

Good evening parents, distinguished guests, staff, and students. It is an absolute honour to stand before you all today and share my experiences. My name is Cyrus Amaria, and like many here, I have had the privilege to attend the North Shore Coaching College throughout my schooling life.

I would first like to thank my parents for showing me their continuous support throughout, for having and keeping faith in me, and most importantly for encouraging me to do better and to push myself further every time. Their devotions have nurtured and guided me into becoming the person I am now, and I am forever thankful to them for this.

I would also like to thank NorthShore for all the wonderful opportunities it has provided me with, as well as the staff who have been ever so dedicated and passionate in teaching and motivating the students to excel in all academic areas. In particular, I would like to thank Mr Kwan, who has been my teacher and mentor since I was in year five. Mr Kwan taught me above and beyond the scope, he explained all the mathematics concepts very thoroughly; and most importantly, he took extra time to show us all the mental math techniques to improve our speed and accuracy in very high-pressured and important exams, such as the GATE exam.

What I most value about NorthShore was that they instilled a sense of responsibility and accountability in me, as well as the core values of motivation, determination and hard work. This idea of having the responsibility to put my one hundred percent into every task and question that I do, along with the accountability to make sure that I get every question correct and never repeat the same error, was the backbone of my academic growth and accomplishments over the years.

There is a famous quote, saying that “success has nothing to do with how much you want to succeed, but how resilient you are to put yourself in an uncomfortable position to improve.” Never get too comfortable in life and rest on your laurels, always strive to do better and to grow.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all the students here on their fantastic achievements; getting a scholarship or a placement into a selective school is a major feat. You are all clever, talented and confident individuals who have very bright futures ahead; and you have every right to believe that you deserve this success. Keep up these great efforts and may your future lives be as prosperous.

Thank you for your time.

Cyrus Amaria