



Pro-Tip: Student and Parent Essays

As the January deadline approaches for applications to be submitted to your desired schools, please know that every component of the application—and all supporting materials—are analyzed in great detail by the admissions staff. Your writing allows the admissions team to learn more about you, get a glimpse of how well you express yourself, and assess your overall writing skills. When it comes to the essay and short answer sections, please take your time and proofread your writing before you submit. It's also important to keep in mind who your audience is when composing your essays and make sure that your essay will resonate with a variety of readers. Here are a few additional tips to consider:

1. Make sure that your essay is directly addressing the prompt. It can be tempting to use a single essay to answer several different essay prompts, but it's always better to have a specific, unique essay for each prompt you're given.
2. Write with passion and honesty. Whatever you choose to write about, be sure that your subject is something you are passionate about, and something you truly believe in.
3. Allow your personality to be put on display through your writing style. Invite the reader to get to know you through the story you tell.
4. Be sure to express yourself in detail while also being concise. We admission officers will be reading hundreds of essays and writing samples so it's important to not overwrite without reason.
5. Parents, please take your time with the parent portion of the application. These essays provide you with an important opportunity to share insights about your child from your unique perspective. The more information we have about your child, the better we're able to assess whether we are a good fit for your student.

I hope that you find these nuggets to be helpful. We wish you the very best and look forward to receiving and reviewing your applications next month.

~ Rudy Wise, Associate Director of Admissions
Episcopal High School