

# Personal Statements

UCAS applications

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>

## The Big Picture

- Personal statement
- References from your subject teachers
- Reference from Director of Sixth Form
- Possible interview
- Portfolio or audition

## Why is the statement so important?

- Carries weight with the admissions tutor
- Demonstrates your reasons for applying
- It's probably the only chance to 'sell' your self to the university
- Provides a 'flavour' of you
- Opportunity to create a positive impression

## Structure

- Use the structure of four key paragraphs
- Keep sentences short and to the point
- Brainstorm ideas first
- Write a draft version first and then reconsider
- Do not make it specific to one university

## Paragraph One

- Explain your choice of subject
- Outline why you are interested in .....
- Why does this course appeal to you?
- Do your current A levels have any relevance to your subject choices?
- Convince that you well motivated and enthusiastic about your subject choices

## Paragraph Two

- Describe your suitability
- What transferable skills have you gained from your current studies?
- How are these relevant to your chosen degree subject? Check out the course entry profiles
- Has this study sparked or ignited your interest in chosen degree course?

## Paragraph Three

- Longer term career objectives
- Even these are still broad or unsure include an outline of the field in which you would like to work
- Detail any relevant work experience, placements or voluntary work
- Identify additional skills gained from voluntary/part-time work

## Paragraph Four

- The person behind the form
- Describe your self to the admissions tutor – your skills, strengths and personality
- Outline your academic/social achievements
- Describe your sporting or leisure interests
- If you are planning a gap year – what does it entail?



## Top Tips

- Accuracy – spelling and grammar
- Attention to detail
- Ensure that it is all your work – UCAS checks each PS for plagiarism
- Don't repeat yourself
- Use positive and enthusiastic language
- Use entry profiles if you are unsure what to include

## And Finally....

- The time is now to get researching and applying!
- Have you made the right choices of university?
- Have you discussed your choices with your tutors, family, or friends?