

**Common Application
Review Service**

**Sample Common
Application Essay**



Ivy League Prep

Table of Contents

Original Draft.....	3
Revision One.....	7
Revision Two	11
Final Draft.....	15

Original Draft

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use the full range if you need it, but don't feel obligated to do so. (The application won't accept a response shorter than 250 words.)

- 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.
- The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
- 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.
- Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
- 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?
- 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.

Now 464 / 650 words

A large portion of the population believes that mathematics is a useless practice. Adults and children alike look down upon its multifaceted theories and sneer in derision. The common belief is that beyond the basic uses of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, mathematics could be ignored altogether. “Well, another day has passed and I didn't use Algebra once” is a well-known jibe . Math is often misunderstood because of its complexity, and criticized because others cannot understand. I find it a difficult concept to grasp since I know that math surrounds us everywhere.

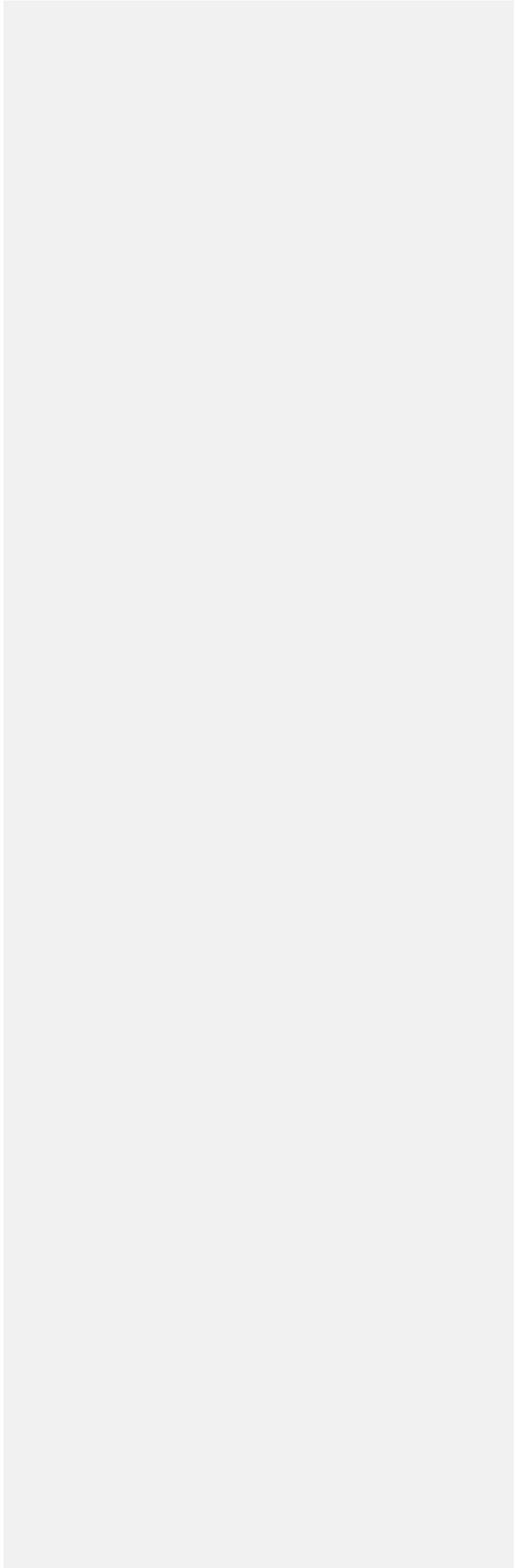
I have always been naturally adept at understanding math . Even if I do not immediately comprehend a solution, I find it challenging and rewarding to work out different ways to solve a problem. My love for logic and problem solving compelled me to consistently advance my knowledge of varying mathematics applications.

As I have grown older, I have been introduced to more complex levels of mathematics. No longer confined to the basics of Algebra and Geometry, now Trigonometry, Calculus, Economics, and Statistics have expanded my knowledge of the mathematical world. Numerous windows of opportunity have opened, and I find each one more challenging than the next. Currently Statistics holds my interest and I am intrigued by its possibilities, but I know there are many exciting fields, such as cryptography, that I have yet to explore.

Ever since I discovered my love for math in middle school, I have been determined to advance my knowledge of its varying applications. I began by taking Algebra 1 Honors at a high school level in 8th grade. I continued taking honors math through the end of 10th grade. Then, I applied for Dual Enrollment at Florida Atlantic University. There, I was able to challenge myself even more with advanced classes like Statistics, Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry. These courses crystallized my interest in pursuing math as a career. To explore math as a career, I knew I needed some real life experience, so I enrolled in Applied Mathematics and Statistics at Johns Hopkins Summer University Program. I then went on to do an internship at Aon, a leading global company that has risk, retirement, and health related services. This past year, I was out of my comfort zone to explore mathematics. I was amazed by the vast opportunities in mathematics, with research opportunities across multiple industries and subject areas .

For my last year of high school I am enrolled in AP Calculus in my endless pursuit of mathematical knowledge. I am firmly set on majoring in mathematics and I believe Yale is the

optimal place for me to pursue a bachelor's degree in my desired field. Yale will provide me with a unique higher education and college experience that I could not receive anywhere else.



Revision One

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use the full range if you need it, but don't feel obligated to do so. (The application won't accept a response shorter than 250 words.)

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- 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.

Now 464 / 650 words

~~A large portion of the population believes common misconception is that mathematics is a useless practice difficult subject with limited usefulness. Adults and children alike look down upon its multifaceted theories and sneer in derision. The common Many believe it is that beyond the basic uses of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, mathematics could be ignored altogether. "Well, another day has passed and I didn't use Algebra once" is a well-known jibe. Math is often misunderstood because of its complexity, and criticized because others cannot understand. I find it a difficult concept to grasp since I know that math surrounds us everywhere.~~

Commented [SS1]: Lots of room to expand, here. I've left some comments with suggestions for where you might develop this further. In general, try to provide specific, concrete, personal examples. Make sure this focuses on the story you are trying to tell through your application materials.

Commented [SS2]: "useless practice" is somewhat vague.

Commented [SS3]: This doesn't really add value.

Commented [SS4]: This is awkward and informal. Rephrase.

Commented [SS5]: This may come across as condescending. Perhaps say, "I don't understand this perspective" or something like that instead.

Commented [SS6]: Instead of continuing to focus on the negative perception people have of math and how you don't understand that, I suggest offering a positive reflection on how math is important.

Elaborate on the last phrase here, "I know that math surrounds us everywhere." For example, you could talk about how math operates in the background even if we aren't aware of it.

From a young age, I have ~~always been naturally adept at understanding math.~~ ~~Even~~
~~Whenever~~ I do not immediately comprehend a solution, I ~~found~~ it challenging and rewarding
to ~~work out different ways~~ ~~think through various approaches~~ to ~~solvin~~ge a problem. ~~This~~ My love
for logic and problem solving compelled me to consistently advance my knowledge of varying
mathematics applications.

