

# 100 Successful College Application Essays 2nd Edition

From the acclaimed New York Times bestselling author: An essential volume for generations of writers young and old. The twenty-fifth anniversary edition of this modern classic will continue to spark creative minds for years to come. For a quarter century, more than a million readers—scribes and scribblers of all ages and abilities—have been inspired by Anne Lamott's hilarious, big-hearted, homespun advice. Advice that

begins with the simple words of wisdom passed down from Anne ' s father—also a writer—in the iconic passage that gives the book its title: “ Thirty years ago my older brother, who was ten years old at the time, was trying to get a report on birds written that he ' d had three months to write. It was due the next day. We were out at our family cabin in Bolinas, and he was at the kitchen table close to tears, surrounded by binder paper and pencils and unopened books on birds, immobilized by the hugeness of the task ahead. Then my father sat down beside him, put his arm around my brother ' s shoulder, and said,

‘ Bird by bird, buddy. Just take it bird by bird. ’ ”

Presents examples of 123 real-life essays by college hopefuls along with practical advice from admission officers from top universities on what they look for when evaluating essays and applicants during the application process. Original. 15,000 first printing.

Offers a step-by-step guide to the college application process with an analysis of the common application, a detailed study of application essays, and a look at common myths and misconceptions about the on-campus interview.

Contains a comprehensive guide

to writing effective college application essays.

50 Successful Ivy League Application Essays

Peterson's Best College Admission Essays

50 Successful Harvard Application Essays

The College Application Essay  
College Essays that Made a Difference

Get Into Stanford and Other Top Colleges

"Contains 50 essays with analysis from successful Ivy League applicants, tips on how to select the best topic, what Ivy League admission officers want to see in your essay, 25 mistakes that guarantee failure and tips from Ivy League students on how to write a successful essay"--

Escape Essay Hell! is a fast-and-easy guide

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to writing narrative-style essays for college application essays. Janine Robinson, an English teacher and professional writer who has tutored college-bound students on these essays for years, acts as a personal writing coach to guide and cheer students through this dreaded process. College admissions "experts" tell students to "Tell a story," or "Make the essay about you!," or "Be an individual." And this is all correct. But no one ever explains exactly HOW they can do this. Until now. In her motivating guide, Janine takes students through 10 simple steps to find engaging topics and then craft compelling essays using storytelling writing techniques. Students will learn how to identify their unique defining qualities, write engaging mini-stories called anecdotes, and use a powerful Show and Tell writing formula. *Escape Essay Hell!* can help students write personal statements and respond to

prompts for The Common Application, public university, private college, supplemental, graduate school and scholarship essays. By following these informative and inspiring steps, students will escape Essay Hell in no time at all--and have their best shot at landing in their dream school!

Grad's Guide to Graduate Admissions Essays provides more than 50 successful admissions essays straight from the source—recent college graduates making the transition to earning advanced degrees at highly selective graduate programs.

Harvard, Columbia, Stanford, and Northwestern are just a few of the universities to which these students were admitted. Each of the essays contains designated segments highlighting the particular characteristics that make them outstanding admissions essays.

Additionally, the essays are interspersed

with segments labeled “ Writer's Words of Wisdom, ” which contain statements from the author of the particular essay with advice on the admissions process. By receiving guidance from successful graduate school applicants, readers can glean advice from a variety of perspectives, while still obtaining the critical information as it relates to well-written essays for programs within a variety of fields including law, business, medicine, education, and humanities.

'Indian Roots, Ivy Admits: 85 Essays that Got Indian Students into the Ivy League and Stanford' is an inspired collaborative by Viral Doshi, top education consultant in India, and Mridula Maluste, leading writing and editorial consultant for university applications and more. Writing the Common Application essay is one of the most anxiety-inducing tasks that many aspiring university students encounter.

