

Organizing College Application Essays Worksheet

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"Helping parents homeschool high school"

Step One: Locate Your Colleges Essay Topics

College Name	College Name	College Name	College Name	College Name

Step Two: Brainstorm Ideas for Topics for Chosen Topics

Essay Topic	Essay Topic	Essay Topic	Essay Topic	Essay Topic

Step Three: Choose Essay Topics That Do Not Overlap and Identify Hook

Topic Choice	Topic Choice	Topic Choice	Topic Choice	Topic Choice
Hook	Hook	Hook	Hook	Hook

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Organizing College Application Essays Worksheet Example

Step One: Locate Your Colleges Essay Topics

Common Application	Hillsdale	Patrick Henry	Wheaton	University of Texas
Personal Statement	Personal statement (required) strengths and weaknesses	Faith essay - 4 specific points (required)	Faith statement (required)	Personal statement
Personal experience with failure	What is character? Use literature, art, science, politics, history, athletics		How have you been influenced by art, literature, math or science	Issue statement
A time when you challenged a belief or idea	What is liberal arts education		Personal statement: who are you?	Interaction with art or architecture
Reflect on contentment	Discuss a novel, event, experience that influenced you			Special circumstances essay: hardship, challenges, opportunities
An accomplishment & transition to adulthood	Respond to Hillsdale mission statement			

Step Two: Brainstorm Ideas for Topics for Chosen Topics

Personal Statement	Event, person, book, experience	Faith Essay	Issue Statement
Politics	Thomas Jefferson	College visit	Farm subsidies
Work experience	Jean Baptiste Say	Theology class	Globalization
Economics	Youth & Gov	Personal struggles	Keynsian economics
Piano	Discovery Institute	Teaching Sunday School	Youth & government experience
Youth & government	Hospital Stay	Bible verse	Intelligent design
College visit			Flat tax

Step Three: Choose Essay Topics That Do Not Overlap and Identify Hook

Personal Statement	Event, person, book, experience	Faith Essay	Issue Statement
Work experience	Hospital Stay	Teaching Sunday school	Keynsian economics

Suggested Reading

Coordinating Coffee Break Book: [College Application Essays: A Primer for Parents](#)

Reference Book: [The HomeScholar Guide to College Admission and Scholarships](#)

Additional Resources

[What's the Big Deal about a Little Essay?](#)

[Big Future by The College Board: Application Essays](#)

[YouTube Video: How to Write a Foolproof College Application Essay](#)