

PERSONAL STATEMENTS

UK, Canada, HK (basically non-USA) style universities



The personal statement is your opportunity to tell universities about your **suitability for the course(s)** that you hope to study. You need to demonstrate your enthusiasm and commitment, and above all, ensure that you stand out from the crowd.



POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT:

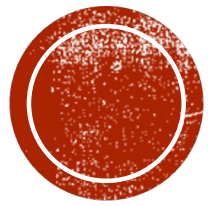
- Explain why you want to study the course you are applying for – 70 to 80 per cent of your personal statement needs to focus on this.
- Try to link your hobbies and interests to that course. Use them to demonstrate the skills you have which will help you to succeed at university.
- The personal statement could be used as the basis for an interview, so be prepared to answer questions on it.
- Get the grammar, spelling and punctuation right.
- It is a good idea to brainstorm your hobbies and achievements, and then you can decide which ones demonstrate your strongest skills and personality.



POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT:

- Try not to mention a university or college by name.
- If you are applying for a joint degree you will need to explain why you are interested in both aspects of this joint programme.
- An admissions tutor will read hundreds of personal statements so, try to make yours stand out. Be careful about the humour you use as the admissions tutor may not necessarily share your humour.





TRANSFERABLE SKILLS LIST

POWERFUL VERBS LIST



DOS AND DON'TS

Do

- Check university entry profiles
- Relate your studies to your application
- Demonstrate your interest and knowledge to your chosen subject
- Write about relevant skills and experiences
- Write what comes naturally
- Check that it is free of grammar and spelling mistakes
- Get it checked by your counsellor

Don't

- Include misleading information
- Submit your form without checking it
- Take risks in what you include
- Use bullet points or lists
- Write things that are not relevant to your application

