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1. **Question:** Tell us about yourself.
   **Answer:** I have always felt interested in discovering how different things work. The time spent in undergraduate school has opened my eyes to the benefits of the field of science. I had the opportunity to do research for my Masters, thus inspiring me to accept the challenge of a Doctorate degree. Aside from my professional goals, I also enjoy doing other activities, including hiking. I view myself as an amateur naturalist, which means that I would love to incorporate my studies here with the opportunity to visit a local area. This will further widen out my knowledge about the world and its relationship to science.

2. **Question:** What made you decide to do a PhD?
   **Answer:** So far, I have found enjoyment in my academic work. However, I feel that there is still something that is lacking. I feel that I still have more that I can offer in the field of independent research. I am highly passionate about this subject, and honestly, I feel that not enough attention has been given to the questions that I have long been looking to address. I believe that by completing a doctorate degree, I will be in a better position to incorporate the knowledge I have learned and apply it to the right aspects related to it.

3. **Question:** What are your plans to do after completing PhD?
   **Answer:** I strongly believe that my PhD project will be able to open up new doors of inquiry regarding this field, and I know that my previous learnings, combined with my passion will further guide me through this. As such, I would like to use it as the basis and foundation for a career which involves fruitful research and productive studies. At the same time, I am also highly interested in the wider opportunities of development incorporated in the doctoral program. While I want to be an academic person, I am also very happy to ensure that all the other options stay open.

4. **Question:** What are your interests and hobbies?
   **Answer:** I personally believe that in order to have a balanced lifestyle, I also need to give attention to my own health. I play squash, playing three to four times each week. I have observed that your school has some amazing squash courts, which I consider as a bonus for me. Aside from that, I also love cooking, particularly Thai food, tending to some smaller dinner parties once or two times a month in order to make sure that I can still socialize with other people.

5. **Question:** What are your strengths and weaknesses?
   **Answer:** I know that I am good at written communication. My current professional and academic work shows the capacity to put forwards different ideas concisely and clearly. I think that this will help me to manage the overall weight of data my PhD is required in order to cover all challenges involved in producing a highly effective thesis. However, I also feel that I am not as consistently organized as I always wanted to be. I want to look into this weakness closer as part of my training, taking advantage of development opportunities to work on this early in my doctorate.
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Question: Describe your short-term and long-term goals?
Answer: I personally admire the professional track of Professor Smith. For around ten to fifteen years he focused primarily on spider and snake handling, research, as well as publishing on the deadliest creatures in Australia. At one time, he had established himself in a sturdy academic role. That is something that I would also want to achieve for myself. I want to learn in the trenches as my short term goal, and later on in my career, teach.

Question: What are your research interests?
Answer: My work is related to the study of venomous animals as well as poisonous plants of the Higher Valley region. I became first interested in this particular topic when I was lost near the crossroad divide, eating raw berries to sustain myself. This has resulted to some problems in my stomach, but sparked my interest in college. I have majored in the field of Biology, taking coursework in several other dangerous animals.

Question: Is there any training needs that you can identify before starting your PhD?
Answer: As early as now, I am deeply interested in communicating the process, as well as the output of my research to a much wider audience. However, I have no idea how to go best about this. As such, I believe that the specific training module regarding public engagement will certainly be a huge help to me. This will help me both generally and academically.

Question: Why did you choose this PhD project?
Answer: This PhD project especially appeals to my current interests in research. At the same time, I am also deeply attracted with the opportunity to develop and specialize this new expertise. Here are also other projects which did not seem to provide similar opportunities in order to pursue questions which really seem interesting to me.

Question: Why do you think you are the right candidate for this PhD project?
Answer: I have always been interested in this specific topic ever since the last year of my undergraduate degree. This has resulted to my decision to do Masters, and even helping me to choose my topic for dissertation. That dissertation project was something that I really enjoyed doing. I am currently excited to move further and do sustained research in this particular area, now as a PhD student.

Question: What challenges do you anticipate encountering in this project?
Answer: I have observed that some archival materials that need to be examined in this project may be quite challenging to process. The first thing that I will do is to request for permissions, arranging visits, and even creating a system that will help record my findings. I hope to undertake effective training in the field of archival practices, seeking advice from my superior as I cultivate these key skills as part of my project.
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12. Question: What anticipated impact would you like this project to have?
Answer: I am very interested in sharing my passion and interest about this subject with a much wider audience. I also hope to maintain a blog which documents all processes involved in my research. As such, I also plan to approach some local museums and schools in order to discuss the possibility of starting some educational events.

