

College Admission Essay

Think About Your Purpose - Not “selling yourself ” or “getting in,” but simply being yourself—which usually means writing about yourself in human, rather than superhuman, terms. For example, if your transcript reveals that you are a stellar student of French, you might write about the time a Parisian pointedly responded in English to your request in French for directions to the Louvre.

Focus - Instead of generalizing your experience, for example saying something like, “I enjoy sports”, be as specific as you can be. Write about the thrill of catching a fly ball deep to centerfield just before it became a home run, or of a Little League career spent waiting for someone, anyone, to hit the ball to your position so that you could stop studying the grass and watching the butterflies.

Use Precise And Descriptive Language - Imagine that each word you write costs you a dollar, and that you don’t have unlimited funds. Instead of writing “On a yearly basis, we would spend five hours driving to the lake, where I never gave up the hope of meeting the boy that would be my Prince Charming,” write “Every August, we trekked to Lake Apponaug, where I always hoped to meet my Prince Charming.”

Give Your Essay Momentum - Make the parts work together and move toward a thoughtful conclusion. In an essay about the summer you spent working in a marine research laboratory, a paragraph on the unreliable bus that took you there each day should be eliminated.

Use Correct Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation - Don’t distract your reader from what you’re stating by stating it incorrectly. Misspellings, typos, and grammatical errors—such as subjects that don’t agree with verbs—make the reader’s task more difficult and suggest that you don’t care much about the impression you make. Although nobody’s perfect, strive for perfection on your application. Unfortunately, your reader may interpret your mistakes, no matter how innocent, to be signs of laziness, indifference, or even dishonesty.

Sample Of A College Essay

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Sample Of A College Essay:

Write Your College Essay in Less Than a Day Elizabeth Wissner-Gross, 2009-09-15 Strategies from a noted educational consultant on how to ease the pressure ace the essay and gain admission into your top choice school Getting into college has become fiercely competitive which makes the personal essay part of the application process even more important and stressful But stop worrying In *Write Your College Essay in Less Than a Day* Elizabeth Wissner Gross a top educational strategist in this area who counsels students at schools across the country breaks down the harrowing ordeal of essay writing into manageable steps leaving you with a fresh polished stand out piece that admissions officers will love to read Inside you ll find exercises to help you select an essay topic inspired by your most notable achievements and winning a Nobel Prize needn t be one of them timed chapters including snack breaks to help you brainstorm create and critique your essay in only five hours sample essays and grading criteria so that you can play the admissions officer and know what you re up against advice on which writing techniques will score you points and which could potentially sink your chances Accessible savvy and written with a student s needs and concerns in mind *Write Your College Essay in Less Than a Day* gives you all the tools you need to compose an original professional essay that will help you turn your dream school into a well deserved reality *How to Write a Winning College Application Essay, Revised 4th Edition* Michael James Mason, 2000-05-25 Get into the College of Your Dreams An original and creative essay is one of the keys to getting into the college you ve always dreamed of as well as to getting the financial aid you deserve This book gives you everything you need to make your own unique talents shine in your college application essay Even if writing is not your strong point author Michael James Mason shows you Exactly what admissions officers look for What works and what doesn t using actual student essays Proven techniques for writing your best essay Special tips for SAT and scholarship essays A last minute checklist before you submit your essay And much more Well written very useful and highly recommended *Hunter s Guide to the College Guides* Demystifies one of the most important and challenging parts of the college application process the personal essay An invaluable resource Gail Devine director of college counseling Louisville High School Woodland Hills California This book taught me what colleges look for in an essay and showed me how to effectively communicate my thoughts in writing Ryan Miller University of Virginia graduate

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and usage If used properly this book will help applicants find their creative voice and craft a readable interesting and unique essay that will attract the college admissions reader It just might make a difference in the final admission process *How to Write a Winning College Application Essay* Michael Mason,1997 Seniors in high school start feeling stressed at the mere thought of writing the college application essay They well know the role this crucial document plays in getting into their university of choice What they may not know is that there is a right way and a wrong way to writing the essay I ve noticed some recurrent bad habits that have hurt otherwise good essays and I have added mention of them throughout the book says Michael James Mason author of *How to Write a Winning College Application Essay* A student doesn t have to be a star scholar or a superhero to write a great application essay They just have to show on paper that they know some things about themselves and that life has meaning and perspective In *How to Write a Winning College Application Essay* Mason teaches students how to put their best image on paper while letting the essay speak from their heart about what life means to them Since the publication of the first two editions of his practical manual thousands of students across the nation have used his techniques in the process of writing their personal statements for college and graduate school Thousands of good students have been accepted into colleges of their choice because their essays were honest moving and sensitive Their essays revealed their values insights and spirit says Mason About the Author Michael James Mason has helped thousands of students at his College Essay Workshops and in previous editions of this book In writing the third edition to this popular book he looked to the experiences of real students and admissions officials the people who write and read the essays in college applications He lives in Marina Del Ray California [On Writing the College Application Essay, 25th Anniversary Edition](#) Harry Bauld,2012-08-21 One of the most stressful aspects of the college application process is the essay Most students worry about what an admissions officer looks for in a writing sample But that s the wrong way to approach this vital component says former Ivy League college admissions officer Harry Bauld At Brown and Columbia he saw what prospective students often did wrong and now tells you how to do it right In this fully revised and updated edition of the classic guide to writing the best essay of your life Bauld has written an insider s guide to writing an essay that will stand out from the pack He advises you on how to find your authentic voice gives you tools and ideas that will spark your imagination and shows you how to approach themes with originality and panache to make even the most tired topics fresh He ll tell you straight out what admissions officers aren t looking for another platitudinous variation on one of the following themes if you see your initial idea reflected in this list think again The trip I had to adjust to a whole new way of life My favorite things puppy dogs freedom and chocolate chip cookies The pageant contestant I think World Peace is the most important issue facing us today The jock Through wrestling I have learned to set goals and to work with people The autobiography Hello my name is Tales of my success But finally when I crossed the finish line Pet death As I watched Buttons s life ebb away I came to value Getting into the college of your dreams is tough The competition is fierce For more than twenty five years *On Writing the College*

Application Essay has helped thousands of students improve their chances Now let it work for you *Complete Guide to College Application Essays* The Princeton Review,2020-10-06 THE COLLEGE APPLICATION ESSAY MADE EASY This user friendly guide gives struggling students the step by step writing help they need to perfect the writing on their college applications from the all important personal essays to the supplemental material like short answer questions and resumes Applying to college can be overwhelming especially when it comes to crafting the perfect application There s a lot of pressure to submit something unique and cohesive This book takes you from blank page to submitted application with step by step guidance on the most effective ways to complete this daunting process We ve packed these pages with practical exercises and annotated samples that model good and bad techniques and included tips from real admissions officers This complete guide provides A firsthand look into different review processes plus editing guidelines to help you think like an essay reader Step by step methods for breaking down a prompt Brainstorming techniques to help you find the right story to share Tried and true advice to get you outlining and drafting your essay with confidence Annotated essays to demonstrate writing dos and don ts Guidance on additional written content like short answer questions and resumes for a completely polished application

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