Decoding Luck

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Intro:

Hey, do you know why stories are given a lot of importance? It is because, through stories, things pass on. People die, and stories live. It is said that the Skill of Storytelling is one very important criterion as to why a group of living beings can be called a civilization. The sheep on the planet do not form a civilization but we humans are a civilization.

So why am I telling you this? Because I have a story to tell and I want you to listen. And while you listen, keep holding onto a newer and broader perspective.

I am Armaan, I am 18 years old and I happen to be the college opener of the BTech batch of 2022 of IIT Hyderabad. So how did I get Lucky?

What does JEE demand?

Story:

Let me take you down the story lane for some time -

Imagine - breathe in - breath out - 2 sec

You're standing on hard, muddy ground and it is a sunny day and you feel thirsty. You try to look around you but you see people beside you. They are wearing the same white shirt and blue shorts as you are. Wait a minute, you're all standing in a line.

Now it struck you, you're waiting for your name to be called out. And after that you're going to have to run as fast as you can coz you'll be timed coz you're in a race.

At this point winning is all that matters. It doesn't matter whom your crush spoke to or why the paneer tasted so salty the previous night. All that matters is that you need to give your best and run as if a zombie is chasing you.

At this point what is the only thing you can mentally hold onto? Is it luck? For me, it would be the thought of not giving up and putting in nothing less than 100% of my capabilities. And I'm pretty sure that this is what most students would think.

Reality:

So what does JEE demand? I'll answer this part as honestly as possible. As I write this, it's 18th Jan 2023 and the JEE mains is going to be held from 24th to 31st Jan 2023, and the official #ExamTime begins.

My juniors back at school are slowly getting into the stress that comes along with this exam.

Did you know that JEE is the 2nd most difficult exam in the world and the most difficult exam in India? In such a scenario what can you mentally hold on to? For a significant amount of time during my preparation, I used to think that I had to give 100% every time. And I used to do that.

(Let me put this straight, I am not one of those people who can crunch numbers at the speed of light, neither can I visualize complex chemical compounds in my head without even touching the pencil, nor do I have the inborn talent of just being born for MPC)
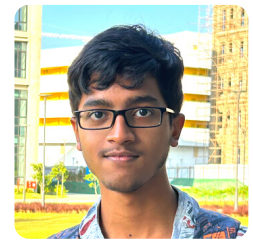
But let us come back to reality coz this is where reality differs from the story. Is it practical to practice this attitude? Does this attitude sound familiar? Hustle culture? This is the same trend that grew toxic and people pushed themselves so hard that they needed hospital support for days because of neglect of health. So what is it that students can do?

The catch here is to be smart. You need to be able to condense fact from the vapour of nuance at any point in time. Judge the situation rightly and take the appropriate step. If it really is possible then all your energy is what you should give. If not then the steering is in your hand and steer wisely.

Why am I saying all this?

What am I doing?

Let me tell you how I want my story to unfold at IIT Hyderabad. I want to eventually start my own company and I currently believe that in today's competitive environment, this very behavior will help who so ever has it.

So who am I?

The name is Armaan, I am also the college opener of the IITH BTech batch of 2022 and I secured a rank of 368 in JEE Adv, I would love to help anyone who's looking for help. With this, signing off

-Armaan

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Armaan with his buddy Laptop in Dance Room

Armaan Smart Steps during New Year's Eve at OAT, IITH

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