our department we know more about Lego[®] and VEX[®] robots.

In my first year in my school I participated in First LEGO League (FLL) with the help of my teachers and friends and I got the second place on our republic with my team and this was our first time to win in such competition.

After that me and my teammates heard about another robotics competition called VEX[®] I liked its steps in the

construction of the robot and how it'll help me in education. And I was very excited about taking a part in such a competition I say that I don't regret participating in this competition.

It all started when our department headmaster announced on our department's facebook group that the summer training will begin .

I was 16 years old and I choose to participate in VEX training and I convinced my 8 friends to participate in this competition with me and they accepted although there was a choice to participate in LEGO WRO competition to learn new things as I had already took a part in a previous LEGO competition, so I wanted to try something new .

And here we are in the first day of VEX training it was a perfect day as I was so happy when I constructed For the first time a part of the VEX EDR robot which is the drive train; with the help of our older friends who have more experience than us, and which have participated in this competition last years.

During the first day of our training; they've given us some lectures about the importance of this competition, and "How to construct a robot in number of steps".

I knew that I have to choose; to be a programmer or to be a designer. I preferred to join the VEX robotics designers and my talents appeared during the training period.

Now it's Time for the enthusiasm and competing.

The number of the trainees was so large from my grade and the other ones so there must be a test in everything which is related to VEX to choose who really deserves to stay and who want to come the next year and participate and gain more experience. *I also liked VEX programming but everyone of us have his own preference and I preferred the designing and constructing,

Also a half of my friends had chosen to be programmers and we have to be tested on what we have learnt during the training.

The number of the teams which will participate in the competition is only 3 teams each team consists 5 members which means that only 15 of us will continue and participate the VRC.

I felt so afraid and anxious before having the test that I can't beat this feeling because I was so excited and interested in participating the competition,

After a while I thought about this competition and I felt satisfied and I knew that failure is not for weak but for strong who doesn't surrender from their destiny, and even I faced this failure; I MUSTN'T GIVE UP but I should participate again and again because I trust what I've learnt and that I can't give up easily.

Now it's time for the competing and for making more effort

***The time of the Test is now I entered the auditorium of the exam and there were many parts of VEX EDR and the task was to construct an arm and I have trained on making this type of arms before, so I made my effort to finish it and it's working good, and that what really happened I finished the task perfectly...**

I got out of the room and I was so pleased because I presented my work in a fantastic way .

But when I got out I found some of my friends sad and whom were full of anxiousness as I felt in the beginning but I did my duty and calmed them down..

After three days the result of the test appeared. The result of share, tiring, hard-working and the aim that I must achieve ... and how I was waiting it.

While reading the names of the accepted ones and who will participate in the VRC, I noticed my name and some of my friends' names.

I don't know how to express my feeling at this moment ... I was really full of pleasure.

The dreams, wishes and aims started to pass in front of my eyes and I became so happy because I was proud of myself and what I have done and what I'm going to do.

After a while it was announced about the time of the first meeting of the 15 who was chosen, in this meeting every one of us has chosen his group members and that to make all of us free in his or her choice and we weren't forced on any person. Later in this day I've met my team members. I can't describe them they are really amazing in everything; dealing, sharing, designing, and programming. I saw in them success and intelligence. I will tell you their names (Mahmed, Zeyad, Mahmed, and Ibrahim)

And there is a note that one of them was my team mate in the year before in Lego© robot and two others were in other teams in the same competition and the rest one was his first time to participate in a robotics competition but I didn't get amazed from his experience as he participated in many robotics competitions because he is really diacritical.

After that the dates of the working in the robot to compete in our country was put.

The work in the robot took about three months. In those few months we used to meet every day after the end of the school day for constructing, programming, and innovating that we come to present. Every day we get near from each other until they became from my best friends but occasionally my brothers. I haven't ever regretted to be with them and how much I was proud of being with them!

I'll tell you something in the beginning I was full of fear from sharing with strangers and in the first days I didn't talk with them too much because of my shyness that I can't know a reason for stilling with me until now maybe because I was the only girl in the team but this didn't prevent me from talking and dealing with them. But because of their way in dealing with me this fear disappeared and the work days for the competition were really special. Not just working we joke, and laugh too much to remember those days after that and here I didn't forget any of those days and I will tell you more about it...

It began with fear because our team was the least in the experience it was the first time to all of my team to participate in VRC beside that the other teams contain members who have experience and participated in the competition before, but my trust in my group and in our

Co-operation was so large and didn't shrink even a little bit and with our co-operation we became the best team in our school till the end of the three months of working But when the competition time has come fate wanted to give us another chance to learn not to lose

Competition time was only 2 days we spent most of it in hard working to reach our goal

But the robot didn't complete the mission as intended and after the three rounds we got the 3rd place

We didn't feel disappointed because the most important thing was that we did everything we could

Sadness didn't take place within ourselves instead we kept having fun

Before announcing the results we took a walk and had fun and we enjoyed

After that we didn't lose hope and made promise to prove ourselves by participating in this year vex competition

As we had much experience from our previous competition we helped our teachers to train new students so we taught them everything we learned before

We kept learning and working together until the exam time came which I wished that all my teammates to pass so we could participate together again to reach our goal

The results were announced and was very surprised because 3 of my teammates and me have passed

This was the good part but the sad thing was that Zeyad won't participate with us this year

A new teammate joined us I wasn't surprised as I trusted in him and in his intelligence he is Mustafa Badr but I like to call him Badr.