Commented [SS7]: Instead of talking about ability directly here, I suggest talking about preference—say how mastering math concepts is something you have always loved to do.

~~As I have grown older, I have been introduced to more complex levels of mathematics.~~
~~No longer confined to the basics of Algebra and Geometry, now Trigonometry, Calculus,~~
~~Economics, and Statistics have expanded my knowledge of the mathematical world.~~ ~~Numerous~~
~~windows of opportunity have opened, and I find each one more challenging than the next.~~
~~Currently Statistics holds my interest and I am intrigued by its possibilities, but I know there are~~
~~many exciting fields, such as cryptography, that I have yet to explore.~~

Commented [SS8]: This seems unnecessary and redundant with the sentence above and the content about pursuing dual enrollment.

Commented [SS9]: This doesn't add much value. Better to just talk about the opportunities (which you do next) rather than say they opened up.

Commented [SS10]: Moved this down.

~~Ever since I discovered my love for math in middle school, I have been determined to~~
~~advance my knowledge of its varying applications. I began by taking Algebra I Honors at a high~~
~~school level in 8th grade. I continued taking honors math through the end of 10th grade.~~ ~~Then, I~~
~~applied for~~ ~~pursued the~~ Dual Enrollment program at Florida Atlantic University. ~~There, I was~~
~~able to challenge myself~~ ~~even more~~ ~~with~~ ~~advanced college-level~~ classes like Statistics, Pre-
Calculus, and Trigonometry. These courses ~~expanded my mathematical understanding and~~
crystallized my interest in pursuing mathematics as a career.

Commented [SS11]: This doesn't add much value. I suggest focusing more on recent/more significant accomplishments like your Johns Hopkins program and internship below.

Commented [SS12]: Just a suggestion to add a little more emphasis here.

~~To~~ ~~explored~~ ~~this~~ ~~interest~~ ~~further~~ ~~through~~ ~~math~~ ~~as~~ ~~a~~ ~~career,~~ ~~I~~ ~~knew~~ ~~I~~ ~~needed~~ ~~some~~ ~~real~~ ~~life~~
~~experience,~~ ~~so~~ ~~I~~ ~~enrolled~~ ~~in~~ ~~an~~ Applied Mathematics and Statistics course at the Johns Hopkins
Summer University Program.

Commented [SS13]: Elaborate further on this, adding specific details about what you did and how it affected you/changed your perspective/etc.

~~I~~ then went on to do an internship at Aon, a leading global company that has risk,
retirement, and health related services.

Commented [SS14]: As in the paragraph above, expand on this significantly.

This past year, I reached beyond ~~was out of~~ my comfort zone to explore a future in mathematics both academically and professionally. I was amazed by the vast opportunities in mathematics, with research opportunities across multiple industries and subject areas. Currently, statistics holds my interest. I am intrigued by its possibilities and professional applications, but I know there are many exciting fields, such as cryptography, that I have yet to explore.

Commented [SS15]: Provide some examples of what you mean.

Commented [SS16]: I moved this sentence down because it made more sense here.

For my last year of high school I am enrolled in AP Calculus in my endless pursuit of mathematical knowledge. I am firmly set on majoring in mathematics and I believe Yale is the optimal place for me to pursue a bachelor's degree in my desired field. Yale will provide me with a unique higher education and college experience that I could not receive anywhere else.

Commented [SS17]: This will be obvious in other parts of your application and doesn't really add value here.

Commented [SS18]: Even though you are addressing a particular school here, which is fine (as long as this doesn't end up being submitted to any schools other than Yale), this is far too general. You need specific details and/or examples.

Revision Two

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use the full range if you need it, but don't feel obligated to do so. (The application won't accept a response shorter than 250 words.)

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Now 542573 / 650 words

A common misconception is that mathematics is a difficult subject with limited usage in everyday life. Many believe that beyond the basic uses of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, mathematics could be ignored altogether. Personally, I don't understand this point of view since I know that math, in its many forms, is a key part of everyday life. Mathematical knowledge operates in the shadows of the subconscious, applying its calculating nature to common sense and intelligence. Math applies to the most basic of activities despite ignorance to its presence even though people aren't always aware of it.

From a young age, I have always had an affinity toward mastering new mathematical concepts. Whenever I ~~do-could~~ not immediately ~~comprehend a solution~~ solve a problem, I found ~~the process of discovering new approaches to finding solutions both it-challenging and rewarding~~ ~~to think through various approaches to solving a problem~~. This love for logic and problem solving compelled me to consistently advance my knowledge of varying mathematics applications. I pursued the Dual Enrollment program at Florida Atlantic University to challenge myself with college-level classes ~~like-including~~ Statistics, Pre-Calculus, and Trigonometry. These courses expanded the boundaries of my mathematical world and crystallized my interest in pursuing mathematics as a career.

Commented [SS19]: The concept here is good—I just rearranged it.

I explored this interest further through an Applied Mathematics and Statistics course at the Johns Hopkins Summer University Program, where I ~~got-gained~~ a glimpse of college life at a top university and was privileged to interact with other highly motivated and intelligent students from ~~various-diverse~~ backgrounds and interests. While ~~I-was~~ there, I realized that statistics is a fascinating division of mathematics requiring ingenuity and creativity. The interactions, collaborations, and ~~intellectual-illuminating~~ classroom discussions were ~~refreshingly~~ different from anything I had previously experienced. For the first time ~~ever~~, I was able to look beyond the building blocks of distributions, contingency tables, and t-tests to comprehend the vast opportunities in this dynamic field. I learned to think differently about mathematics, to incorporate creative ideas with fundamental analytical techniques and realize the unending capabilities of quantitative analysis.

Shortly ~~thereafter-this opportunity~~, I participated in a summer internship program at Aon, a leading global firm that provides risk, retirement, and health solutions. Shadowing members of Aon's Actuarial & Analytics team allowed me to delve a little deeper into a professional application of mathematics. ~~Aon's actuaries analyze vast amounts of information to assess risk. I~~

observed their day-to-day operations, which allowed me to fully grasp the significance of independent research and data analysis in a business environment.

Commented [SS20]: Perhaps add a little more to detail here. This paragraph is somewhat short.

This past year, I reached beyond my comfort zone to explore a future in mathematics both academically and professionally. I was amazed by the vast opportunities in mathematics, with research opportunities across multiple industries and subject areas; economics, politics, science, medicine, engineering, even sports and weather have components dependent on quantitative analysis. Currently, statistics holds my interest. ~~I am intrigued by its possibilities and professional applications,~~ but I ~~know~~ realize there are many exciting fields, such as cryptography and bioinformatics, that I have yet to explore.

