

# \* PERSONAL STATEMENT

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1. What is a personal statement?
2. Why is a personal statement important?
3. How can I write a personal statement?
4. What are some DOs and DONTs in writing a personal statement?

# \* OVERVIEW

\*Statement (a story, a speech, a letter, etc.)

\*Personal (it's all about YOU)

## \* 1. What is a personal statement?

\*The SOUL of your application

\*A MAKE or BREAK!

\*The place you can speak for yourself

## \* 2. Why is a PS important?

1. Brainstorm

\* *Academically, why do I want this scholarship?*

- Learn to become a great teacher/CEO/politician

\* *Personally, why do I want this scholarship?*

- Become more independent/explore my personalities

\* *What makes me stand out?*

- Make a list of characteristics (unmentioned/emphasized)

- Think of the stories in my life (SHOW, don't tell)

- Choose the most impressive stories

## \* 3. How can I write a PS?

- Choose a hook to start (a conversation, a quote, a flashback of memory, etc.)

- Pay attention to coherence and technical mistakes

- Use a simple language

- Be concise (UGRAD: 350-500, SUSI: 250)

- Write, rewrite and re-rewrite ☺

- Ask different people to comment

## \* 2. Write

1. DOs

- ☺ Start early
- ☺ Spend time reflecting about yourself
- ☺ Be honest and sincere
- ☺ Include leadership potentials (not necessarily a monitor/group leader)

**\* 4. Some DOs and DON'Ts**

- ☹ Turn your PS into a list of achievements
- ☹ Provide just FACTS of your life, not your insight into them
- ☹ Try to be the person you think the JUDGES want

**\* 2. DON'Ts**

HAPPY PERSONALLY  
STATING! ☺