SAMPLE B

- 1. At Relay for Life, I had the honor of listening to many stories of cancer fighters and family members of the cancer fighters. It was heart-warming and breaking in some cases. It was amazing to hear about the story of one of the students, who had survived his fight with cancer. However, there were stories where others were not as lucky. Some of the stories did make me feel uncomfortable. Considering that I have lost loved ones to cancer, I wasn't too excited to hear about how others lost their lives to cancer as well. Ultimately, it made me realize how often I take things in my life for granted. Being surrounded in a materialistic society, you don't really appreciate the little things in life anymore. Everyone is so focused on getting the new iPhone or getting the newest Nike Air Jordans that people don't realize how important health is until something happens to them or a loved one. Volunteering at Relay brought me back to the mindset that I am extremely lucky to have everything I have. I am healthy. I have a roof over my head, food in my stomach, and loving family and friends. Everything else that I have is extra. Unfortunately many people in America and other countries do not have the same privileges that I have. As this is my second year doing community service at Baruch College, I have learned that I want to continue giving back to the community even after I graduate. Through the next two years, I want to explore other non-profit organizations to find a cause that I am extremely passionate about, one that I will commit to after I commence my full-time job.
- 2. American Cancer Society co-hosts Relay for Life at Baruch. The organization's mission is to eliminate cancer as a major health problem through research, education, patient support, and etc. Just in the United States alone, there were approximately 13 million people with cancer in a study conducted in 2012. In 2015, the National Cancer Institute estimates that more than half a million people in the U.S. will pass away from cancer. Cancer is a large issue in almost every country. People have this stigma that once they have cancer, they should just give up. However, with new findings in science and technology, people are more likely to survive with cancer treatments. I think that American Cancer Society connects with society because they are not only focused with cancer research, but they also offer support to cancer patients, survivors, and family members. This makes them unique because many organizations focus on one or the other. Very few focus on both objectives. Some alternatives to address the needs of this organization would be to reach out to schools, hospitals, and work places. It is important to inform the public to look out for signs of cancer and to do full body health checkups to catch cancer in its earliest stage. With the busy schedules of people nowadays, it would be a good idea for the government to mandate health checkups on a yearly or bi-yearly basis at schools, work places, and shelters. By doing so, there would be a higher likelihood of catching the cancer at an early stage.
- 3. I would definitely participate in Relay for Life again. I believe that the organization represents an important cause and that it does help make people more aware of the situation. Although staying at Relay overnight was tiring, I felt refreshed afterwards knowing that I had helped such an important cause. Next year, I plan on engaging in another community service just to explore different types of non-profit organizations. I plan to be more open-minded and try to engage in something out of my comfort zone. I believe that it will help me grow more as a person and that I will find what I am most passionate about by opening my range of volunteering opportunities.