I am excited for the new mathematical learning experiences, study abroad programs, and internships in my collegiate future. As I continue to advance my studies in mathematics, I will strive to combine innovative ideas with perceptive analytical skills to realize my potential, make a positive impact in society, and challenge myself in this limitless field.

Commented [ES21]: I totally reworked this, is this better?

Commented [SS22]: Much.

Final Draft

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use the full range if you need it, but don't feel obligated to do so. (The application won't accept a response shorter than 250 words.)

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Now 548 / 650 words

A common misconception is that mathematics is a difficult subject with limited usage in everyday life. Many believe that beyond the basic uses of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, mathematics could be ignored altogether. Personally, I don't understand this perspective since I know that math, in its many forms, is a key part of everyday life. Mathematical knowledge operates in the shadows of the subconscious, applying its calculating nature to common sense and intelligence. Math applies to the most basic of activities despite ignorance to its presence.

From a young age, I have always had an affinity toward mastering new mathematical concepts. Whenever I could not immediately solve a problem, I found the process of discovering new approaches to finding solutions both challenging and rewarding. This love for logic and problem solving compelled me to consistently advance my knowledge of varying mathematics applications. I pursued the Dual Enrollment program at Florida Atlantic University to challenge myself with college-level classes including Statistics, Pre-Calculus, and Trigonometry. These courses expanded the boundaries of my mathematical world and crystallized my interest in pursuing mathematics as a career.

I explored this interest further through an Applied Mathematics and Statistics course at the Johns Hopkins Summer University Program, where I gained a glimpse of college life at a top university and was privileged to interact with other highly motivated and intelligent students from diverse backgrounds and interests. While there, I realized that statistics is a fascinating division of mathematics requiring ingenuity and creativity. The interactions, collaborations, and illuminating classroom discussions were refreshingly different from anything I had previously experienced. For the first time, I was able to look beyond the building blocks of distributions, contingency tables, and t-tests to comprehend the vast opportunities in this dynamic field. I learned to think differently about mathematics, to incorporate creative ideas with fundamental analytical techniques and realize the unending capabilities of quantitative analysis.

Shortly thereafter, I participated in a summer internship program at Aon, a leading global firm that provides risk, retirement, and health solutions. Shadowing members of Aon's Actuarial & Analytics team allowed me to delve a little deeper into a professional application of mathematics. Aon's actuaries analyze vast amounts of information to assess risk. I was most impressed by the company's Actuarial Tables, which disregard industry standards and rely upon internal calculations to provide the best financial benefits for clients. Observing their day-to-day

operations and statistical methodologies allowed me to fully grasp the significance of independent research and data analysis in a business environment.

This past year, I reached beyond my comfort zone to explore a future in mathematics both academically and professionally. I was amazed by the vast opportunities in mathematics, with research opportunities across multiple industries and subject areas; economics, politics, science, medicine, engineering, even sports and weather have components dependent on quantitative analysis. Currently, statistics holds my interest, but I realize there are many exciting fields, such as cryptography and bioinformatics, that I have yet to explore. I am excited for the new mathematical learning experiences, study abroad programs, and internships in my collegiate future. As I continue to advance my studies in mathematics, I will strive to combine innovative ideas with perceptive analytical skills to realize my potential, make a positive impact in society, and challenge myself in this limitless field.

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Sample School Supplement

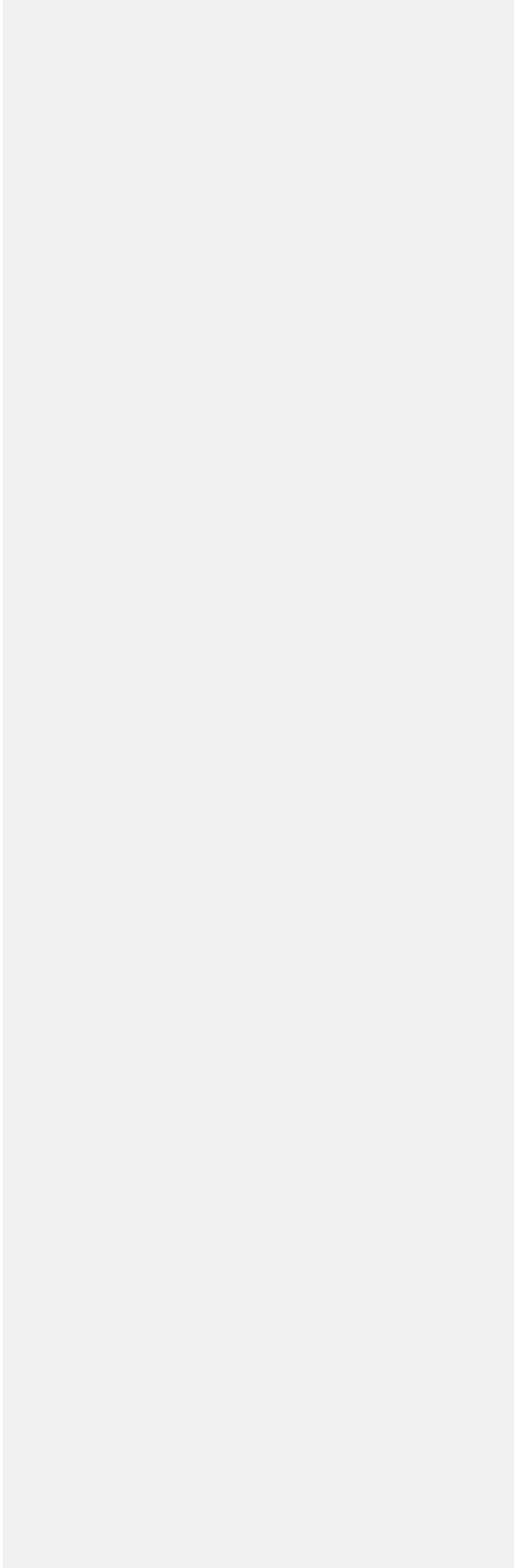


Ivy League Prep

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Table of Contents

Original Draft.....	3
Revision One.....	7
Revision Two	11
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Original Draft

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What in particular about Yale has influenced your decision to apply? **(Please answer in 100 words or less.)**

The academic offerings at Yale influenced my decision to apply to Yale. Quantitative Reasoning courses along with degree programs that combine Mathematics with disciplines like Computer Science, Economics, and Physics create a cohesive learning environment that I am eager to explore. The quality of senior faculty members makes it clear that Yale provides the best possible learning environment for its undergraduates. I believe I will be able to achieve my full potential at Yale.

