

# Personal Statement - Where do I start???

Use sections 1-6 below as a framework to help you draft your personal statement. If you are struggling to start off with the introduction, leave it and complete the other sections first, it is sometimes easier to do this once the others sections are completed.

- Under the heading **write bullet points** and then change the bullet points into sentences, **then link the sections together**- before you know it you will have the makings of your personal statement.

Expect to tweak this several times before it is completed. Show this to your tutor /careers adviser to get approval.

<p>1. <b>Introduction:</b> Talk about your career idea or degree subject area and why you want to go to university.</p> <p>Where did your interest in the degree subject area or career area come from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Did this stem from subjects at school, college or from life experiences?</li><li>• Does it suit your personality? Are you passionate about the subject or career area? - talk about this!</li></ul>
<p>2. <b>Current studies:</b> Talk about your current studies for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What you enjoy about them?</li><li>• What skills and knowledge are you gaining? (I.e. Meeting assignment deadlines demonstrates good organisation and time management skills!)</li><li>• Mention your achievements/ awards!</li><li>• If you have gained certificate for attendance or student of the month -mention this! It tells the university you are a motivated student</li><li>• State how your current studies will be a good base to build on - underpinning HE study</li></ul>
<p>3. <b>Degree subject /course content:</b> Here demonstrate that you have <u>thoroughly researched</u> your degree course content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Talk about aspects / modules you look forward to studying</li><li>• Make reference to the content and how this supports your future career aim/ goals</li></ul>
<p>4. <b>Work history/ Voluntary work:</b> It is very important that if you are mentioning work roles you have undertaken, that you also state the skills and knowledge this has helped you to develop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Even part time roles in different vocational areas enable you to develop transferrable / employability skills. <u>For example:</u> Team working, problem solving, communication, interpersonal skills -face to face experience of dealing with the public!</li></ul>
<p>5. <b>Interests / Achievement/ Organisations that you are involved with.</b></p> <p>This information can provide a picture of you as a "person" not just as a "student"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enrichment activities you have taken part in can also be mentioned here!</li><li>• How do you spend your spare time?</li><li>• Do you have any particular talents, play for sports teams?</li></ul>
<p>6. <b>Conclusion :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does going to university mean to you?</li><li>• How will a Higher Education bring enhance your life experience?</li><li>• If you need a degree to support your career aim - mention this and state how it will enable you to pursue your aim!</li></ul>