

Method Test Prep

Links to upcoming ACT Classes: <https://classes.methodtestprep.com/class/act/act-advantage/>

Links to upcoming SAT Classes: <https://classes.methodtestprep.com/class/sat/sat-advantage/>

Normally \$399; 12% discount for Amherst Regional High School students brings the cost to \$351 (use promo code LEWIS).

Description: Each course offers 18 hours of live instruction. Students can participate on any internet connected device and each meeting is recorded for future viewing (Students receive a link to the recording the next day).

Here is the info page for the “10 for \$10” ACT strategy

videos: <https://classes.methodtestprep.com/mtp-classes/on-demand/act-10-for-10-video-series/>

Here is the info page for the “5 for \$5” SAT strategy videos:

<https://classes.methodtestprep.com/mtp-classes/uncategorized/sat-5-5-video-series/>

Finally, we offer 90-minute-long, single session “mini classes” for a student who is only looking to focus on a narrow area of the test for \$60/subject. We don’t have any of these posted yet, but here is the description page for the session we ran for the May SAT so you can see what the general approach is:

<https://classes.methodtestprep.com/mtp-classes/sat/sat-online/sat-access-pass-6th-sat/2017-2>

Enroll at <http://www.methodtestprep.com/learn>

2017-2018 Common Application Essay Prompts

The Common Application essay prompts have one purpose: to help you introduce yourself to your colleges. (Yes, showcasing your writing ability is part of the equation, but that’s the role of the essay itself, not the prompts.) That’s why the instructions are at least as important as the prompts themselves. Here’s what they say:

“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.”

In a sense, the entire essay exercise boils down to that one leading question: What do you want the readers of your application to know about you? This is not a trick question. The ball is fully in your court and always has been. What you write is entirely up to you. So write about yourself—about what you love, where you come from, what you aspire to, how you spend your time, what bugs you, what inspires

you, who is important in your life. In other words: Write an essay on a topic of your choice.

1. 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.
2. 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?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. 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.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. 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?
7. 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.

Coalition for Access, Affordability and Success

Submission Guidelines

With so many institutions participating in the Coalition, there are many different admissions guidelines, and schools will treat these general application essays differently in their admissions processes: some schools won't require an essay at all; other schools will require one of the general essays and answers to additional school-specific essay or short answer questions. Please consult the application requirements for each Coalition school in which you are interested.

Suggestions for Use

You are free to work on these essays at any time. (You can even store essay drafts in your Locker!) They are useful for honing your essay writing skills as well as for inclusion with your application. If you plan to submit one of our general essays with your application(s), please use one of the prompts offered during your application year.

Essay Prompts

The prompts for the 2017-18 application year are:

- Tell a story from your life, describing an experience that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.
- Describe a time when you made a meaningful contribution to others in which the greater good was your focus. Discuss the challenges and rewards of making your contribution.

- Has there been a time when you've had a long-cherished or accepted belief challenged? How did you respond? How did the challenge affect your beliefs?
- What is the hardest part of being a teenager now? What's the best part? What advice would you give a younger sibling or friend (assuming they would listen to you)?
- Submit an essay on a topic of your choice.