A new story begins and a new chance

After announcing the exam results teachers gathered the highest 15 ranked students to divide us to 3 groups

I thought that I will be with my old team like I wanted but this wasn't going to happen at first.

As our teachers wanted to divide all old members to separated groups and not letting them choose their own teammates. But we didn't want that to happen so we had a discussion with our teachers and in the end we persuaded them and they understood our opinion And finally I have joined to my team again and our training has begun

Teams division wasn't our only problem as we also had problem with the robot kit which wasn't enough to build a good robot and we are still waiting for the arrival of the new kits so that we could participate effectively in this year competition. This problem didn't stop our team though and we started using what we had wisely

Now I'll tell you about the time which I spend with my team. We used to train six times a week we gather every day at the end of school day and start building and programming together

And sometimes my teammates feel hungry before we start so we eat together then we start working

Until now they are still thinking that I am shy because I refuse to eat with them but I'm shy because of other teams not because of my teammates

Until this time I thought that winning is winning the competition only but my team changed this idea for me

Now I wish that these days don't pass quickly more than wishing to win the competition so that we don't separate again

I spend most of my time with them we do everything we work, have fun, eat and we even speak about our personal problem to each other and suggest solutions for them and that's because of we have trust in each other

As much as I learned during this time the best thing happened to me is that now I have another family outside my home and they are my team.

Actually, I Gained the teamwork skills. Created vex environment this team for me and also solve all my problems and also vex it helps us a lot of in completing our

projects because the section it depends on work on the

projects first which involved in many of competitions such as (Intel Isef , Blast off , MSA) .

I will never forget the first person who taught me what is

mean this word (steam) and this person is Doctor (Tharwat) , and also there are two teachers.

**first M \ (Mohamed Ibrahim) my teacher of lego to vex ,
But the best teacher Actually, How tired to solve our
problems which we are exposed in vex but he solved this
problems and thank him for every thing. Second (Ahmed
fawzy) not a teacher only But he is a friend .
we learn from him and we proud so much , he is
older than me (one year) . participated in vex
competition a lot and he got centers during the last few
years and he teaches us during the training. All thanks
and appreciation to him. I will never forget girls vex
competition (Yasmeen , Nehal , Manar , Rokia) my
friends from the other teams .**

**I want to tell you , How our befalls the madness in vex
times Especially after the End of the school day .
at that time Yasmeen befalls me the Hysteria laughter in
description it self. Some days we sing together and we
benefit from each other . I wish that the three other
Teams win also and we travel together , I do not know how
because there
are Rules But I hope so. This is the time to talk about
the most important member in the team always we seek to
Satisfy him, It is the robot. first of all we write the
Work's plan , It was , we will not stop on one design but
we will synthesis of mechanisms .**

**even we learn a lot . even we invent every day
and we do including not new . then we determine the
speed and calculate the torque gears , so everything is
good before starting working and also mada and Ibrahim
complete the programming. we synthesis many designs.
we have a lot of problems , but we overcome them by collective
ideas and helping each other.**

And now I will try to describe my distinctive group .

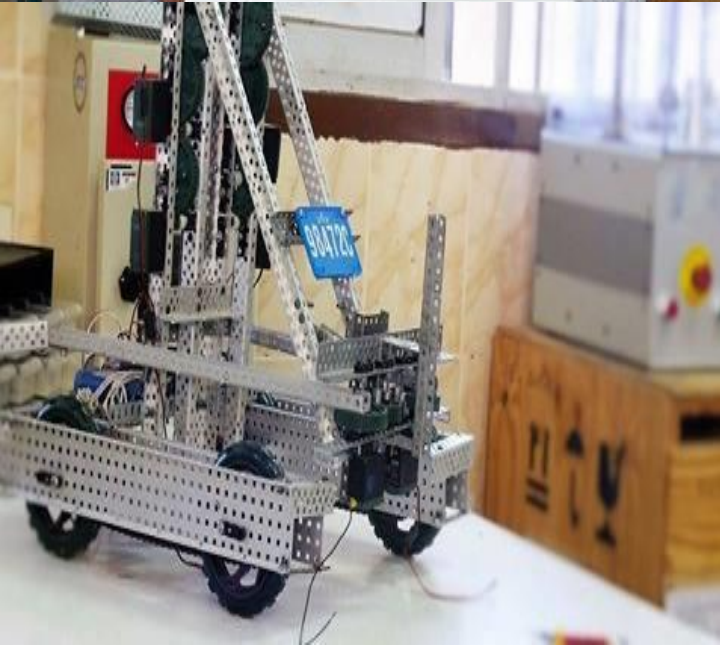
I don't know how , they are Exactly similar :

**1- the leader of a team (Mahamed) : first person I knew
in robot's competitions and stayed with me until now
in vex .And the first person also who was helping me to
overcome fear and extreme shyness . in every competition we
put (Mahamed) the leader of the team not just a name but
because he deserves , and How Much he makes me smile
without a reason . Not words can describe it but enough that we
know he is really special.**

**2- (Mada) : A programmer but special in compositing .
One of the best who can teach me things in vex and it amazes
me how much he knows and now he teaches me some words
in German he is very clever and he is the only one who brings
solutions
to any problem with the robot .**

**3- (Ibrahim) : A programmer . the only one who can program
the robot. he loves this job so much and he is perfect in it .**

**4- (Badr) : our new member who is doing his work in a
professional way .**



Finally , I hope we achieve our goals , Not only to win the competition , But also not to separate , Because when I am with them I feel happy without a reason and that means a lot to me .