

# Personal Statement Rubrics: Criterions C and D

## Criterion C Focus and Organization

- How well **organized**, coherent and focused is the presentation of ideas in relation to the topic?
- How are the ideas **developed** with a clear focus on **personal growth** and **future goals**?

Exceeding A	Meeting B	Approaching C	Beginning D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideas are meaningfully organized into at least three paragraphs</li> <li>• Introduces personal statement with a strong and engaging hook</li> <li>• clearly connects to the prompt's topic in a unique and personal way</li> <li>• develops narrative richly, supplying ample, focused, and personal details</li> <li>• confidently widens to connect to a larger, meaningful narrative;</li> <li>• reflects deeply and genuinely among experiences</li> <li>• includes personal growth</li> <li>• ends with a thoughtful, genuine closure that reveals specific goals or college plans</li> <li>• word count is adequate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideas are organized into at least three paragraphs</li> <li>• Introduces personal statement an appropriate hook</li> <li>• Clearly connects to the prompt's topic</li> <li>• develops narrative, with some related, and personal details</li> <li>• reflects among some experiences</li> <li>• Includes personal growth</li> <li>• ends with a thoughtful closure that may reveal goals or college plans</li> <li>• word count is sufficient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraphing is evident, but may not be appropriate</li> <li>• Introduces personal statement with a limited hook</li> <li>• limitedly or generically ties to the prompt's topic;</li> <li>• limitedly develops narrative, with some related/ personal details</li> <li>• generically widens to connect to a larger narrative</li> <li>• generically reflects among experiences</li> <li>• May include personal growth, and future plans</li> <li>• Ends with a limited or generic closure that does not disclose goals or college plans</li> <li>• word count is sufficient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraphing is not evident</li> <li>• Introduces personal statement with a very limited hook</li> <li>• very limitedly or generically ties to the prompt's topic</li> <li>• very limitedly develops narrative, supplying very few related and personal details</li> <li>• very limitedly widens to connect to a larger narrative</li> <li>• very limitedly or generically reflects among experiences, personal growth, and future plans</li> <li>• ends with a very limited or generic closure; word count is minimal</li> </ul>

## Criterion D Language

- How clear, varied and accurate is the language?
- How appropriate is the choice of register and style? (“**Register**” refers to the candidate’s use of **diction** (vocabulary, tone, sentence structure and terminology are appropriate to the prompt).

Exceeding A	Meeting B	Approaching C	Beginning D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Word choice and vocabulary are very clear, effective, carefully chosen, and precise</li><li>• There is a high degree of accuracy in grammar with no errors</li><li>• Sentences are complete, coherent, and flow meaningfully</li><li>• Avoids clichés or generic, vague, or impersonal language.</li><li>• Register and style are consistently effective and appropriate to the task (used formal diction)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Word choice and vocabulary are very clear and carefully chosen</li><li>• There is accuracy in grammar with a few errors</li><li>• Sentences are complete and coherent</li><li>• Avoids clichés, or generic, vague, or impersonal language.</li><li>• Register and style are somewhat effective and appropriate to the task (used formal diction)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Word choice and vocabulary are sometimes clear</li><li>• There is some accuracy in grammar with several errors</li><li>• Some sentences are incoherent or incomplete</li><li>• May use clichés, or generic, vague, or impersonal language.</li><li>• Register and style are rarely effective and appropriate to the task (used formal diction)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Word choice and vocabulary are rarely clear</li><li>• There is some accuracy in grammar with several errors</li><li>• Most sentences are incoherent or incomplete</li><li>• May use clichés, or generic, vague, or impersonal language.</li><li>• Register and style are rarely effective and appropriate to the task (used formal diction)</li></ul>

