

Hello Toastmasters and dear guests, let me start by introducing myself. My name is Hrideep. I often have to say my name more once as it's a pretty uncommon name, which makes it difficult for me to introduce myself to girls at loud parties. A born and raised Mumbaikar, a typical townie, who believes that traveling to Vashi will require me to get a visa.

I finished my schooling at St. Mary's school ICSE and I'm currently pursuing a degree in mass media from Jai Hind College. I, like many of you all, am a music lover. I play the drums. I have performed at several venues in the past. I recently picked up tabla to explore the classical side of music.

Now music has and will continue to be very close to my heart. I'm not sure if I wanted to be a performer or even take it up as my career. But I do believe that there's something out there for me in musical space. Now, to create something, or to become a performer, or a composer, I wonder what I could do with my eager desire to do something in music. Performing, composing seems nice, but maybe it's not for me.

I want to create something. I want to create a platform for musicians to showcase their talent. For people to come together where they can learn music irrespective of genres or styles. So, I went ahead with the idea to materialize this vision. I approached my teachers. I approached my principal, the head of my department, and to make a long story short, I have been initiating and establishing my college's very own music society.

Now, it might be for one speech but I was told that I should talk about myself. How did I get here and is there any key incident that changed my life? Now, to be honest, there isn't one major incident that changed my life, but there have been several small events that got me to where I am right now, whether it was coming from an all-boys school, with an overwhelming number of girls. Or, even my embarkment on my journey as a public speaker.

In all of these moments, I realized whether good or bad, but in a word, PERFECT. Now, I could not be happier being where I am right now. Right now, with all you wonderful people taking out time from your lives to listen to my speech, encouraging, supporting, and helping each other to become a better version of themselves.

And that to me is as beautiful as it gets. As I'm growing older, people have been telling me to enjoy my time right now because the going is going to get tough and, you will soon start to face real problems. Real problems, I thought, I have never really faced anything closed to dramatic or hurtful. So, if these real problems are still the problem, if I'm going to face adversity which I cannot handle, I would like to take this opportunity to tell myself that no matter what incident may come, whether it may be financially crippling, or mostly disheartening or physically intolerable, I would like to take each experience for what it is. To know that every incident will take me to a place that is far better than the one I am in, just as my previous incidents have brought me here. And thus, realizing that every moment is in a word- PERFECT.

Thank you.