Please respond in **25 words or fewer to each of the questions below:**

- a) You have been granted a free weekend next month. How will you spend it?
I would go to the beach, paintball with friends, bask in the sun, read a new novel, and bake a new desert with my mom.
- b) What is something about which you have changed your mind in the last three years?
The opinion of others does not determine my worth. It's better to be myself than to be someone else to gain approval.
- c) What is the best piece of advice you have received while in high school?
Every job worth doing, is worth doing right. Hard work is the only way to achieve greatness.
- d) What do you wish you were better at being or doing?
I wish I could put my thoughts in to more cohesive sentences when phrasing ideas. Occasionally, my sentences get jumbled and require repetitious editing.
- e) What is a learning experience, in or out of the classroom, that has had a significant impact on you?
I attended a summer program at Johns Hopkins University and learned about the amazing opportunities, inside and outside the classroom, available at top universities.

In this essay, please reflect on something you would like us to know about you that we might not learn from the rest of your application, or on something about which you would like to say more. You may write about anything—from personal experiences or interests to intellectual pursuits. **(Please answer in 500 words or less.)** Before you begin, we encourage you to go to <http://admissions.yale.edu/essay> where you will find helpful advice.

As the President of the Civic Club at my school, I lead a volunteer club sponsored by the Civic Clubs of America. Each year, through targeted service programs and events, our group provides assistance to local organizations that rely upon volunteer efforts. I talk with leaders of community organizations to find out their needs and then coordinate various service activities.

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These interactions have certainly strengthened my confidence and communication skills. The best thing has been the opportunity to improve and enrich the lives of others in my school and local community.

Through the Civic Club, young people are empowered and develop a positive sense of self through charitable actions. Young people join the Civic Club for various reasons, but whatever the reason, I make it my personal goal to inspire action in our membership. I am passionate about volunteering and know that encouraging others can bring about sustainable change.

Recently, the Civic Club volunteered at the Special Olympics State Bowling Championship where they assisted with event transitions and award distribution. As I was escorting a group of champions to their seats, I noticed several club members chatting animatedly with the event participants. The volunteers were enjoying their experience. The sheer delight on the participants faces was priceless. At that moment, I was so proud of my friends and fellow club members. As the day progressed, we cheered until our voices were hoarse. We offered words of encouragement and consoled those who had hoped to achieve better scores.

I believe that each member's experience is a story with the power to motivate, encourage, or inspire others to act. The Civic Clubs of America is a nationwide organization that brings volunteers together to better themselves and their community through selfless work. I am honored to be part of such a wonderful association and want to continue my civic involvement through the many community-oriented volunteer organizations at Yale University. I know Yale will have excellent campus service organizations for me to be involved with. I plan to get involved in programs that provide services to the New Haven community and beyond that have goals similar to those of the Civic Club and would allow me to continue similar work mentoring

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and empowering my peers. My love for helping others will always be a part of my life, and I hope to impact Yale's community if accepted to this amazing university.

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Revision One

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What in particular about Yale has influenced your decision to apply? **(Please answer in 100 words or less.)**

The academic offerings at Yale influenced my decision to apply to Yale. Quantitative Reasoning courses along with degree programs that combine Mathematics with disciplines like Computer Science, Economics, and Physics create a cohesive learning environment that I am eager to explore. The quality of senior faculty members makes it clear that Yale is geared toward providing the best possible learning environment for its undergraduates. I believe I will be able to achieve my full potential at Yale.

Commented [SS1]: Which ones specifically? Since your focus is math/statistics, I suggest including those.

Commented [SS2]: Be more specific here. What creates the standard of quality, or what word could describe it?

Commented [SS3]: What about Yale makes you believe this? Is it the academic environment, the professors, the students, the campus, the clubs?

Please respond in **25 words or fewer to each of the questions below:**

- You have been granted a free weekend next month. How will you spend it?
I would go to the beach, paintball with friends, bask in the sun, read a new novel, and bake a new dessert with my mom.
- What is something about which you have changed your mind in the last three years?
The opinion of others does not determine my worth. It is better to be myself than to be someone else to gain approval.
- What is the best piece of advice you have received while in high school?
Every job worth doing is worth doing right. Hard work is the only way to achieve greatness.
- What do you wish you were better at being or doing?
I wish I could better organize my thoughts when I speak in front of others, put my thoughts in to more cohesive sentences when phrasing ideas. Occasionally, my sentences get jumbled and require repetitious editing.
- What is a learning experience, in or out of the classroom, that has had a significant impact on you?
I attended a summer program at the Johns Hopkins Summer University Program and learned about the amazing opportunities, inside and outside the classroom, available to students at top universities.

Commented [SS4]: Give a specific genre.

Commented [SS5]: Be specific.

Commented [SS6]: This is too much. Try to whittle this down to a few activities that work together a little better. Paintball, for instance, doesn't seem to fit here.

Commented [SS7]: Not necessarily bad, but you should try to be more concrete and specific. This doesn't have to be something intellectual and non-tangible.

Commented [SS8]: This is cliché, so you might want to reconsider.

Commented [SS9]: Since you play in Jazz Ensembles, this seems to be related only to speaking—so maybe mention “public speaking” in here.

Commented [SS10]: When specifically? Is this in front of your class?

Commented [SS11]: I suggest rewriting this one. Try to be more specific and less cliché. They know you went to Johns Hopkins. The point of these questions is to get to know you better as a person. Sharing a unique experience would be much more meaningful.

In this essay, please reflect on something you would like us to know about you that we might not learn from the rest of your application, or on something about which you would like to say more. You may write about anything—from personal experiences or interests to intellectual pursuits. **(Please answer in 500 words or less.)** Before you begin, we encourage you to go to <http://admissions.yale.edu/essay> where you will find helpful advice.

As the President of the Civic Club at my school, I lead a volunteer club sponsored by the Civic Clubs of America. Each year, through targeted service programs and events, our group provides assistance to local organizations that rely upon volunteer efforts to function. I talk with

Commented [SS12]: Include how many members: “I lead ## members of a volunteer club”

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leaders of community organizations to ~~find out~~ determine their needs and then coordinate various service activities. While these interactions have certainly strengthened my self-confidence and ~~interpersonal communication~~ skills. Fthe best thing has been the opportunity to improve and enrich the lives of others in my school and local community.

Commented [SS13]: Do you do all of this work or do you delegate some of this?

Commented [SS14]: "thing" is vague. Are you talking about what you enjoyed most? What impacted you most?

Through the Civic Club, young people are empowered and develop a positive sense of self through charitable ~~actions~~ activity. Young people join the Civic Club for various reasons, but whatever the reason, I make it my personal goal to inspire action in our membership. I am passionate about volunteering and know that encouraging others to act is a catalyst for ~~can bring about positive and~~ sustainable change.

Commented [SS15]: Can you be specific?

Recently, the Civic Club volunteered at the Special Olympics State Bowling Championship where ~~they we~~ assisted with event transitions and award distribution. As I ~~was~~ escorted a group of ~~champions parents~~ to their seats, I noticed several club members chatting animatedly with ~~the~~ event participants. The volunteers were enjoying their experience. The sheer delight on the participants' faces from this simple interaction was priceless. At that moment, I was so proud of my friends and fellow club members. As the day progressed, we clapped and cheered until our voices were hoarse. We offered words of encouragement and consoled those who had hoped to achieve better scores.

