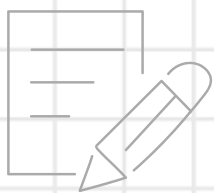


You have a story to share

COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING

Grades, G.P.A, Rank, ACT/SAT Scores, numbers, numbers, numbers!

By evaluating your transcript, Colleges will begin the application process by looking at one side of your story, which can almost be seen as the outline of what you have accomplished throughout high school. Yet we all know you are much more than just an outline, this is where the Magic Happens! The College Essay or Personal Statement allows you to paint a picture of who you are, and where you are going.



By asking you to write a statement, Admission counselors are trying to figure out who you are, how you will add value to their campus and to assess your writing capabilities. In order to fulfill their request, we must Dig Deep!

Here are three brainstorming activities taken from “The College Essay Guy” to help ignite your creativity

If you really knew me

With a pen and paper and answer the question: If you really knew me, think of 10 things to answer this question.

Example:

If you really knew me...

1. I would give anything to talk to my grandmother again
2. I have a scar from a serious car accident
- 3....



Gratitude list

Give yourself 2 minutes to write down everything you are grateful for or choose to spend 2 minutes writing down everything you love

Example:

I love:

1. Trees
2. Pistachio Ice cream
3. Blaring music in my car

Things I am grateful for

1. Clean sheets
2. My grandmothers hands



Essence Objects

The “Essence Object” is

A great exercise used by **The College Essay Guy* goes as follows :

Imagine a box.

In this box is a set of objects.

Imagine that each one is one of your essence objects.

What do I mean?

Each object represents one of your fundamental qualities.

Thus, each object is more than just an object.

Example:

1. My grandmothers record player
2. Crutches
3. My camera

For more guidance see <https://www.collegeessayguy.com/cwiab-student-14-essence-objects-exercise>



Structure

Narrative vs. Montage

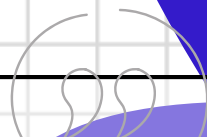
After you have taken the time to brainstorm what part of your story to share, it's time to think about the structure of your Essay. **The College Essay Guy*, explains a simplified way to structure your essay, Montage vs. Narrative

In Narrative Structure, story events connect chronologically.

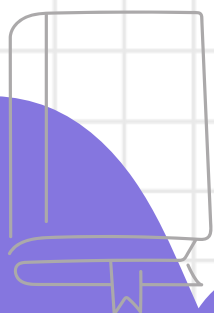
In Montage Structure, story events connect thematically.

If you are taking your readers through one event or topic, the Narrative structure might work best.

If you have multiple items that you will be addressing, the Montage story line will guide your readers smoothly through.



Tips



1. Create an amazing introduction, draw your reader in, DO NOT simply use a quote for your introduction
2. Spend time crafting an outline, this will help you stay on topic and direct your reader to the information that is important
3. Think of each paragraph as an opportunity. An opportunity to gift your reader with creative, true and relevant information about yourself
4. It's okay to be vulnerable
Emotional vulnerability is putting yourself out there, intentionally or unintentionally. Showing a part of yourself that you may feel sensitive about, exposing something that makes you feel seen by others