



ACTIVITY 5

Boss Battle: The Personal Statement

TEACHER TRANSCRIPT

Teacher: “Read the NEXT article, “Boss Battle: The Personal Statement”. If you are planning to complete the Common App there is a requirement to write an essay. You are given prompts as suggested topics or you can write something more personal. In any case, it is important to understand that the purpose of the essay is to show admission committee members that you are more than your grades and SAT and ACT scores, but you have an amazing personality and will be a perfect fit for admission. Remember first impressions are important in any situation, and this is your opportunity to make a memorable first impression on the members of an admission committee.”

Teacher: “College admissions officers must read hundreds of essays. The essay must hook them quickly and early; they score or rate the essay with a quick qualitative score noting whether it adds positive, neutral, or negative value to your profile; if your file moves to an admissions committee, it might be read aloud by someone who feels you are a good fit for admission.”

Teacher: Display this information on the board:

1. This is what admissions officers are looking for in your essay:
2. Authenticity showing who you are unfiltered.
3. Self-reflection on what the lesson learned was after experiencing this event.
4. Voice and tone mean that your writing should reflect your age and background and not that of an adult.
5. Clarity and focus refer to writing a narrative that centers on a small, meaningful event rather than a life history.
6. Think of a topic you would like to write about and write an essay as if it were to be included in the Common App.
7. Use the information provided to determine if you have met the criteria the admission officers are looking for in an essay.
8. Proofread and make any corrections in spelling, grammar and punctuation.
9. Ask a classmate to read it and listen to what they think about your essay.
10. Print and submit.



FLORIDA STATE STANDARDS

Strand ELA.12.C: Communication

Standard 1 ELA.12. C.1: Communicating Through Writing

Standard 3 ELA.12. C.3: Following Conventions

ELA.12. C.3.1: Follow the rules of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling appropriate to grade level.

Strand ELA.12.V: Vocabulary

Standard 1 ELA.12. V.1: Finding Meaning

ELA.12. V.1.1: Integrate academic vocabulary appropriate to grade level in speaking and writing

TEACHER NEEDS:

NEXT article “Boss Battle: The Personal Statement”

Laptop/computer with MS Word

Printer/printer paper

STUDENT NEEDS:

NEXT article “Boss Battle: The Personal Statement”

Laptop/computer with MS Word

Printer/printer paper