The essay is meant to uniquely identify each student, and give him and her the winning edge. But how do fresh young high-schoolers captivate admissions officers through their narratives, portray themselves as agents of change, and chronicle personal achievements and individual talents without seeming to brag? How does one avoid such pitfalls, stand out and even shine in this highly competitive environment? Here to answer all these questions is a rare, illuminating gem of a book that will lead all young contenders on the path to drafting successful overseas education applications. 'Indian Roots, Ivy Admits: 85 Essays that got Indian Students into the Ivy League and Stanford' is for any student who aims to pursue higher education in world-class universities. It fulfils its promise to engage and empower aspiring candidates, and tops that by giving them valuable



perspectives in reflecting on their lives, and in analyzing and composing thoroughly engaging essays. Every essay within these pages has been written by a young student who earned a well-deserved place in an Ivy League university or Stanford. Each essay is followed by an insightful review and an in-depth assessment that will help aspirants understand how to approach, map and write their own strongly structured, creative application essays. Curated by Viral Doshi and Mridula Maluste, two of India's leading experts in the domain of education, this book is an invaluable resource for students and teachers, as well as enthusiastic parents.

5 Practice Tests + Proven Strategies + Online  
College Essays That Made a Difference,  
6th Edition  
Graduate Admissions Essays  
Write Your Way Into the Graduate

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School of Your Choice

50 Successful Harvard Medical School  
Essays

College Essay Essentials

The largest collection of successful college application essays available in one volume. These are the essays that helped their authors gain admission to Harvard, Yale, Brown, Columbia, Wellesley, Colby, and other outstanding schools—followed by invaluable comments by experts in admissions, placement, and college counseling at some of the best learning institutions around the country. This helpful guide includes: 100 complete essays with professional commentary Examples of essays on common topics (family

background, athletics, work experience), as well as the more offbeat Essays on the immigrant experience by foreign-born students A section of drawing and cartoon essays Insider advice from a Princeton dean of admissions A “What Not to Do” chapter from a top college counselor And more Compiled by members from The Harvard Independent, the weekly newsmagazine of Harvard University, this is an invaluable resource for students who want to write the best possible essay—and improve their chances of admission to the best possible school. With talented applicants coming from the top high schools as well as

the pressure to succeed from family and friends, it's no wonder that writing college application essays is one of the most stressful tasks high schoolers face. Add in how hard it is to get started or brag about accomplishments or order stories for maximum effect, and it's a wonder that any ever get written. To help, this completely new edition of *50 Successful Harvard Application Essays*, edited by the staff of the Harvard Crimson, gives readers the most inspiring approaches, both conventional and creative, that won over admissions officers at Harvard University, the nation's top ranked college. From chronicling personal achievements to detailing unique

talents, the topics covered in these essays open applicants up to new techniques to put their best foot forward. It teaches students how to:

- Get started
- Stand out
- Structure the best possible essay
- Avoid common pitfalls

Each essay in this collection is from a Harvard student who made the cut and is followed by analysis by the staff of The Harvard Crimson where strengths and weakness are detailed to show readers how they can approach their own stories and ultimately write their own high-caliber essay.

50 Successful Harvard Application Essays' all-new essays and straightforward advice make it the first stop for applicants who are

looking to craft essays that get them accepted to the school of their dreams.

Presents advice on writing an effective college application essay along with examples of more than one hundred real essays from college students.

Offers advice on writing a successful college admissions essay and presents fifty examples.

Complete Guide to College Application Essays

50 Successful Stanford Application Essays

Secrets to Gaining Admission to the World's Top Universities

50 Essays That Helped Students Get Into the Nation's Top Colleges

# Great Application Essays for Business School

## Write Your Way Into the College of Your Choice

A winning college application essay takes admission officers beyond the numbers and shows them what a student really cares about, how he/she thinks and who he/she really is. The College Application Essay by Sarah Myers McGinty is an easy-to-follow guide shows students how to maximize the opportunity to "tell us about yourself" by using the tools and skills they already have. Includes: Ways to choose a topic Strategies for distinctive answers

Remedies for procrastinators  
Jumpstarts for writer's  
block Tips on editing Over  
50 real application  
questions Sample essays by  
real students Critiques of  
the sample essays guide  
students toward the best  
practices and away from  
common mistakes.

A compilation of fifty  
effective and diverse  
college application essays  
that offer students insights  
into what makes an essay  
compelling

An updated guide to college  
applications essays offers  
one hundred complete essays  
that helped gain students  
admission to the country's  
top schools, as well as



provides helpful advice from admissions officers.

Original.

