

Personal Statement Exercise

The aim of this exercise is to get you to think about what you should include in your personal statement. Below are some questions, the answers should help you to start writing your personal statement. You will not need to include everything, but it will give you some great ideas. Remember you need to stand out from the pile of other personal statements, so be excited about the subject you want to study.

**Why you want to study this course**

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| --- | --- |
| What course do you want to study? |  |
| When did you become interested in this subject? |  |
| What do you enjoy about this subject? |  |
| What have you learnt that has inspired you, and made you want to study at university level? |  |
| Is there a career that you want to achieve? |  |
| Any other reasons? |  |

**Academic interests**

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| --- | --- |
| What are you currently studying? |  |
| What do you find interesting about this course? |  |
| What have you learnt that you want to take further? |  |
| Have there been any particular modules or projects you have found inspiring? |  |
| Anything else about your current studies? |  |

**Hobbies and Interests**

Do not forget they want students that will contribute more than just academically to a university....

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Hobby/interest/team | What you do | What you have gained |
| Example: Member of rugby team | I have been a member of my local rugby team for 8 years. We are currently 2nd in the league. | Team work skills, time management, confidence |
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**Work Experience**

Any work experience is important to mention, especially anything that relates to your chosen degree. Part time work is also great as it is another way to talk about your personal qualities such as, communication skills, problem solving and responsibility.

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| --- | --- |
| Job | Skills |
| Example: Customer Assistant – Tesco | Customer service skills, listening skills, responsibility, time management, diplomacy |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Do not forget to mention anything else that shows your strengths off to admission tutors. If you have won a prize for an essay, Duke of Edinburgh, head of house, head girl, charity work or volunteering are all great qualities that admission tutors would like to know. Explain any gaps, if you had a year out between school and college to look after a sibling explain that in your personal statement. Also explain your future plans, i.e. a gap year or career plans.

**Finishing statement**

Always end on a positive and make your personal statement stand out.....

‘I have enjoyed my studies and look forward to the challenges of university study’

‘In conclusion I am a dedicated student and I look forward to developing my knowledge at degree level’

**Good Luck!!**