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Completing the International Baccalaureate's extended essay has to have been one of the most rewarding accomplishments of my school career. Whilst this is a daunting process that required much organization, discipline and determination, the essay writing and research skills gained were invaluable. I particularly enjoyed the interviews that I was able to conduct; I would definitely recommend to students writing an extended essay to gain as much primary research as they can as it not only transforms the essay and gives it another dimension, but it also enables them to learn so much more about the chosen topic.

I found the draft system employed by the IB can be extremely helpful in meeting my extended essay deadlines, but only if I stuck to those deadlines and put as much effort into every draft that I could.

Overall I think the process of writing my extended essay was challenging but also extremely rewarding. The information I gained from writing my essay and the research involved has given me a whole new perspective on my topic and also given me research skills that I will hopefully be able to use for the rest of my academic career.