Jill Madenberg draws upon her 20-plus years of counseling experience while her daughter Amanda—a student who just recently went off to college—adds tips and personal stories. Whether you are wondering how to choose high school classes and activities, create a realistic college list, get the most out of a campus visit, or maintain a positive and healthy attitude, *Love the Journey to College* will help you make educated decisions throughout the process—and show you how to do it with a

smile. As the daughter of an experienced college counselor, Amanda Madenberg has been visiting colleges for as long as she can remember—on family vacations, weekend road trips, and school holidays. Even at a young age, she took interest as her mom spoke with tour guides, admissions counselors, and students on campus to get a feel for life at a particular school. Most importantly, Amanda greatly enjoyed her own college application process—from visiting campuses to writing supplemental essays. Writing as both a typical high school student and as the

daughter of a college counselor, Amanda lends a unique and entertaining perspective to *Love the Journey to College*.

*What Worked for Them Can Help You Get Into the Law School of Your Choice*

*Night-Night Kansas College Success*

*How to Maximize Your Chances for Admission to the College of Your Choice*

*The Berkeley Book of College Essays*

*On Umbrellas and Sword Fights, Parades and Dogs, Fire Alarms, Children, and Theater*

**Get into the elite professional school of your dreams with a college application that will capture the attention of**

admission boards! Business school essays and admissions interviews are perhaps the most challenging parts of being an MBA candidate. With competition to the nation's top business schools being so fierce, you must stand out. Great Applications for Business School helps you play up strengths and talents to distinguish yourself from the rest of the competition. Features: The 8 most common admissions essay topics--and how to answer them 22 actual essays by successful applicants to top schools Self-marketing strategies to highlight your talents Candid insights from admissions officers at top-ranked business schools Topics include: Getting Started, Scoring the Goals Essay, Getting to Know You: The Non-Goals Essays, The Required Optional Essay, Credible Enthusiasm: Letters of

## Recommendation

A former admissions officer at Dartmouth College reveals how the world's most highly selective schools really make their decisions.

How do you REALLY get accepted to a top university? Told from the fresh and personal perspective of 26-year-old Crimson Education CEO and Harvard, Stanford, and Oxford graduate Jamie Beaton, *Accepted!* is an honest and practical guide on beating the odds and getting into Ivy League and other elite schools – the smart way. Beaton takes you behind the doors of the world's top college admissions offices, revealing the highly strategic selection processes applied by institutions whose reputations depend on the number of students they admit, or more pointedly, the tens of thousands that they don't.

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In Accepted!, Beaton delivers the ultimate insider "how to" and disrupts cliched admissions advice with savvy strategies like: Moneyballing the university rankings and increasing your chances of admission Class spamming your way to academic supremacy and acceptance Playing the early application dating game and understanding how institutions are using it to their reputational advantage Packed with real-life examples from the thousands of students Beaton has helped land a spot at Yale, Oxford, Stanford, and other esteemed global universities, Accepted! is a never-before assembled culmination of secrets, insights, and application strategies guaranteed to maximize your chances of "getting in" to the school of your choice. From ambitious students and their supportive parents

to academic advisors and admissions professionals, *Accepted!* is the must-read guide to demystifying the often-convoluted and increasingly competitive world of elite college admissions.

Offers tips on writing an essay for admission to graduate school, provides an explanation of the admissions process, gives advice on securing letters of recommendation, and features resources for locating scholarships.

100 Successful College Application Essays

A Is for Admission

A Step-by-Step Guide to Showing Colleges Who You Are and What Matters to You

What Worked for Them Can Help You Get Into the College of Your Choice  
Bird by Bird

Love the Journey to College Presents a compilation of fifty-five essays by successful applicants to Harvard Law School, accompanied by insightful analyses of each essay to reveal why it worked, advice on how to avoid common pitfalls and mistakes, and helpful strategies on how to write an effective essay of one's own. Original. 20,000 first printing. Learn the secrets to become a highly desirable candidate. Discover the purpose of the essay and what admission officers are looking for. Recognize what not to do so you don't waste valuable time. Learn to set yourself apart from all the other applicants with step by step explanations delivered with humor as well as numerous examples from successful students. "Perfect for parents and students...clear command

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of the material... obvious expertise...can't recommend highly enough. Engaging and funny... ”

