



UNITED STUDIES

Student Sneak Preview



**Sofia from Brazil (Female, age 16)
2019 Calendar Year Program**

Current Grade Level: 11th grade

Intended grade in U.S.: 12th grade

English Score:

Religious Affiliation: Buddhist

Profession of Parent(s): Father: pricing manager; Mother: beauty parlor owner

Favorite Sports: I like doing gym, walking, and dancing.

Favorite Activities: I also like to read, sometimes I write sentences or poems (I even have a notebook of inspirational phrases), I love drawing and I spend the day listening to music (I like all kinds of music, I dance all the time)

Age as of August 15th: 16

Willing to live with pets: OK

Able to live with smokers: Yes

Allergies: Yes, mild rhinitis

Special Dietary Restrictions: No

What makes you unique:

Student's Letter (Excerpt):

I was born in Brazil I always lived in the same neighborhood until today. My parents were young when I was born and they'd work, so I stayed on my grandmother's house. Since I spent a lot of time in her apartment, I used to draw and watch television. I was a very shy child, I never had many friends, so I always asked my parents a lot to me have a brother. Then one day they adopted my little brother when I was five years old. He always was for me as well as brother, my best friend, we played everything from Barbie to Hotwheels. Sometimes it happened that people looked badly or spread their prejudices (since my brother is black) and I always defended him and taught him to be proud of his color and history.

When I was eight years old, my mother became pregnant of my other little sister, which was a great happiness for us. At that time we were with a nanny and a while later we moved to an apartment.

In this apartment I made many friends and I ended up losing my shyness, after a year, I and all my friends of the building moved to the same school, so I met a lot of people there too.

Then I moved to another school, where I did not have many friends again, but it never bothered me. I spent this year without changes in life, the only thing that struck me was my best friend, whom I knew when I was a little girl in the building, to have moved, but we stayed in contact for three years after that.

So 2015 has arrived, a difficult year for me. At school, I met currently my best friend because I was defending her when they started to do bullying with her, but it made the same happen to me. The two of us were also having particular problems, and all of this just made things worse and our grades also dropped. But in spite of everything, we always kept together and never left school.

Because of everything that happened and my desire to talk with someone, I started to write poetry, as a way to alleviate a little everything that was going on in my head, and with I come getting a taste for writing, I fell in love with it, and I keep writing very often to this day. (I'll leave my favorites of the ones I wrote at the end of the letter).

And all that made me mature a lot, over the years I realized things that I believe I only got because of this experience. And so, I decided some time later, never again to harm anyone, not even in a very small way that many times people find common. I make a point of treating everyone in the best possible way, regardless of anything, if the person bothers me, I just move away. I do not speak ill of anyone, and I honestly do not care when someone laughs at the appearance or the way someone dresses. I always try to praise, and help people when I see that they need something (both emotionally and simpler things, like helping an elderly woman in the market), because that can transform their day, and also my improvement, because the universe will always make a point of rewarding good attitudes.

I hope from the bottom of my heart that I connect with the family, and that we can connect ourselves in every possible way.

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