

Junior Essay Outlines for Personal Statement

Choose one of the essay topics below. These will be the essay choices on the common application for 2014-2015. As you work on your outline and essay draft, keep in mind that the application will cap your essay at 650 words.

- Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?
- Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
- Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there, and why is it meaningful to you?
- Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

Due dates:

- Outlines due to Ms. Altschuler by Monday, June 2nd
- Essay drafts due to Ms. Altschler or Ms. Gallo on first day of school in September