

Incoming Senior Summer Writing Packet 2019

Purpose: To complete a well written essay for a college application

Assignment: Over the course of the summer, each senior is to produce a finished essay to be handed in for a grade on the first day back in September. The final essay should be 500 – 650 words.

If, by chance, a senior is not scheduled for a first semester English class, he or she should submit the essay packet to Mrs. Soltis on the first day back in September.

Instructions: Choose one of the Common Application topics

Write a first draft of the essay & revise/edit.

Write a clean final draft following MLA format (Times New Roman, 12 pt., double spaced, MLA heading)

Consult various print and online resources on College Application Essays like:

“Avoid Pitfalls and Make the Most of Your Personal Essay”

By Allen Grove, About.com Guide

Common App Prompts:

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.