

### **My Personal Growth**

During this unit I have grown academically. In this unit I learned that insurance is a complex issue especially considering the human inclinations toward both greed and compassion. On the one hand Insurance companies have to pay their employees and the hospitals and doctors who treat their buyers, but because insurance in America is such a big business some companies get greedy and refuse to cover the sickest Americans. I was shocked to find out how much yearly coverage costs, sometimes a yearly premium got up to \$19,000. Sick people who cannot work can't afford to be covered, or are refused coverage because of pre-existing conditions which I think is despicable. When looking at the plain mathematics it was clear to me that the cheapest premiums came from mandatory coverage. I think that premiums should be based off of income and not risk. This way everyone pays a certain percentage of their income, which I believe is fair. Through this system everyone pays an amount and everyone gets covered including the poorest Americans and the sickest Americans.

While working in groups throughout this unit I learned that it is okay to ask others for help and to help others when they need it. I also learned that it is sometimes good to work alone in a group and then collaborate.

I would like to improve my efficiency, I am slowed down in class because I must explain my process thoroughly with words so that I may understand the math later. I do find this strategy beneficial however when reviewing my work and on tests and quizzes.

One of the more interesting things I learned during this unit involves dice. Lauren explained that the probability of a certain number or sum has nothing to do with previous rolls, which I have never considered before, but makes total sense. Lauren let us figure out what made some sums more likely than others.

I liked this unit because I am interested in politics and healthcare has been a very important topic in politics for as long as I've been alive, so it was really great to learn more about it. I also liked this unit because Lauren taught it and I really like her 'find your way using your own process' approach.