



Get to the point! Essay TRACK IT!

WORK
SHEET

COALITION APPLICATION SCHOOLS:

Schools applying to with the Coalition Application:

Personal Due Date: _____

First Draft Complete ☐

Done ☐

CHOOSE ONE OF THESE FIVE PROMPTS:	TOPIC (550 WORDS MAX)
1. Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.	
2. Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.	
3. Has there been a time when you've had a long-cherished or accepted belief challenged? How did you respond? How did the challenge affect your beliefs?	
4. What is the hardest part of being a teenager now? What's the best part? What advice would you give a younger sibling or friend (assuming they would listen to you)?	
5. Submit an essay on a topic of your choice.	

COMMON APPLICATION SCHOOLS:

Schools applying to with the Common Application:

Personal Due Date: _____

First Draft Complete ☐

Done ☐

CHOOSE ONE OF THESE SEVEN PROMPTS:	TOPIC (650 WORDS MAX)
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.	
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?	
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.	

SUPPLEMENTAL PROMPTS OR SCHOOLS WITH PROPRIETARY APPLICATIONS:

College/University: Personal Due Date: Done ☐

PROMPT:	YOUR RESPONSE TOPIC

College/University: Personal Due Date: Done ☐

PROMPT:	YOUR RESPONSE TOPIC

College/University: Personal Due Date: Done ☐

PROMPT:	YOUR RESPONSE TOPIC

Read the prompts carefully.
Then, look through all of your prompts to see if there are any overlaps.
No need to reinvent the wheel with each essay.
BUT, make certain you never mention the wrong college in an essay!

College/University:

Personal Due Date: _____

Done ☐

PROMPT:	YOUR RESPONSE TOPIC

College/University:

Personal Due Date: _____

Done ☐

PROMPT:	YOUR RESPONSE TOPIC

College/University:

Personal Due Date: _____

Done ☐

PROMPT:	YOUR RESPONSE TOPIC

Some state universities choose to collaborate and use a joint application.
California and Texas both have very well-defined applications
for all of their state public universities.