13. Question: Tell me about a specific time when you experienced coping with time demands or strict deadlines?
Answer: In order to complete my dissertation, I had to create and establish very strict deadlines. Some deadlines were imposed externally. As a result, I needed to create very strict personal deadlines for completion. As such, I drafted a plan which defined each of the tasks involved, the milestones, as well as the deadlines that are associated with completing them. After drafting the plan, I then distributed a copy of the plan to my own adviser, and with other committee members, requesting for a sign-off. The committee members praised me for the initiative. I followed through the project plan quite carefully, regularly meeting my self-imposed deadlines. Meeting each and every goal on time was quite challenging, and needed a great amount of hard work and self-discipline, but I responded accordingly by prioritizing the tasks at hand, and requesting for support from my family and colleagues. Of course, as my own writing further progressed, it was at times needed to adjust the deadlines, keeping the timeline updated, notifying my committee with all the changes. However, while there are changes at times with the milestone, it is still the ultimate deadline, or completion, which was not met. As a result of the efforts of adherences and management to deadlines, I was successful enough in depending, depositing, and graduating right on schedule.

14. Question: How will your project be funded?
Answer: I have already created a shortlist of external funders, and would also be very intent in investigating any small sources of support through the help of the university. As of the moment, I have already made some arrangements to work part-time to support this project, with some options of adjusting this if my sources of funding improves. I also have gathered a list of potential donors, especially those who find my project interesting, and beneficial to their own interest.

15. Question: Why have you decided to study PhD in this university?
Answer: I have already taken the time to look at various opportunities in this aspect. I feel that this PhD program is the best of its kind, offering a combination of unique research opportunities with a training program which will certainly meet my unique professional needs. I was already very much familiar with the work of a prospective superior, as well as their research, allowing me to be informed regarding my personal development as a professional. I am very much willing to collaborate my work with that of theirs, making good use of the facilities the university already have for the success of this project.
16. Question: What can you contribute to the research group?
Answer: I am very excited to enjoy the benefits of the expertise and facilities offered by the university. However, I also personally want to pitch in my enthusiasm and expertise. My previous job has provided me with the skills in order to make the most of the involved material in this project. I am highly motivated to accept training opportunities as needed. I will be proud to become a part of this research group, and would seek actively to represent it through my very own publications, as well as other outputs of research. I also believe that without the help of others, I will not be able to perform everything I have expected to do.

17. Question: What have you observed as the major trends in your chosen field of study?
Answer: In the last year, there was a trend that became famous in Europe, as well as in some parts of Asia, involving dying poisonous animals in polka-dot, pastel shades. The understanding is that this will make the animals easier to locate, and thus, avoid. However, I personally disagree with the choice of pattern and color. These polka-dots pastel may only make the animals look cartoonish and harmless. As such, there were some instances that people ended up grabbing the animals, thus resulting to being bitten as a result.

18. Question: Share something that you can consider as a personal and significant accomplishment.
Answer: In my junior year in college, we traveled to Arizona to complete a field work. There was one component which involved the trapping of the most venomous and dangerous animals without getting bit. I was successful because I was able to catch nine different varieties of scorpions, as well as four Gila monsters in a day. It was quite tough! That made me up the entire night, hiding beneath those cacti and pine needles. Still, I was extremely determined to bring home the bacon, a trip to Australia to further hunt on box jellyfish. That was my motivation, and won.

19. Question: Where else have you applied for PhD?
Answer: I have also applied to the graduate program of the University of Minnesota. The reason behind that was because of the presence of excellent fieldwork opportunities. However, quite frankly, this university is my primary choice because I believe that he faculty is stellar, while the curriculum aligns well with my interests compared to the other university. As such, this university is my top choice.

20. Question: Do you have questions you would like to ask?
Answer: I have recently read in a study by Dr. Peters. He was talking about new ways on how to trap Gila monsters. Since I have very unique experience and knowledge about this practice, I was wondering if there is an opportunity for assistantship on his staff.