



Personal Statements

Exploring how to make a good personal statement...

Personal Statements

600
Words
MAX

Dos	Don'ts
Check SPAG	State the obvious: E.g. "In my work experience I learned to communicate effectively with clients, <u>which is an important skill in accountancy</u> "
Strong openers: Clear, straight to the point	Rhetorical Questions E.g. "So why should I be considered for a place on your course?" – Sounds patronising?
Examples: When? What? How?	Flattery: "It would be an honour..."
Demonstrate an interest into the course(s) you apply for A-levels/Btecs/Apprenticeships require an interest	Clichés: "When I was young.../Ever since I was little..."

Introduction

Hmm...

Now where do I start?

Adjectives: Clarifies character

I am a **determined and hardworking student** that has been aspired to independently develop my knowledge of the world of science. I am **student studying 9 GCSEs at George Mitchell School** and am **keen to progress onto 3 A-level** courses at x.

Originality: Shows interest in subject

What you want to do: Outlines why they are applying

Represents name of college: Slot this to make it **specific**

What you are doing: Optional showing what you are doing currently. **Do not list subjects!**

Body of Text: *Your subjects...*

Passion: Indicate this through your favourite subject

My favourite subject is Biology, specifically human anatomy. I am fascinated and enjoy understanding how different organs work as I have previously attended UCL lectures to develop my knowledge outside of lessons and regularly watch documentaries. I also am interested in studying Chemistry alongside this as I would like to progress on to studying bio-chemistry at a Russell group university such as St Andrews or Oxbridge

Intention: Embed this to reduce word count. Shows aspiration/personal target

Evidence: Interesting and captures attention. **Must support statement**

Body of Text:

Extracurricular... time for to make you stand out

Role: Position held (participant/leader etc.)

I was the Head Student Director of my school's Shakespeare production, which allowed me to creatively personalise our rendition of a Midsummer Night's Dream in a surreal light. I hope to develop my flair for drama by joining the society at X to make the most out of the theatrical opportunities offered.

Contribution to College: Shows why they should pick you

I am also the Head Girl, who leads the student governing body. The head teacher personally nominated me to apply for the competitive role, which I was successful in gaining. Being a head girl, I am responsible of mentoring newcomers in the lower half of the school and participating in events such as the academic celebration evening.

What have you done: Sentence describing it.

Importance: Key bit to make it special.

Follow format when talking of work experience: Organised yourself? Skills gained? What you learnt?

Ending: *Finishing your statement professionally*

Reinforce points: Could use adjectives – should link to introduction

I have **the potential to achieve highly if granted the opportunity**. I **always work very hard** to meet the targets that I set for myself. A **place at X would give me the best foundation for my future**.

I look forward to discussing this further at an interview.

Thank you.

Optional: Polite note

Summarise why you want to go there in **one sentence**.

E.g. A place at X would help me progress onto my future career.

(Optional- if word count allows it)



What have we covered?

1. **Introduction:** Clarifies why you are applying.
2. **Courses:** Why do you want to study these subjects/do that particular course?
3. **What have you done?** – Sell yourself! Unique, personalised section.
4. **Ending:** Prompt finish. (40 words maximum)

Email: Jackie.ainsworth@georgemitchellschool.co.uk – I will be happy to check through and give feedback! You must provide me with own work.