

Summer Essay Writing Assignment

50 Points for Each Essay

June 23 – August 24, 2008

Total Points Possible is 350

These points will be entered into the grade book for 1st semester for the 2008-2009 school year

Standards:

1. The student writes clearly and effectively.
2. The student writes in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes.
 - a. Write in a variety of forms including essay writing.
3. The student understands and uses the steps of the writing process.
4. The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of written work.

You are entering your Junior year! This assignment will attempt to get you ready you for college entry. Due dates and following instructions will be extremely important.

Assignment:

This summer you will write 7 personal statement/college essays listed on the reverse side.

1. You will answer one prompt per week.
2. You will apply the writing skills you have learned in your English classes.
3. You will type each essay. Go to the Public Library if necessary.
4. Each essay will be:
 - a. One (1) type-written page, 12 pt. Font, 1.25" left and right margins, 1" top and bottom margin,
5. Due Dates are Mandatory! Your essays will be due on the following dates:
 1. Friday, June 27, 2008
Friday, July 4, 2008 (No Essay Required on this Friday...Celebrate the 4th!!!)
 2. Friday, July 11, 2008
 3. Friday, July 18, 2008
 4. Friday, July 25, 2008
 5. Friday, August 1, 2008
 6. Friday, August 8, 2008
 7. Friday, August 15, 2008
6. All essays are due before midnight on Fridays. If you mail them, must be postmarked by 12:00 midnight on Friday.
7. You will e-mail or mail your essays weekly to:
 - a. Mrs. Serrano
c/o Federal Way High School
30611 – 16th Avenue South
Federal Way, WA 98003
OR
E-mail: pserrano@fwps.org
8. You will type a proper heading with your name, date, & # of prompt on each paper.
9. Subject line on e-mail: Prompt Title and Number.
10. Proofread Your Work!!!!!!

Personal Statement Short Essays

Before you begin your personal statement, you may want to review the seven categories (see below) to which you'll be asked to respond. It's recommended that you complete your responses to each one using a word processing program. You are limited to no more than 300 words (1 page) per each of the seven categories.

Personal Statement Categories

1. **Leadership/group contributions:** Describe examples of your leadership experience and share how you have significantly influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time. Consider responsibilities you have taken for initiatives in or out of school.
2. **Knowledge or creativity in a field:** Describe any of your special interests and how you have developed knowledge in these areas. Give examples of your creativity: the ability to see alternatives; take diverse perspectives; come up with many, varied, or original ideas; or willingness to try new things.
3. **Dealing with adversity:** Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to address this challenge. Include whether you turned to anyone in facing that challenge, the role that person played, and what you learned about yourself.
4. **Community service:** Explain what you have done to make your community a better place to live. Give examples of specific projects in which you have been involved over time.
5. **Handling systemic challenges:** Describe your experiences facing or witnessing discrimination. Tell us how you responded and what you learned from those experiences and how they prepared you to contribute to the university community in which you plan to attend.
6. **Goals/task commitment:** Articulate the goals you have established for yourself and your efforts to accomplish them. Give at least one specific example that demonstrates your work ethic/diligence.
7. **Cultural contributions:** The University seeks to create a community of students richly diverse in cultural backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints. How would you contribute to this community?