Commented [SS16]: Or maybe "spectators"?

Commented [SS17]: I suggest adding something like this here. Maybe take this as an opportunity to further reflect on what this interaction accomplished in the volunteers. Did it build their self-esteem? Did it make them more confident?

I believe that each member's experience is a story with the power to motivate, encourage, or inspire others to act. The Civic Clubs of America is a nationwide organization that brings volunteers together to better themselves and their community through selfless work. I am honored to be part of such a wonderful association and am eager to want to continue my civic involvement through the many-myriad community-oriented volunteer organizations at Yale University. I know Yale will have excellent campus service organizations for me to be involved with. I plan to get involved in programs that provide services to the New Haven community and

Commented [SS18]: I suggest adding something here to sum up the experience. For example, you could start by saying something like, "The experience was rewarding for each volunteer, and..."

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beyond that have goals similar to those of the Civic Club and would allow me to continue similar work mentoring and empowering my peers. ~~My love for helping others will always be a part of my life, and I hope to impact Yale's community if accepted to this amazing university.~~

Commented [SS19]: This needs to be much more specific. Pick one or more actual clubs/organizations that you could see yourself getting involved with and reference that organization specifically with details.

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Revision Two

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What in particular about Yale has influenced your decision to apply? **(Please answer in 100 words or less.)**

The unique academic offerings in ~~Statistics and~~ Applied Mathematics and Statistics influenced my decision to apply to Yale. Quantitative Reasoning courses along with degree programs that combine Mathematics with disciplines like Computer Science, Economics, and Physics create a cohesive learning environment that I am eager to explore. The teaching requirements for award-winning senior faculty members make it clear that Yale is geared toward providing the best possible learning environment for its undergraduates. I believe it is in this dynamic learning atmosphere, surrounded by some of the top professors and brightest students, that I will be able to achieve my full potential.

Please respond in **25 words or fewer to each of the questions below:**

- You have been granted a free weekend next month. How will you spend it?
I would go to the beach with friends, begin reading a new adventure novel, and bake my favorite cookies with my mom.
- What is something about which you have changed your mind in the last three years?
Text messaging is not the best way to communicate with friends; speaking on the phone is much more personal and efficient in my opinion.
- What is the best piece of advice you have received while in high school?
Finding a balance in your life is vital; ~~∕~~you should strive to meet your goals but allow time to decompress and enjoy life.
- What do you wish you were better at being or doing?
I wish I wasere better at public speaking; ~~I~~ in front of large groups, I get stage fright and have trouble organizing my thoughts.
- What is a learning experience, in or out of the classroom, that has had a significant impact on you?
Through the tragic death of a fellow Jazz Ensemble member and friend, I learned early that life is fragile and we are not invincible.

Commented [SS20]: You have room to be even more specific here.

In this essay, please reflect on something you would like us to know about you that we might not learn from the rest of your application, or on something about which you would like to say more. You may write about anything—from personal experiences or interests to intellectual pursuits. **(Please answer in 500 words or less.)** Before you begin, we encourage you to go to <http://admissions.yale.edu/essay> where you will find helpful advice.

As ~~the~~ President of the Civic Club at my school, I lead 35 members of a volunteer ~~club~~ organization sponsored by the Civic Clubs of America. Each year, through targeted service

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programs and events, our group ~~provides assistance to~~ local organizations that rely upon volunteer efforts to function. I personally ~~speak-work~~ with leaders of community organizations to determine their needs and then follow-up with our membership and club liaison to coordinate various service activities. While these interactions have certainly strengthened my self-confidence and interpersonal skills, ~~my-the~~ greatest benefit ~~of this role~~ has been the opportunity to improve and enrich the lives of others in my school and local community.

Through the Civic Club, young people are empowered and develop a positive sense of self through charitable activity. Young people join the Civic Club for various reasons; some have a passion for helping others, a few want to fulfill volunteer requirements for scholarships, and others just want to spend time with friends in an extracurricular activity. Whatever the reason, I make it my personal goal to inspire action in our membership. I am passionate about volunteering and know that encouraging others to act is a catalyst for positive and sustainable change.

Recently, the Civic Club volunteered at the Special Olympics State Bowling Championship, where we assisted with event transitions and award distribution. As I escorted a group of spectators to their seats, I noticed several club members chatting animatedly with event participants. The volunteers were ~~truly~~ enjoying their experience, and the sheer delight on the participants' faces from this simple confidence-building interaction was priceless. At that moment, I was so proud of my friends and fellow club members. As the day progressed, we clapped and cheered until our voices were hoarse. We offered words of encouragement and consoled those who had hoped to ~~score higher-achieve better scores~~. The experience was personally rewarding for each volunteer, and ~~it is difficult to articulate. I can't even explain the~~ heartwarming feeling we all had as we left the event.

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I believe that each member's experience is a story with the power to motivate, encourage, or inspire others to act. ~~The Civic Clubs of America is a nationwide organization that brings volunteers together to better themselves and their community through selfless work.~~ I am honored to be part of such a wonderful association and am eager to continue my civic involvement through the myriad community-oriented volunteer organizations at Yale University. I am particularly interested in~~very impressed by~~ Yale's Dwight Hall, which boasts the largest campus-based, student-run service organization in the country. Programs that provide services to the New Haven community and beyond, like WYSE (Women and Youth Supporting Each Other), have goals similar to those of the Civic Club and would allow me to continue ~~similar work~~ mentoring and empowering my peers. Becoming active in this amazing community initiative, which unites ~~67% sixty-seven percent~~ of Yale's undergraduates Yalies each year in service and social justice activities, would be a cornerstone of my Yale experience~~highlight in my collegiate experience.~~

Commented [SS21]: You have enough space to maybe add details or a transition between the national organization and your group/chapter.

Commented [SS22]: Removed to avoid repetition of "similar"

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Final Draft

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What in particular about Yale has influenced your decision to apply? **(Please answer in 100 words or less.)**

The unique academic offerings in Applied Mathematics and Statistics influenced my decision to apply to Yale. Quantitative Reasoning courses along with degree programs that combine Mathematics with disciplines like Computer Science, Economics, and Physics create a cohesive learning environment that I am eager to explore. The teaching requirements for award-winning senior faculty members make it clear that Yale is geared toward providing the best possible learning environment for its undergraduates. I believe it is in this dynamic learning atmosphere, surrounded by some of the top professors and brightest students, that I will be able to achieve my full potential.

