

Eton University's 'Personal Statement' Guide

What is a personal statement?

A personal statement for admission is a written essay that gives the admissions and academic staff an insight into who you are as a person, your academic achievements, your personal experiences, your interests, and your goals. It is your chance to showcase your personality, your passion, and your motivation for wanting to pursue a particular course of study at the university.

The personal statement is an important part of the university application process because it allows us to evaluate your suitability for the course of study you have chosen. Through your personal statement, the University can assess your communication skills, your critical thinking abilities, and your ability to articulate your thoughts and ideas in writing.

The personal statement should be well-organized, concise, and engaging. It should be written in a clear and concise manner, and it should showcase your personality and your unique perspective on the world. The essay should also demonstrate your enthusiasm for the course of study you have chosen and your commitment to achieving your academic and career goals.

Students are encouraged to write between 500-1000 words for their essay.

Recommended Structure

It is important to create an essay that is relevant and simple, yet to show your uniqueness. Keep in mind to:

- Introduce yourself in the opening statement, explain why you are applying for the chosen course and why you believe that you will be a successful student of that program.
- Talk about your skills and previous achievements; mention any relevant work experience and how the course could help you build on that knowledge
- Tell us about your future plans and aspirations; how you plan to use your knowledge gained throughout the study in your career
- End the essay with a brief summary of the main points and a convincing closing statement that outlines the reason why you should be offered a place on the program

Personal Statement Worksheet

Here's a personal statement worksheet to help you get started with your university admission essay:

- Brainstorming:
 - a. What are your strengths, skills, and talents?

- b. What are your academic and personal achievements?
 - c. What are your interests and hobbies?
 - d. What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?
 - e. What are your career aspirations and goals?
- Introduction:
 - a. What is your motivation for applying to this university?
 - b. What inspired you to pursue your chosen course of study?
 - c. What makes you a good fit for this program?
 - Body:
 - a. Highlight your academic and personal achievements, including any relevant experience or qualifications.
 - b. Discuss your interests and hobbies, and how they have shaped your character and personality.
 - c. Share any challenges you have faced and how you overcame them, including any life-changing experiences that have influenced your decision to pursue this course of study.
 - d. Outline your career aspirations and goals, and how this course of study will help you achieve them.
 - Conclusion:
 - a. Summarize why you are a good fit for this program and university.
 - b. Discuss your future plans and how this program will help you achieve them.
 - c. End with a powerful statement that leaves a lasting impression on the reader.
 - Editing:
 - a. Read through your essay several times to check for grammar and spelling errors.
 - b. Make sure your essay is well-organized and easy to follow.

Good luck with your university admission essay!