

Story of a Trainee

My name is **Vuong Thanh Tra**, this year I am 16 years old and have just decided to quit school in 10th grade. Everyone around me hearing the news was surprised and confused. They don't understand why I have made such a decision when my life seems to be stable, with a harmonious family and having a house in Hanoi's Old Quarter. But they don't know that my family belongs to the poor household of the area and that all our living activities (cooking, cleaning and sleeping) of the family of 4 are wrapped up in a substandard house with a width of 30m2.

Although the income from the part-time job was meagre and a large bank debt after repairing the house, the parents still tried to take care of me and my younger brother to go to school. After failing the entrance exam to high school, my mother asked me to go to another school with a higher monthly cost than originally planned. I tried to focus on studying in the first semester but the results were not satisfactory. I suddenly realized that it would be pointless if I kept trying to do things I was not capable of and I was wasting my parents' money and efforts.

Since my mother has been a cook for KOTO employees for a long time, I understand the organization very well, and I have always wanted to study bartending which I can make delicious and beautiful drinks. The day I received the admission letter from KOTO, I was really happy and excited. I know that although they do everything to give me the best, my parents are always tormented by not being able to give us a better situation. This is the biggest reason that makes me more persistent with my choice. I want them to understand that circumstances cannot determine my future and that I can completely become their pride in another way.

Thank you for sponsoring me!



Vuong Thanh Tra
Class 40