

Prodigy Writing Contest

My name is Alex Hoskins. I am seventeen years old, a junior at Century High School in Pocatello, Idaho, and I believe I am the next bowling prodigy. Being the next prodigy takes more than just impressive accomplishments, it takes education, dedication, and the ability to make smart decisions. In the next few paragraphs, you will see why I believe I have what it takes to go to the next level.

The first and most important part of being the next prodigy is education. What good is it to have all the talent in the world, but no knowledge of how to use it to your full potential? You have to be smart, plan out your future, and set goals to achieve. Right now I'm maintaining a 3.89 High School GPA. I have taken Trigonometry, Honors Biology, and Spanish 2. When I graduate high school next year I am going to bowl in college. Some colleges or universities that interest me are Pikeville, McKendree, and Robert Morris. After completing college, I plan to go straight to the PBA Tour and bowl against some of the best bowlers in the world.

The second part of being the next prodigy is achievement. This gets the most attention. It is still second to education. Below is a list of a few of my accomplishments:

- **11** - 300 Games **5** - 299 Games **8** - 800 Series
- High 3 Game Series: **830** (276.6 Average) 4 Games: **1080** (270 Average)
- 2009-10 High School Average of **232.2**
- Las Vegas Southwest Regional Doubles Champion
- Over **\$12,000** in SMART Scholarship Money

A Prodigy is defined as an individual, especially a child or young person, having an extraordinary talent or ability. At seventeen years old, I have a very distinguished list of achievements. These accomplishments started when I won the Pepsi State Championship two years in a row at ages eight and nine, and now include many more than I shared above. I really have what it takes to be the next prodigy. I practice every day to try and perfect every aspect of my game. I still have a long way to go, but I'm ready to embrace the challenges awaiting me.

To be a prodigy, you must be dedicated and love what you are doing. I passed up playing basketball last year to pursue my dreams of becoming a PBA Pro. I had been playing basketball since I was in the 6th grade. I was even the top scorer as a sophomore, but I knew basketball was not going to be my future. I could not continue to be competitive in both bowling and basketball, especially at the varsity level. They coincided with each other and last year I was forced to make a decision. I started to focus entirely on bowling. It was hard to not play basketball anymore, but I know I made the right decision to bowl. In the first 9 years I bowled, I

made a total of \$1,100 in scholarship money. This last year I made over \$11,000. I have the dedication necessary to become the next prodigy.

The final part of being a prodigy is smart decision making. You see this all the time with professional athletes. Some of them think they are above the law and everything else, then they get in trouble or make a bad decision and it costs them their entire career and image. As a professional bowler I want to set a good example for younger people that look up to me. I am already a great role model to the younger kids that bowl in my bowling center. They all look up to me and duplicate what I do, so I try to set a good example for them to follow. I know what I want to do and I am striving to achieve it. Nothing is going to distract me from being the next bowling prodigy.

Thank you for taking the time to read my essay. I will work to ensure only bigger and better things come to me, in the future. Only being seventeen years old, I have time to improve as a bowler and make a difference long into the future. I feel like I have the education, achievements, dedication, and ability to be the next bowling prodigy.