Terrence Hinson, Assistant Principal: Northport High School, NY “A strength of your approach to college application essays should not be undervalued. You take an often-overwhelming project and make it feel approachable, staying consistent with what we hear colleges want”

Matthew P. Spatz, Director of Guidance: Northern Valley Regional High School District, NJ

Helping applicants navigate the intricate yet vitally important essay process at elite schools such as Stanford -- a university that enrolls students from all 50 states and 52 countries and has an admission rate less than seven percent -- this go-to guide helps prospective students see for themselves what it takes to be

admitted to selective programs. Along with the 50 essay examples that give a detailed analysis of the strengths and even weaknesses of each essay, there are tips from college admission officers and successful applicants and a description of the 25 essay mistakes that guarantee failure. For highly judicious colleges, the essay is one of the most important factors in whether students are admitted or rejected, yet this resource, from a pair of award-winning authors and college application gurus, will help readers temper their fears and inspire their writing.

Kaplan's ACT Prep Plus 2022 has the detailed subject review, practice tests, and expert strategies you need to be prepared for test day. This edition includes hundreds of practice questions, online practice tests, and

video lessons from our experts to help you face test day with confidence. Kaplan is an Official Teaching Partner of the ACT. We're so certain that ACT Prep Plus 2022 offers the guidance you need that we guarantee it: After studying with our online resources and book, you'll score higher on the ACT—or you'll get your money back. Essential Review 5 full-length Kaplan practice tests with detailed answer explanations (1 printed in the book and 4 tests online) One-year access to our online center with additional quizzes and videos to help guide your study Pre-quizzes to help you figure out what you already know and what you can skip Mixed practice quizzes after every chapter to assess how much you've learned A practice question at the beginning of each lesson to help you quickly identify its focus and

dedicated practice questions after every lesson to test your comprehension Efficient Strategy “On Test Day” strategy notes in every math chapter to help you remember that the ACT math test is primarily a strategy test “Reflect” pages that help you evaluate your comfort level with the topics and make a plan for improving before the test after completing each chapter Online study-planning tool helps you target your prep no matter how much time you have before the test. Expert Guidance We know the test: Our learning engineers have put tens of thousands of hours into studying the ACT, and we use real data to design the most effective strategies and study plans. Kaplan's books and practice questions are written by veteran teachers who know students—every explanation is

written to help you learn. We invented test prep—Kaplan ([kaptest.com](http://kaptest.com)) has been helping students for over 80 years.

Some Instructions on Writing and Life  
85 ESSAYS THAT GOT INDIAN  
STUDENTS INTO THE IVY LEAGUE  
AND STANFORD

On Writing the College Application  
Essay

Examples From Real Students Who  
Got Into Top Schools

Acing the College Application

55 Successful Harvard Law School  
Application Essays

Expert guidance to help you write  
the essay that gets you accepted  
by the best business schools If  
you're applying to a business  
school these days, you need more  
than good grades, high GMAT

scores, and an impressive resume. You need to write attention-grabbing essays that express your individuality, identify your goals, and play up your talents and strengths. Written by a renowned admissions consultant who has helped applicants get accepted into the nation's top schools, this all-in-one guide will show you what today's top-level admissions offices are looking for. Filled with clear guidelines, insider tips, and winning samples, it will lead you through every step of the application essay process. You'll learn how to organize and structure your writing, avoid common pitfalls, and market yourself like a pro. The book includes: The 8 most common

essay questions--and how to answer them 22 actual essays by successful applicants to top schools Interactive exercises and self-quizzes to guide you in the right direction Self-marketing strategies to highlight your individual talents Candid insights from admissions officers at top-ranked business schools

This lively collection of successful college admissions essays from the kids at Berkeley High reflects the diversity and eclectic interests of urban and suburban students at public schools where academic ambition, gender issues, life on the streets, and love for math, music, and art are all a part of the mix.

"One hundred incisive, idiosyncratic

essays on life and theater from a major American playwright "Don't send your characters to reform school!" pleads Sarah Ruhl in one of her essays. With titles as varied as "On Lice" to "On Sleeping in Theaters" and "Motherhood and Stools (The Furniture Kind)," these essays are artful meditations on life in the arts and joyous jumbles of observations on everything in between. The pieces combine admonition, celebration, inquiry, jokes, assignments, entreaties, prayers, and advice: honest reflections distilled from years of working in the theater. They offer candid accounts of what it is like to be a mother and an artist, along with descriptions of how Ruhl's



children's dreams, jokes, and songs work themselves into her writing.

