

UCAS Personal Statement Guide

- a personal statement can only be for one subject area
- the maximum length is 47 lines / 4000 characters
- no formatting is needed - no paragraphs
- students must demonstrate research/reading beyond the curriculum
- a good way to do this is to quote an article/book, name the author and explain what they found interesting about it
- approximately 2/3 of the personal statement should be about their chosen subject, the skills they excel in and demonstrate the passion they have for it (without using the word passion)
- work experience should be mentioned - if not directly related to their chosen course, identify key skills which make them a more worthy candidate to the university
- leadership roles within school should be highlighted - universities like this
- extra-curricular activities (sport, music, dance, D of E, World Challenge, clubs, paid work etc.) need to be included showing they are a well-rounded person
- they may want to include something about the other subjects they study and how they might link into their chosen course (key transferable skills)
- vocabulary needs to be as advanced as possible
- they must not plagiarise - UCAS uses a programme to detect it