

# FAQ

## FOR PARENTS

<b>What is the Story of You?</b>	The Story of You is a 12-hour workshop for high school seniors who are getting ready to apply to college and want the college essay-writing process to be fun, creative and inspiring. Through a series of writing prompts and brainstorming exercises, we will help students write winning college essays about the small moments of their lives that offer a window into who they are and who they hope to become.
<b>How does it work?</b>	We meet with a group of up to 15 students, for 4 afternoons during the course of a week (MTWTH 4-7pm). We will edit each student's essay at end of the course. We also offer an accelerated weekend workshop for students who can't come during the week.
<b>Dates/Times/Cost</b>	We are offering the class twice in August; four times in the month of September; five times in October and four times in November. The cost of the course is \$500. Just check the website and email us which dates work for your child. We will send you a PayPal invoice and pre-registration materials.
<b>Will my child have his/her college essays completed by the end of the week?</b>	Some students will come away with a polished essay by the end of the week; others will walk away with a powerful draft of their Common App essay (plus topics and outlines for other essays as time permits).
<b>Which college essay prompts do you cover in the workshops?</b>	Our focus is the Common App and the UC application. However, your child can focus on whichever essays he/she needs to be writing at the time (i.e.- supplemental questions, State College apps, private colleges, etc.)
<b>Will there be homework?</b>	No
<b>How much individual attention will there be?</b>	Each student will have our individual focus, as well as the attention of our team members - two recent Stanford grads. We also spend at least an hour at the end of the workshop editing your child's essay.
<b>Can they sign up with a friend?</b>	Yes!! If a student signs up with a friend, they each get a \$50 discount.
<b>Are you available to work with my child for additional editing if it is needed?</b>	Yes, for an additional fee, we offer supplemental editing services to help get the students over the finish line and work on additional essays.

Feel free to contact us with additional questions

# FAQ

## FOR STUDENTS

**I have no idea what I'm going to write about. Nothing exciting has ever happened to me. Can you help me with this?**

A college entrance essay is your opportunity to share something meaningful and personal about yourself. Colleges are looking for stories about you, not about your accomplishments. You THINK nothing has ever happened to you - but you have hundreds of stories just waiting to be born.

Sometimes it's the simple experiences in life that make the best essays. You don't need to write a concerto, live with polar bears, or visit every country in the world. You just need to be yourself (hint: it's all about your passions and secret obsessions). It doesn't have to be a life-changing event to be genuine and compelling.

"The best essays make us laugh, cry or wince," says Matthew Whelan, Stony Brook University's assistant provost for admissions and financial aid. "They help us understand why we want the applicant here."

**Writing isn't my strong suit. Will you make this process less painful?**

YES! Your college essay will come alive through a process of discovery that includes brainstorming, free writing, revision, review and editing. It's all about getting words onto a page; messy, ugly, imperfect, glorious words.

We will help you peel away the layers of your story and dig for something more true, more authentic and just plain honest. The end result will be a genuine story about yourself using your words and your voice.

**I'm totally busy with school and I don't know where I'm going to find the time to write essays AND study for the tests, AND do all my school work. How fast can I get these essays done?**

We have created this course so that by the middle of the week you will have the hardest part of the process done - figuring out what to write about. By the end of our time together you will have a finished or nearly finished draft for one of the college essays, and topic ideas for many others. We also offer supplemental editing services to help you get over the finish line! We know you are busy and have a million things on your plate, but these essays have to get done and we will help you do them quickly and painlessly.

**How does the editing process work? Do you help me write my essays?**

It is our job to help you brainstorm your topics, bring your stories to the surface and onto the page. While we help with the grammar, syntax, and flow - the stories are undeniably YOURS. This is your journey; we are merely your guides.

**How does this course work? What is it for? How long is it? Is their homework? How many kids will be there? How many essays will I get done?**

All of these answers (and more!!) are answered in the parent's FAQ's. Read it and if you or your parents have more questions - feel free to contact us!