100 Essays is not just a book about the theater. It is a map of a very particular artistic sensibility and a guide for anyone who has chosen an artist's life"--

You can get into the perfect school! You may think that getting an acceptance letter from selective colleges and universities is a mad dash to the top that only the very best students survive, and those who make it are just the lucky ones. Stress levels soar as it feels like the bar is rising higher and everything is out of your control. But that's not true! You can take control, and you can do it in a way that's as effective as it is empowering. From

describing your extracurriculars to interviews with admission officers, it comes down to two questions: What matters most to you? How does it manifest in your life? The answers will give direction to every part of the admission process. Ethan Sawyer (the College Essay Guy), along with dozens of top admission experts, will help you stand out by showing colleges and universities how your values and your drive will change you, your alma mater, and the world. Inside you'll find... Advice and insight from a team of counselors, advisors, and deans of admission Interactive exercises that quickly and easily provide the best content for your application Access to a massive

database of online resources,  
including organizational tools and in-  
depth guides Guidance for  
veterans, students with learning  
differences, LGBTQ+ students,  
students interested in women's  
colleges or HBCUs, and more  
[www.collegeessayguy.com](http://www.collegeessayguy.com)

Conquering the College Admissions  
Essay in 10 Steps, Second Edition

Great Applications for Business  
School, Second Edition

The Insider's Guide to Getting into  
the Ivy League and Other Top  
Colleges

College Admission Essentials

Fiske Real College Essays that  
Work

100 Successful College Application  
Essays (Second Edition)

Offers tips on how to write meaningful essays for college admission applications. Includes sample essays.

Fifty all-new essays that got their authors into Harvard Medical School, including MCAT scores, showing what worked, what didn't, and how you can do it too.

Competition to get into the nation's top medical schools has never been more intense. Harvard Medical School in particular draws thousands of elite applicants from around the world. As admissions departments become increasingly selective, even the best and brightest need an edge. Writing a personal statement is a daunting part of the application process. In

less than 5,300 characters, applicants must weave together experiences and passions into a memorable narrative to set them apart from thousands of other applicants. While there is no magic formula for writing the perfect essay, picking up this book will put them on the right track. 50

Successful Harvard Medical School Essays is the first in a new line of books published by the Staff of the Harvard Crimson. It includes fifty standout essays from students who successfully secured a spot at Harvard Medical School. Each student has a unique set of experiences that led them to medicine. Each essay includes analysis by Crimson editors on

essay qualities and techniques that worked, so readers can apply them to their own writing. This book will aid applicants in composing essays that reveal their passion for medicine and the discipline they will bring to this demanding program and profession. It will give them the extra help they need to get into the best medical school programs in the world.

No one knows colleges better than The Princeton Review! Not sure how to tackle the scariest part of your college application—the personal essays? Get a little inspiration from real-life examples of successful essays that scored! In *College Essays That Made a Difference*, 6th Edition, you'll find:

- More than 100 real essays written by 90 unique college hopefuls applying to Harvard, Stanford, Yale, and other top schools—along with their stats and where they ultimately got in
- Tips and advice on avoiding common grammatical mistakes
- Q&A with admissions pros from 20 top colleges, including Connecticut College, Cooper Union, The University of Chicago, and many more

This 6th edition includes application essays written by students who enrolled at the following colleges: Amherst College  
Barnard College  
Brown University  
Bucknell University  
California Institute of Technology  
Claremont McKenna College  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Duke

University Georgetown University  
Harvard College Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology  
Northwestern University Pomona  
College Princeton University Smith  
College Stanford University  
Swarthmore College Wellesley  
College Wesleyan University Yale  
University

It's bedtime in the Sunflower State!  
Say goodnight to all your favorite  
locations, including: - Exploration  
Place - Museum of World  
Treasures - Kansas State Capitol -  
Nichols Hall, Kansas State  
University - Prairie Village Clock  
Tower - Big Brutus - Keeper of the  
Plains - Sedgwick County Zoo -  
Allen Fieldhouse - Kansas State  
Fair - Deanna Rose Children's



Farmstead  
Escape Essay Hell!  
INDIAN ROOTS, IVY ADMITS  
With Analysis by the Staff of The  
Harvard Crimson  
Grad's Guide to Graduate  
Admissions Essays  
Guidance from an Admissions  
Consultant and Her Daughter  
Essays That Worked for College  
Applications  
An updated guide to college  
application essays offers one  
hundred complete essays that  
helped gain students admission  
to the country's top schools, as  
well as provides helpful advice  
from admissions officers.  
Every applicant's greatest

challenge to getting into Stanford University, which draws from all 50 states, is figuring out how to write that winning admission essay. This book shows them how.