Please respond in **25 words or fewer to each of the questions below:**

- a) You have been granted a free weekend next month. How will you spend it?
I would go to the beach with friends, begin reading a new adventure novel, and bake my favorite chocolate chip cookies with my mom.
- b) What is something about which you have changed your mind in the last three years?
Text messaging is not the best way to communicate with friends; speaking on the phone is much more personal and efficient in my opinion.
- c) What is the best piece of advice you have received while in high school?
Finding a balance in your life is vital; you should strive to meet your goals but allow time to decompress and enjoy life.
- d) What do you wish you were better at being or doing?
I wish I were better at public speaking; in front of large groups, I get stage fright and have trouble organizing my thoughts.
- e) What is a learning experience, in or out of the classroom, that has had a significant impact on you?
Through the tragic death of a fellow Jazz Ensemble member and friend, I learned early that life is fragile and we are not invincible.

In this essay, please reflect on something you would like us to know about you that we might not learn from the rest of your application, or on something about which you would like to say more. You may write about anything—from personal experiences or interests to intellectual pursuits. **(Please answer in 500 words or less.)** Before you begin, we encourage you to go to <http://admissions.yale.edu/essay> where you will find helpful advice.

As President of the Civic Club at my school, I lead 35 members of a volunteer organization sponsored by the Civic Clubs of America. Each year, through targeted service

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programs and events, our group assists local organizations that rely upon volunteer efforts to function. I personally work with leaders of community organizations to determine their needs and then follow-up with our membership and club liaison to coordinate various service activities. While these interactions have certainly strengthened my self-confidence and interpersonal skills, the greatest benefit of this role has been the opportunity to improve and enrich the lives of others in my school and local community.

Through the Civic Club, young people are empowered and develop a positive sense of self through charitable activity. Young people join the Civic Club for various reasons; some have a passion for helping others, a few want to fulfill volunteer requirements for scholarships, and others just want to spend time with friends in an extracurricular activity. Whatever the reason, I make it my personal goal to inspire action in our membership. I am passionate about volunteering and know that encouraging others to act is a catalyst for positive and sustainable change.

Recently, the Civic Club volunteered at the Special Olympics State Bowling Championship, where we assisted with event transitions and award distribution. As I escorted a group of spectators to their seats, I noticed several club members chatting animatedly with event participants. The volunteers were truly enjoying their experience, and the sheer delight on the participants' faces from this simple confidence-building interaction was priceless. At that moment, I was so proud of my friends and fellow club members. As the day progressed, we clapped and cheered until our voices were hoarse. We offered words of encouragement and consoled those who had hoped to score higher. The experience was personally rewarding for each volunteer, and it is difficult to articulate the heartwarming feeling we all had as we left the event.

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I believe that each member's experience is a story with the power to motivate, encourage, or inspire others to act. The Civic Clubs of America is a nationwide organization that brings volunteers together to better themselves and their community through selfless work. Our chapter cares for the elderly, addresses homelessness, and participates in many other engaging community initiatives. I am honored to be part of such a wonderful association and am eager to continue my civic involvement through the myriad community-oriented volunteer organizations at Yale University. I am particularly interested in Yale's Dwight Hall, which boasts the largest campus-based, student-run service organization in the country. Programs that provide services to the New Haven community and beyond, like WYSE (Women and Youth Supporting Each Other), have goals similar to those of the Civic Club and would allow me to continue similar work mentoring and empowering my peers. Becoming active in this amazing community initiative, which unites 67% of Yalies each year in service and social justice activities, would be a cornerstone of my Yale experience.

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Common Application Review Service

Sample Common Application Activities List

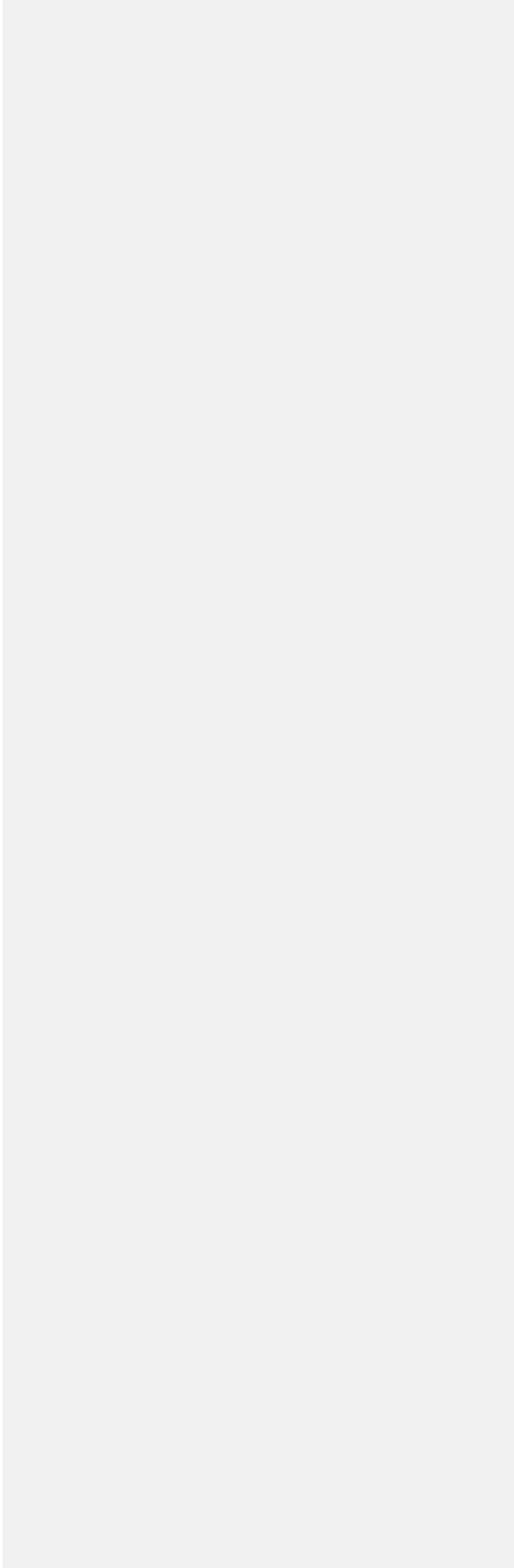


Ivy League Prep

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Table of Contents

Original Draft3
Revision One8
Revision Two13
Final Draft18



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Original Draft

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The Common Application allows for up to ten (10) activities to be listed. We recommend using all of the spaces, if possible.

Note that the position/leadership description and activity/accomplishments description have character limits of 50 and 150 characters (with spaces), respectively.

