

Planning for an AWESOME College Admissions Essay

You will be writing one college application essay. The rough draft is due at the start of class on Monday, August 24, 2015; the final copy of it is due **Monday, August 31, 2015, at the start of your AP English class**. The rough draft can be word-processed (preferred) or hand-written. In either case, the essay needs to be double-spaced. If you word process your writing, please use a traditional font such as Courier New (preferred) or Times New Roman or Arial. The font size must be 12 (point), and margins should be one inch all around. The final copy should be word processed.

There is a witticism that says “If I fail to plan, I plan to fail.” There is great truth in that statement, especially when you must choose a writing topic. In writing, our best idea is rarely our first (or second or third or fourth...), so a dedication to both pre-writing AND revision is essential to truly improve one’s writing ability and style. Remember, good writing is re-writing. Great writing is re-writing times ten (or more).

Tomorrow in class you will receive more information about this incredibly important writing task. For now, simply begin thinking about what you want to write about (or revise writing about) as your college essay/personal statement. Tonight, research at least three of the links below to discover additional assistance and direction. This page is on the class website for ease of accessing the links (www.shsdavis.apes.pbworks.com). Be prepared to discuss in class tomorrow your findings from the sites you visit.

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/apply/essay-skills/index.html>

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/apply/essay-skills/9406.html>

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/apply/essay-skills/>

<http://thechoice.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/06/23/tip-sheet-essay/>

<http://www.englishcompanion.com/room82/college/writecollegeessays.html>

<http://www.back2college.com/admissionessay.htm>

http://collegeapps.about.com/od/essays/a/essay_tips.htm

http://www.quintcareers.com/college_application_essay.html

<http://collegeapps.about.com/od/essays/tp/bad-essay-topics.htm>

<http://www.mahalo.com/how-to-write-a-college-application-essay/>