

Hi,

I'm Linda, a recent graduate of Lincoln High School located in Northeast Philadelphia. I'm just as upset about the COVID-19 situation as you are. I didn't get to walk down the aisle like the seniors before me. I remember last year, watching (and crying) as I watched my senior friends one by one walking down the gym to receive their diploma and shaking hands with the principal. It was an experience I want to know and savor but cease to happen. It feels unjust that Covid robbed me of my senior year celebration, I worked so hard balancing homework, officer responsibilities, and house chores during the four years of high school, and now I can't even celebrate it with my classmates before we all set off in different directions. I'm sure you know what it feels like when life seems unfair, what did you do to make yourself feel better? Thankfully, I was lucky enough to have a virtual graduation. Maybe I couldn't be with my classmates, but when it went live on Youtube, I could almost hear their voice when they typed into the comment box. I did not get the classic graduation I wanted but at least I have a memorable virtual graduation.

In September, I will be heading to college. I'm scared and excited at the same time. When was the last time you felt several emotions at the same time? I will be studying Management Information System and hopefully become an Information Technology Manager. An IT Manager is someone who uses technology to help the company, like assess cost for a project. When I first announced my career choice to my father, he gave me a look between "what...", and "okay, that can work...". I've never sweated so much for a reply! He always wanted his children to be in the medical field, but medicine and biology was never my interest, I can't for the life of me remember the cycle of a cell! What were your parent's replies when you told them your career?

In closing, I want to thank you for reading my letter, and I hope this brightens your day!

Sincerely,

Linda Zheng