Activity 1

Activity Type: [Community Service \(Volunteer\)](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[President of Civic Club](#)

(Now 23 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Planned and lead meetings; make opportunities and inspire members to volunteer; club increased members and volunteer hours](#)

(Now 122 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 45

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

Activity 2

Activity Type: [Music: Instrumental](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[Jazz Ensemble](#)

(Now 13 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Play sheet music and improvise at variety of performances including All American Music festival in Orlando](#)

(Now 106 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: 4

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

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Activity 3

Activity Type: Music: Instrumental

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Jazz Quintet

(Now 12 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Perform Jazz for local nursing homes and assisted living facilities; visit with residents

(Now 89 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Activity 4

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Legacy Living Center Volunteer

(Now 30 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Enrich lives of convalescents through personal visits. Hand out handmade cards, crafts and decorations

(Now 102 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Activity 5

Activity Type: Internship

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Summer Intern: The Scripps Research Institute

(Now 45 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Exposed to many different current issues in research; researched and conducted experiments; presented to panel

(Now 110 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Break

Hours spent per week: 40

Weeks spent per year: 6

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Impressed with our editing?

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Activity 6

Activity Type: [Science/Math](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[Chemistry & Physics Tutor](#)

(Now 25 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Tutor fellow students in Chemistry and Physics.](#)

(Now 47 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: [10, 11, 12](#)

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: [1](#)

Weeks spent per year: [20](#)

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

Activity 7

Activity Type: [Science/Math](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[Summer Science Fair Camp](#)

(Now 24 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Helped kids develop ideas, use scientific concepts, and make science projects](#)

(Now 77 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: [10, 11](#)

Timing of participation: [During School Break](#)

Hours spent per week: [20](#)

Weeks spent per year: [1](#)

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [No](#)

Activity 8

Activity Type: [Science/Math](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[Chemistry Lab Assistant](#)

(Now 23 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Set up and did initial tests of experiments. Collected baseline data, observations, and results. Graded assignments. Supported instructor.](#)

(Now 138 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: [11](#)

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: [3](#)

Weeks spent per year: [20](#)

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

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Activity 9

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Teachers Aid at Rainbow Elementary School

(Now 41 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Provided support to teacher. Helped students on science, math, and other work.

(Now 78 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Activity 10

Activity Type: Student Government / Politics

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Representative on Student Government Association

(Now 48 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Served as Junior Class Representative on student council; discussed and voted on a variety of different issues

(Now 110 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

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Revision One

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The Common Application allows for up to ten (10) activities to be listed. We recommend using all of the spaces, if possible.

Note that the position/leadership description and activity/accomplishments description have character limits of 50 and 150 characters (with spaces), respectively.

Activity 1

Activity Type: [Community Service \(Volunteer\)](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

President: ~~of~~ [Civic Club](#)

(Now 21 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Planned and lead meetings; make arrange opportunities and inspire members to volunteer; club increased in members and volunteer hours](#)

(Now 125 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 45

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

Commented [SS1]: Keep tense consistent. Present tense is best here since currently president.

Commented [SS2]: Use concrete numbers/percents/etc. to show how much the club grew.

Activity 2

Activity Type: [Music: Instrumental](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Performer: [Jazz Ensemble](#)

(Now 13 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Play sheet music and improvise at variety of performances including All American Music Festival in Orlando](#)

(Now 106 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: 4

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

Commented [SS3]: What instrument/part?

Commented [SS4]: Is this an adjudicated festival? If so, what ranking did your ensemble receive and what years?

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Activity 3

Activity Type: Music: Instrumental

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Performer: Jazz Quintet

(Now 2342 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Play trumpet in Perform Jazz performances for local nursing homes and assisted living facilities; visit with residents

(Now 89-110 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [SS5]: Is this a school group or something extracurricular?

Commented [SS6]: I'm assuming this is what you play in this quintet.

Commented [SS7]: There's enough space here to perhaps be more specific.

Activity 4

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Volunteer: Legacy Living Center ~~Volunteer~~

(Now 316 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Enrich lives of convalescents residents through personal visits; ~~Hand out~~ distribute handmade cards, crafts, and decorations

(Now 11402 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [SS8]: Did you make these or are they donated by others?

Activity 5

Activity Type: Internship

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Summer Intern: The Scripps Research Institute

(Now 45 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Exposed to many different variety of current issues in research; researched and conducted experiments; presented research to panel

(Now 1170 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Break

Hours spent per week: 40

Weeks spent per year: 6

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Commented [SS9]: What field of research?

Commented [SS10]: Again, what kind? Be specific.

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Activity 6

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Chemistry & Physics Tutor

(Now 25 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Tutor fellow students in Chemistry and Physics;

(Now 476 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [SS11]: This is too vague. You should try to come up with some specifics. For example, do you help with homework? Test prep/review?

Also, how do you find students to help? Did you post an ad somewhere? Are other students/parents/teachers referring you?

Activity 7

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Summer Science Fair Camp

(Now 24 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Helped kids elementary students develop ideas, use apply scientific concepts, and make create science fair projects

(Now 77-101 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11

Timing of participation: During School Break

Hours spent per week: 20

Weeks spent per year: 1

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Commented [SS12]: What was your role? Remember to format this consistently with other activities as "Role: Summer Science Fair Camp"

Commented [SS13]: Or "middle school" or whatever would be appropriate here.

Commented [SS14]: Were these judged/scored?

Commented [SS15]: Still plenty of room to add details. Consider adding any steps or parts of the process you've left out.

Activity 8

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Assistant Chemistry Lab Assistant

(Now 213 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Set up and did performed initial tests of class experiments;- Collected baseline data, made observations, and recorded results;- Graded assignments;- Supported instructor/teacher-

(Now 15028 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

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Activity 9

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Teacher's Aide: ~~at~~ Rainbow Elementary School

(Now 41 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Provided classroom support to ~~my~~ grade teacher; ~~He~~ helped students on science, math, and other work.

(Now 298 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Commented [SS16]: How often? "Provided daily classroom support" or "weekly" or "monthly" or "occasional"?

Commented [SS17]: Change as appropriate.

Commented [SS18]: Be more specific here. Did you help with science homework? Math review?

What is "other work"?

Activity 10

Activity Type: Student Government / Politics

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Representative: ~~on~~ Student Government Association

(Now 486 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Served as Junior Class Representative on ~~the~~ Student eCouncil; ~~discussed and voted on a variety of~~ different/ various issues

(Now 110/95 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [SS19]: Can you provide at least one specific major issue you addressed?

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Revision Two

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The Common Application allows for up to ten (10) activities to be listed. We recommend using all of the spaces, if possible.

Note that the position/leadership description and activity/accomplishments description have character limits of 50 and 150 characters (with spaces), respectively.

Activity 1

Activity Type: [Community Service \(Volunteer\)](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

President: [Civic Club](#)

(Now 21 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

~~Plan and~~/lead meetings; arrange opportunities ~~and &~~ inspire members to volunteer; under my leadership, club grew from # to 35 members, 2x volunteer hours doubled

(Now 124 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 45

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

Commented [SS20]: You should also include the starting number. The significance of the growth isn't clear without knowing how many members the club had to start with.

