

English 12
Required Summer Writing Assignment
2014 Application Essay

Statistics show that upon graduation, most JCHS seniors will further their education by attending a four or two year college or a vocational-technical school. Consider the type of college or school to which you may plan on applying. Go onto the Internet, locate college web sites and review their applications. Select an essay topic from a school you are interested in or from the topics listed below and complete a 5+ paragraph personal essay. **This essay will be due to your English teacher on the first day of school.**

1. 2014-2015 Common application

The essay prompts are as follows:

- Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?
- Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
- Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there, and why is it meaningful to you?
- Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

2. Rutgers University:

Rutgers University is a vibrant community of people with a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. How would you benefit from and contribute to such an environment? Consider variables such as your talents, travels, leadership activities, volunteer services, and cultural experiences.

3. Montclair State University:

Explain your reasons for seeking admission to Montclair State University, including what you believe are your academic strengths and interests. Be sure to explain any situations that may have had an impact, either positively or negatively, on your academic record. List significant activities in which you have participated, both in school and out of school.

4. For County College of Morris or Essex County College:

Please explain your interest in this college. Who or what encouraged your interest and what do you hope to accomplish through the program you have selected.

5. For Vocational/Technical Schools

Vocational/Technical Schools require that students be strongly motivated to attend on a regular basis and be interested in a specific career or field of study. Explain your long and short term goals in attending this school and why you feel this program best suits your needs.

6. Optional choice: If you go on line and locate the current application question for a school to which you plan to make application, you may use that essay question. Be sure to indicate the school and the topic question.

Focus Correction Areas on the Scoring Rubric will address the following elements:

- ❖ Essay responds to a specific question written on top of page.
- ❖ Essay is organized into five or more paragraphs.
- ❖ Essay is organized in a coherent and logical manner
- ❖ Paragraphs develop subtopics logically and thoroughly
- ❖ A deeper meaning or set of personal values is conveyed. Essay is not simply a story.
- ❖ Interesting and unique aspects of your individuality and life experiences are conveyed in the essay.
- ❖ Specific details are given to accentuate narrative/discussion
- ❖ Essay is free from grammatical and mechanical errors.