

College Application Essay

Assignment:

You have just spent some time looking at career possibilities and colleges that may support those choices on www.careercruising.com. Imagine that you are nearing completion of your high school education and are applying to the college of your choice. **Choose one** of the essay topics below and write a College Entrance Essay.

Write as though you are now a Junior or Senior in high school. Remember that they will be looking at your professional writing style as well as your actual successes, insights, and creativity; so make sure you PROOFREAD!! This essay should be one to two pages in length and in "5 Paragraph Essay" format. Use your MLA template to begin the essay.

The following was taken from the College Board website.

Type 1: The "Why You" question

Your Approach

This direct question offers a chance to reveal your personality, insight, and commitment. The danger is that it's open-ended, so you need to focus. Find just one or two things that will reveal your best qualities, and avoid the urge to spill everything.

#1 "How would you describe yourself as a human being? What quality do you like best in yourself and what do you like least? What quality would you most like to see flourish and which would you like to see wither?" (Bates College)

#2 "Creative people state that taking risks often promotes important discoveries in their lives or their work. Discuss a risk that has led to a significant change (positive or negative) in your personal or intellectual life."
(Simmons College)

#3 "Describe the most challenging obstacle you have had to overcome; discuss its impact, and tell what you have learned from the experience." (Guilford College)

Type 2: The "Creative" question

Your approach

Again, you have something to react to, a way to show yourself and write about your real views. Just don't forget the importance of writing an informed essay. For example, don't write about a fantasy lunch with a famous writer and get the titles of her novels wrong. Also, when thinking about how creative to get, use common sense. Being creative to the point of wacky is a risk you may not want to take.

#4 "Indicate a person who has had a significant influence on you, and describe that influence." (Common Application)

#5 "In your opinion, what is the greatest challenge that your generation will face? What ideas do you have for dealing with this issue?"
(College of the Holy Cross)

#6 "John Keats said, 'Even a proverb is no proverb to you till your Life has illustrated it.' Please tell us about an experience in your own life which illustrated a proverb, maxim, or quote that has special meaning for you." (Duke University)

Essay Writing Help:

The following was taken from the College Board website:

There are three basic essay styles you should consider:

- *Standard Essay: Take two or three points from your self-outline, give a paragraph to each, and make sure you provide plenty of evidence. Choose things not apparent from the rest of your application or light up some of the activities and experiences listed there.*
- *Less-Is-More Essay: In this format, you focus on a single interesting point about yourself. It works well for brief essays of a paragraph or half a page.*
- *Narrative Essay: A narrative essay tells a short and vivid story. Omit the introduction, write one or two narrative paragraphs that grab and engage the reader's attention, then explain what this little tale reveals about you.*

Please go to that site and read through all of their writing tips before beginning.