



PENNSYLVANIA WRITING AND LITERATURE PROJECT

COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING

SUMMER, 2015

Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project

College Essay Writing Class

Teacher: Susan Dacey

Name	Grade Completed	School
Pablo Lasso	11	Brandywine High School
Rex Llewellyn	11	Henderson High School
Alyssa Mekel	11	Rustin High School
Michelle Prem	9	Unionville High School
John Rogers	9	Oxford Area High School
Kathryn Rossi	9	Garnet Valley High School
Nicole Salerno	10	Pennsylvania Leadership Charter School
Charlotte Schmitt	10	Kennett High School
Raj Shah	9	Henderson High School
Nathan Vallapureddy	10	Central Bucks High School East

The essays in this anthology were written in response to one of the following prompts from the 2015 Common Application accepted by a majority of colleges. Colleges are hoping to learn something personal about the applicant that his or her test scores, list of extra-curriculars and grades do not reveal. The essay has a 650-word maximum.

Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?

Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there, and why is it meaningful to you?

Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.