I had a very positive experience with the extended essay; for me, it was exciting, enlightening and, at times, a bit stressful. I was able to write my essay on the music of Thelonious Monk, a topic that really interested me. I also had an amazing supervisor, Mr. Arnot-Johnston, who kept me on track and made sure that my essay had an argument and wasn't just an expression of my love for Monk's music.

I think that I can really see the benefits of the extended essay now that I am in university. Having had the opportunity to write a real paper in high school gave me a huge advantage in terms of being able to find information, being able to communicate and being able to work with evidence and arguments.