Activity 52

Activity Type: [Internship](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Summer Intern: [The Scripps Research Institute](#)

(Now 45 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Exposed to a variety of current issues in bio-medical research; researched and conducted experiments on bio-chemical ~~research process~~; presented research to panel

(Now 154 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: [During School Break](#)

Hours spent per week: 40

Weeks spent per year: 6

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [No](#)

Commented [SS21]: Moved this up since this is a more significant part of your narrative.

Commented [SS22]: Research is redundant here. I'm not sure if "process" works here. If not, then something else should be substituted.

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Activity 32

Activity Type: *Music: Instrumental*

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Performer: Jazz Ensemble

(Now 24 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

1st trumpet (##, ##); play sheet music and improvise at variety of performances; ~~Got Superior rating at All American Music Festival in Orlando~~ ~~grades (9, 10, 11)~~

(Now 14450 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 4

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [SS23]: Which grade levels?

Activity 43

Activity Type: ~~Community Service (Volunteer)~~ ~~Music: Instrumental~~

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Volunteer Performer: Jazz Quintet

(Now 323 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Play trumpet and flugelhorn ~~in unique performances~~ ~~unique of Jazz standards~~ for local nursing homes and assisted living facilities; visit with residents

(Now 14745 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [SS24]: Since this is a volunteer group, let's change the category to reflect that. The fact that it is instrumental music is obvious from the content, but the volunteer angle is not.

Commented [SS25]: Is this a school group or something extracurricular?

Commented [ES26]: This is extracurricular. We volunteer at four nursing homes but only one each week

Commented [SS27]: I think this is what you mean.

Activity 54

Activity Type: *Community Service (Volunteer)*

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Volunteer: Legacy Living Center

(Now 31 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Enrich lives of convalescent residents through personal visits; distribute handmade cards, crafts, and decorations made by myself and ~~other~~ ~~various~~ donors

(Now 1436 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

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Activity 6

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Tutor: Chemistry & Physics ~~Tutor~~

(Now 236 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Provide homework assistance and test review to help improve ~~understanding comprehension~~ of complex concepts; ~~regularly consistently referred-sought~~ by teachers to help other students

(Now 10619 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Activity 7

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Mentor: ~~—~~ Summer Science Fair Camp

(Now 342 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Helped elementary students develop ideas, apply scientific concepts, make and ~~perfect their~~ refine designs, and create science fair projects ~~to be judged~~ for adjudication

(Now 1436 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11

Timing of participation: During School Break

Hours spent per week: 20

Weeks spent per year: 1

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Activity 8

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Assistant: Chemistry Lab

(Now 24 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Set up and performed tests of class experiments; collected baseline data, made observations, & recorded results; graded assignments; supported teacher

(Now 150 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

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Activity 9

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Teacher's Aide: Rainbow Elementary School

(Now 41 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Provided weekly classroom support to 4th grade teacher; ~~worked with~~ helped individual students on science projects, ~~understanding math~~ comprehension, ~~and~~ & writing assignments

(Now 124 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Commented [SS28]: I'm assuming this was one on one—if not, you should change this as appropriate. For example, if you worked in groups, then "worked with groups of students"

Activity 10

Activity Type: Student Government / Politics

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Representative: Student Government Association

(Now 46 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Served as Junior Class ~~Student Council~~ Representative ~~on Student Council~~; discussed ~~and~~ & voted on ~~various many~~ issues; worked with ~~school~~ administration to address concerns ~~about high~~ regarding school-campus culture

(Now 183 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Commented [ES29]: Wasn't sure how to go shorter with details about issue

Impressed with our editing?
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Final Draft

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The Common Application allows for up to ten (10) activities to be listed. We recommend using all of the spaces, if possible.

Note that the position/leadership description and activity/accomplishments description have character limits of 50 and 150 characters (with spaces), respectively.

Activity 1

Activity Type: [Community Service \(Volunteer\)](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[President: Civic Club](#)

[\(Now 21 / 50 characters\)](#)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Plan/lead meetings; arrange opportunities & inspire members to volunteer; under my leadership, club grew from 7 to 35 members, volunteer hours doubled](#)

[\(Now 150 / 150 characters\)](#)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: [During School Year](#)

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 45

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [Yes](#)

Activity 2

Activity Type: [Internship](#)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

[Summer Intern: The Scripps Research Institute](#)

[\(Now 45 / 50 characters\)](#)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

[Exposed to variety of current issues in biomedical research; researched and conducted experiments on biochemical process; presented research to panel](#)

[\(Now 149 / 150 characters\)](#)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: [During School Break](#)

Hours spent per week: 40

Weeks spent per year: 6

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: [No](#)

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Activity 3

Activity Type: Music: Instrumental

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Performer: Jazz Ensemble

(Now 24 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

1st trumpet (11, 12); play sheet music and improvise at variety of performances; Superior rating at All American Music Festival in Orlando (9, 10, 11)

(Now 150 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 4

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Activity 4

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Volunteer Performer: Jazz Quintet

(Now 33 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Play trumpet and flugelhorn in unique performances of Jazz standards for local nursing homes and assisted living facilities; visit with residents

(Now 145 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Activity 5

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Volunteer: Legacy Living Center

(Now 31 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Enrich lives of convalescent residents through personal visits; distribute handmade cards, crafts, and decorations made by myself and various donors

(Now 148 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

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Activity 6

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Chemistry & Physics Tutor

(Now 25 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Provide homework assistance and test review to help improve comprehension of complex concepts; consistently sought by teachers to help other students

(Now 149 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11, 12

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 1

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Activity 7

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Mentor: Summer Science Fair Camp

(Now 32 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Helped elementary students develop ideas, apply scientific concepts, make and refine designs, and create science fair projects for adjudication

(Now 143 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 10, 11

Timing of participation: During School Break

Hours spent per week: 20

Weeks spent per year: 1

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Activity 8

Activity Type: Science/Math

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Assistant: Chemistry Lab

(Now 24 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Set up and performed tests of class experiments; collected baseline data, made observations, & recorded results; graded assignments; supported teacher

(Now 150 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 3

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes

Impressed with our editing?

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Activity 9

Activity Type: Community Service (Volunteer)

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Teacher's Aid: Rainbow Elementary School

(Now 40 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Provided weekly classroom support to 4th grade teacher; worked with individual students on science projects, math comprehension, & writing assignments

(Now 150 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 20

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: No

Activity 10

Activity Type: Student Government / Politics

Position/Leadership description and organization name, if applicable:

Representative: Student Government Association

(Now 46 / 50 characters)

Please describe this activity, including what you accomplished and any recognition you received, etc.:

Junior Class Student Council Representative; discussed & voted on many issues; worked with administration to address concerns regarding campus culture

(Now 150 / 150 characters)

Participation grade levels: 11

Timing of participation: During School Year

Hours spent per week: 2

Weeks spent per year: 40

I intend to participate in a similar activity in college: Yes