

Part I
4:

All of us make decisions daily. Most of these decisions are unimportant--what to wear, what to eat, where to go Friday night--in terms of long-term effects. Sometimes though a decision presents a real dilemma because of its possible consequences: entering the service before going to college, playing high school sports or working after school, ending a relationship.

In your essay tell about a time when you or someone you know faced such a dilemma.

Make sure you describe the dilemma and the consequences or the way in which the decision was made with specific details.

The Decision to Play Soccer in College

Do you like playing sports? From age five, I have been playing sports all-year-round. I have participated on soccer, gymnastics, softball, volleyball, basketball, track, and cross-country teams. I love being active and if I did not play sports, I do not know what I would do with all of my freetime. Sports have taught me many things like how to manage my time. Sports have been a very important part of my life and they have shaped who I have become as a person. I chose to play soccer in college because soccer is my favorite sport, I received a soccer scholarship, and I love being on a team.

First of all, being offered a soccer scholarship influenced my decision to play soccer in college. By being given a scholarship, it would be easier for me to afford college. It would be a way for me to continue doing what I loved and earn money toward college. If I did not play college soccer, I would have to find another way to pay for college and it probably would not be doing something that I love. Being on scholarship also holds athletes to a high standard because they have to maintain a good GPA. Being on scholarship motivates me to get good grades.

Additionally, soccer has always been my favorite sport. My sister and I have been playing soccer since I was five years old. Soccer has brought us closer to each other. I love being outside and just kicking the ball around. My sister and I always shoot and pass together in our free time. Soccer has become a family past time. My family and I always watch soccer on television. My dad has been very involved in my soccer career. He took classes and obtained a coaching license so that he could help coach my sister and I on our traveling soccer team. Since he has been so involved and supportive of my soccer career, he pushed me to work harder. His support made me love the sport more. His support and my love for the game drove me to pursue soccer in college.

Another reason why I love playing soccer is because I love being on a team. Being on a team has many benefits. When I came to SEMO for my recruiting trip, I based the majority of my decision to playing soccer in college on the team. I needed to fit in with the team. The team atmosphere and environment plays a huge role in the enjoyment of soccer. Everyone on the team got along and did things together outside of soccer. Being on a team gave me a sense of belonging. Because I had a recruiting trip, I already knew players/students before even coming to college. I

came from a small town where everyone knows everyone. I did not want to come to a big campus and not know anyone because it would be hard for me to make friends. Playing soccer in college allowed me to get to know people and become close with them very quickly. Another benefit of being on a team is that teammates can advise you on which classes to take. They can give you insight on who the best teachers are and they can help you if you have any questions. I chose to play soccer because being on the team would make my college experience more enjoyable.

Soccer has always been an important part of my life. If I did not play soccer in college, I do not think my experience would be as enjoyable. I would not have like to get a job to pay for college. My dad would have been disappointed in me if I did not play soccer in college and I did not want to give up doing something that I loved. Being on a team allowed me to make friends instantly. The friendships I have made from playing on teams will last a lifetime. Having teammates to have fun with and encourage me to do my best in school and on the soccer field have helped me to strive to get to my full potential. Overall, soccer has benefited me in many different ways and I could not imagine my life without soccer.