

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

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

