

SENIOR SUMMER ASSIGNMENT: CLASS OF 2021

During your junior year you began planning your future. This summer, you'll be putting the planning into action, as you move closer to making your future goals a reality. In addition to completing this assignment, you should continue to pursue your internship opportunities. This is the perfect summer to earn those hours. Remember to keep track of all your paperwork that accompanies your program so you can earn credit for your hard work and document all your academic sources.

As you move toward senior year, it is important to remember how you've grown socially, emotionally, academically, intellectually, personally, and in many other ways. When you begin Task 1 of this assignment, remember that you must present yourself as you are – a unique individual with something interesting to offer in this world. You may need to spend some time this summer doing some self-reflection – think about who you are and what is important to you.

Part 1: The Personal Essay

Part 2: College Research Google Slides

Part 3: Personal Budgeting / Personal Economics Worksheet

Your project is due on Google Classroom by the first day of school, September 10, 2020. The following products must be uploaded:

- 1. Common Application Personal Essay**
- 2. College Research Google Slides Presentation**
- 3. Personal Economics Worksheet**

PART 1: COMMON APPLICATION PERSONAL ESSAY

An essential part of our success in the future is learning to express ourselves effectively through writing. Please see pages 16-17 of the CSIHSIS College Planning Guide found on Naviance for tips for writing an effective college essay. Below is an excerpt from the Common Application, accepted by over 500 schools across the country.

Please write an essay of 500-650 words on a topic of your choice or on one of the options listed below. Please indicate your topic by number. This personal essay helps colleges become acquainted with you as a person and student, apart from courses, grades, test scores, and other objective data. It will also demonstrate your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself through writing.

2020-2021 Common Application Essay Prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?

4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma — anything of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Helpful Resources for Writing Your Essay:

<https://schoolforms.commonapp.org/CommonApp/Default.aspx>

<http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/applications/essay>

<http://www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo/articles/Pages/Writing-a-College-Essay-Top-Ten.aspx>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVw_3a6wDsp4ReQTNMf3_zw

Steps to Success:

1. Brainstorm
2. Write at least one draft of the essay
3. PROOFREAD – your score is related to your command of the English language
4. Have a friend/ family member read your work and offer constructive feedback.
5. Type a final, polished draft

SUCCESS CRITERIA FOR COMMON APP ESSAY	AVOID...
<p>→ Choose a personal experience or epiphany that demonstrates something important about who you are as a person or what you have learned over the course of your high school career (or life)</p> <p>→ Use a mixture of narration, description, and reflection to ensure that your reader stays interested and can follow your point</p> <p>→ Use a mature writing voice: remember that your perspective is only one of many perspectives in the world and your tone should reflect an awareness of yourself as a part of the larger global society.</p> <p>→ Be positive: despite the fact that you may need to discuss some terrible things that have happened in your life (obstacles), you need to demonstrate learning or growth you have had as a result of those obstacles.</p> <p>→ Write about something that is true to your experience – this essay should reflect <i>real</i> growth and learning that you have done</p> <p>→ Proofread your work so that you do not have grammatical errors; this piece of writing should be carefully crafted.</p> <p>→ Use vivid and figurative language to help get your point across so that you create depth in your writing.</p>	<p>→ cliché or sappy conclusions that are not unique to your personal experience or do not differentiate you from other candidates</p> <p>→ Ranting about something that bothers you</p> <p>→ Writing about someone else; this is an opportunity to show colleges something about you – make sure you are the subject of your own story</p> <p>→ Waiting until the last minute – this essay needs to be carefully crafted</p> <p>→ Writing what you think the colleges want to hear; write your truth. College admissions officers genuinely want to get to know you</p> <p>→ excessive bragging or simply listing all of your positive traits; you need to describe your growth as a person</p>

PART 1 FINAL PRODUCT: ONE Personal Common App Essay

PART 2: COLLEGE/CAREER RESEARCH

We understand each of you has plans for life after graduating from CSIHSIS. This part of the summer assignment will ask you to investigate the details of different possibilities for life after high school. Utilize your Naviance account for help! You can search types of colleges and their admission requirements, majors etc. under the “colleges” tab and can research types of careers and career paths under the “careers” tab.

