

UC Personal Statement

Before you write:

1. Pretend you are having an interview with the admission officer.
2. Pretend that your personal statement is a letter of recommendation.
3. Look at your completed UC application for things like gaps in education or mixed academic records that you may want to address in the statement.

Two Prompts:

1. What is your intended major and why did you choose it?
 - Example: I have chosen the major of _____ because I want to develop my special interest in _____.
 - Show that you are:
 - Motivated
 - Passionate
 - Highly dedicated
 - How did you become interested in your major?
 - Employment
 - Internship
 - Class
 - Teacher
 - Book
 - Hobby
 - Describe any activities that demonstrate your interest in your major. (Describe the activity, why did you choose it, what did you learn from it, what impact did it have on you.) Examples:
 - Job
 - Student organizations
 - Volunteer work
 - Travel
 - Seminars
 - Describe the connection between your major and your professional career or goal. Examples:

<u>Major</u>		<u>Goal</u>
English	→	Teacher, Writer
Economics	→	Business entrepreneur
Biology	→	Researcher

2. Describe a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. Examples:
- Talent:
 - Public speaker
 - Athlete
 - Artist
 - Musician
 - Writer(awards, accomplishments.)
 - Personal quality:
 - Resiliency
 - Hard worker
 - Tenacity
 - Quick learner(Describe things you've done that demonstrate that particular quality.)
 - Experience:
 - Travels
 - Immigrant (culture, language, different perspectives, different values, diversity)
 - Special programs: EOPS, DSS, Puente (Describe. Why? Discuss the benefits the program provides to you)
 - Re-entry student (25+): experience, maturity
 - Challenge:
 - Social (immigrant)
 - Educational (first in the family to attend college)
 - Financial (work long hours)
 - Health(Describe. What impact? How did you respond to and overcome that challenge?)