Discusses the importance of the college admissions essay, looks at examples of successful personal statements, and offers advice on planning, organizing, and preparing a personal essay. Harvard Law School is one of the premier law schools in the world. It as well as other top schools draws thousands of applicants from the best colleges and companies. With only a limited number of slots for so many

talented applicants, the admissions officers have become more and more selective every year, the competition has become fierce, and even the best and brightest could use an edge. This completely new edition of *55 Successful Harvard Law School Application Essays* is the best resource for anyone looking for that edge. Through the most up-to-date sample essays from the Harvard Law School students who made the cut and insightful analysis from the staff at *The Harvard Crimson*, it shows you how best to:

- \* Argue your case effectively
- \* Arrange your

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accomplishments for maximum impact \* Avoid common pitfalls

## 55 Successful Harvard Law School Application Essays

guides you toward writing essays that do more than simply list your background and accomplishments. These are essays that reveal your passion for the law as well as the discipline you bring to this demanding profession and will help you impress any admissions department. The all-new essays and straightforward and time-saving advice will give you all the insider tips you'll need to write the essays that will get you into the best law schools in the world.

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Crafting a Winning Personal  
Statement  
Accepted!  
Personal Statements for  
California Universities and Other  
Selective Schools  
College Application Essays  
Stand Out - Get In: Avoid  
Common Mistakes and Write  
Stand Out Essays  
A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing  
a Successful College Admissions  
Essay  
100 Essays I Don't Have Time to  
Write  
Writing an amazing college  
admission essay is easier than you  
think! So you're a high school  
senior given the task of writing a

650-word personal statement for your college application. Do you tell the story of your life, or a story from your life? Do you choose a single moment? If so, which one? The options seem endless. Lucky for you, they're not. College counselor Ethan Sawyer (aka The College Essay Guy) will show you that there are only four (really, four!) types of college admission essays. And all you have to do to figure out which type is best for you is answer two simple questions: 1. Have you experienced significant challenges in your life? 2. Do you know what you want to be or do in the future? With these questions providing the building blocks for your essay, Sawyer guides you through the rest

of the process, from choosing a structure to revising your essay, and answers the big questions that have probably been keeping you up at night: How do I brag in a way that doesn't sound like bragging? and How do I make my essay, like, deep? Packed with tips, tricks, exercises, and sample essays from real students who got into their dream schools, *College Essay Essentials* is the only college essay guide to make this complicated process logical, simple, and (dare we say it?) a little bit fun.

A guide to crafting a meaningful and polished college admissions essay that gets students into the school of their dreams by expressing their unique personality,

strengths, and goals. Stand out from the crowd with a memorable, meaningful personal statement that will capture the attention of college admissions officers. Writing a college admissions essay is no easy task—but with college essay coach and New York Times contributor Alan Gelb's accessible and encouraging step-by-step instructions, you'll be able to write an honest, one-of-a-kind essay that really shines. Gelb's ten-step approach has garnered great results for the students who have tried it, many of whom were accepted into their dream schools (Harvard, Brown, Yale, and more). This to-the-point handbook shows you how to identify an engaging



essay topic, and then teaches you how to use creative writing techniques to craft a narrative that expresses your unique personality, strengths, and goals. Whether you're an A-student looking for an extra boost or a less-confident writer who needs more intensive help, Gelb's reassuring and concise guidance will help you every step of the way, from your initial draft to final revision. In the end, you will have a well-polished, powerful, and profound personal statement that you can feel proud of—a college essay that doesn't feel “pre-fab,” but is a real reflection of your own individuality.

**A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing  
Narrative College Application**

# Essays

## ACT Prep Plus 2022