



CLC & Capstone

Most scholarships require applicants to complete an essay in order to describe their interests and accomplishments and help the scholarship committee get to know them better. In this assignment, you will choose one of the following common scholarship essay topics and write an essay no longer than 500 words answering the question(s). You will find that most scholarship applications require you to answer at least one question similar to these ones, so it's good to get accustomed to them!

Tell your story, use strong and powerful statements, and truly reflect on how your experiences have impacted your life and shaped who you are.

Choose ONE of the following essay topics, and complete your application as though it will be directed to a scholarship committee. One of the biggest challenges of this assignment is to write passionately, yet succinctly. As such, please ensure that your essay is no longer than 500 words.

1. Describe how your motivation, leadership and communication skills have connected with your community efforts.
2. Discuss how your interest in your post-secondary field or major developed and describe any experience (such as volunteer work or internships) in the field. What you have gained from this involvement?
3. Describe an adult who had (or has) a major influence on your life.
4. Describe a time when you faced a challenge or made a mistake and carried on. What happened, and did you learn from the experience?
5. Describe your most relevant community service, volunteer activity and/or leadership role. What did you learn from this experience, and how will it benefit you in your chosen career path?

Assessment (see next page)

Scholarship Essay Rubric



Criteria	Ratings				Pts
Content & Meaning	4.0 pts 100% Information is believable and supportable. Convincing arguments that persuade with logic and attractive ideas. Uses evidence to enhance and support ideas. Makes sense throughout.	3.0 pts 75% Information is believable and supportable. Convincing arguments that persuade with logic and attractive ideas. Uses evidence to enhance and support ideas. Makes sense throughout.	2.0 pts 50% Some info is not believable. Some arguments use logic and attractive ideas. Some parts don't make sense or are awkward.	1.0 pts 25% Information is not believable. Arguments are not logical and do not use attractive ideas. Writing does not make sense and is awkward.	4.0 pts
Style	4.0 pts 100% Clear and varied language appropriate for audience. Appropriate and intriguing word choice.	3.0 pts 75% Clear and varied language appropriate for audience. Appropriate word choice.	2.0 pts 50% Some of the language is clear and appropriate for the audience. Some slang is used.	1.0 pts 25% Language is not clear or appropriate for audience. Frequent slang is used.	4.0 pts
Sentences & Paragraph Unity	4.0 pts 100% Sentences vary and have a great deal of complexity and variety. Paragraphs stay on topic.	3.0 pts 75% Sentences vary and have some complexity. Paragraphs stay on topic.	2.0 pts 50% Some repetitive or run-on sentences. Some of the paragraph stays on topic.	1.0 pts 25% Sentences are frequently repetitive and run-on. Paragraphs frequently stray off topic.	4.0 pts
Mechanics of Writing	4.0 pts 100% No errors in spelling, punctuation and/or grammar.	3.0 pts 75% Few errors in spelling, punctuation and/or grammar.	2.0 pts 50% Several errors in spelling, punctuation and/or grammar.	1.0 pts 25% Frequent errors in spelling, punctuation and/or grammar.	4.0 pts
Total Points: 16.0					