



## 3.092 How to Write your Personal Statement

Please watch this YouTube video from Jane Marshall

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hFkMAjW-I>

### Paragraph 1

A 'punchy' introduction informing the admissions tutor that you know which course you are applying for and why.

### Paragraph 2

Academic - do not waste space by listing which subjects you are studying, they will know this from your application. Mention subjects when you relate them to the transferrable skills you have acquired through your lessons such as:

- evaluation skills
- research and analysis skills
- essay writing skills
- presentation skills
- logical thought patterns and problem solving skills
- communication skills
- team working skills
- time management skills and so on.

### Paragraph 3

This is your chance to evidence your interest in the subject / course. For example: work experience especially if it relates to the course you wish to study (essential for dentistry, medicine and veterinary courses), reading books and / or on-line articles, watching TED talks, documentaries, listening to radio programmes and podcasts, visiting public lectures, museums and galleries, attending taster days and summer schools, undertaking a MOOC or EPQ. All of these activities enrich your understanding and intellectual curiosity. Remember though, you must be able to talk about them at interview.

### Paragraph 4

Non-academic - again you are letting the admission tutors know about the skills you have gained through the extra-curricular activities you participate in and how you could contribute to the university. This could include part-time work, sports clubs / teams, hobbies and interests. Try using ABC:

Activity - for example volunteering, playing in sports team and so on.

Benefit - what transferable skills have you acquired by undertaking this activity; for example: leadership, motivation, communication and so on.

Course - how does this all relate to the course you are applying for.

### Paragraph 5

A short concluding paragraph that pulls your PS together and reiterates your commitment to studying and the course.

## NB

- Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 should make up 80% of your PS.
- If you are running out of space, Mr Brinsden or Mrs Rose can include any outstanding academic achievements, for example if you have won a subject prize or gained 100% in a module in your teacher reference - so let them know.