Step 1:

Select three college or professional training/ vocational school choices you might attend after graduation. College applicants should choose three different types of colleges (**safety**, which is one that you are certain to get into; **target**, which is one that you would really like to go to; **dream**, which is a school or program that may be more difficult to get into).

For example, one high school senior chose Princeton as his dream school, Rutgers as his target school, and CSI as his back up school.

Step 2:

Find at least ten facts about each of your choices (i.e. cost, location, size, etc). You should also find at least one image that represents each of your choices. **Organize the information onto a Google Slides Presentation of at least 6 slides.**

We should be able to SEE what your options and life after high school will LOOK LIKE. Show the details of your choices and the facts you learned through your research, comparing the three choices through your visual (the cost of each, the location of each, majors offered, athletics, student life, financial aid, certificate programs, job placement, why people should consider attending, etc.). Also include a paragraph about each of your options on the Slides Presentation

What your presentation should look like:

- **THREE (3)** schools/secondary options (1 safety; 1 target; 1 dream)
- **ONE (1)** image that represents **EACH** option
- **TEN (10)** facts about **EACH** option (cost, location, size, majors offered, student life, dorming vs. commuting, food plans, athletics, clubs/organizations, etc.)
- **ONE (1) paragraph** about **EACH** option (Why have you chosen this college? What do you like most? Why would it be a good fit for you? What do you have to do in order to make this college a reality?) *8-10 sentences*

PART 2 FINAL PRODUCT: A Google Slides Presentation that compares three colleges.

PART 3: PERSONAL BUDGET (MONEY TALK)

No matter where you see yourself after graduating from CSIHSIS, you will certainly be in a new position to think and talk about money. This part of the assignment asks you to plan out the details of a personal economic plan, as if you were responsible for all costs and not your parents, and compare that economic plan for all three schools you selected for your college research.

You will be creating a specific plan for your income and spending after graduation. You'll be researching to include the cost of school, dorms (or other living spaces), books, and other school fees. If you continue to remain at home for college, research the possible rental fees that you would be responsible for paying to your parents.

Step 1:

You will need to investigate how much money you will spend on food, electricity (if in an apartment), cable, internet, car insurance (and gas), EVERYTHING on which you will be using money. Use the enclosed worksheet to show your expected spending for **THE FIRST MONTH** of college, **FOR ALL THREE COLLEGES.** (HINT: you might need to divide annual fees by 12 to get the monthly cost).

Step 2:

You will also need to look at how much money you will collect from work, scholarships, and other sources. Use the rest of the table on your worksheet to show your expected income during **YOUR FIRST MONTH** of college.

PART 3 FINAL PRODUCT: Completed Comparative Personal Economics Worksheet

Name: _____

Personal Budget : Expense Worksheet

Expenses: (WHAT am I spending \$ on?)	Safety College Name:	Target College Name:	Dream College Name:
Housing (rent or dorm)			
Utilities (water, gas, electricity)			
Home Luxuries (phone, internet, etc.)			
Food (dine outs/lunch, groceries, coffee drinks, etc.)			
Personal Maintenance (laundry, cleaning, grooming, etc.)			
Supplies (school books, laptop, etc.)			
Tuition (for college or technical schools or other training programs)			
Transportation (Metro card, gas, car payments, parking pass, tolls, etc)			
Insurance (medical, car, rental, etc)			
Social Activities (entertainment, gym membership, fraternity/ sorority, etc.) Other: _____			
TOTAL			

Personal Budget: Income Worksheet

Source (WHERE am I getting \$ from?)	Amount (How much will I get in one month?)
Jobs and/ or Work Study	
Scholarships	
Savings Account	
Other (Government Subsidized Loan, private lender loan, Parent Plus Loan)-Be sure to accurately research how much you can borrow for education loans.	
TOTAL:	