

WRITER'S BLOC

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Consultants Speak

Personal Statement \neq Horror Story



Writing a personal philosophy statement for a job application or admittance into a degree program can be tricky, but it doesn't have to be, said Tupelo Writing Center peer consultants Megan S. and Kaylee S.

The mystery behind composing the right words that sum up your academic ideology in a meaningful way can be revealed in at least two key points, they said: 1) Don't be too personal and 2) Just be yourself.

This isn't a Facebook or Instagram post, so don't include details of how you overcame that extended bout of food poisoning. Instead, link your experiences to your strengths.

When it comes to personal statements, there is such a thing as TMI (too much information). Don't feel compelled to craft a Marvel backstory, the consultants said. Being too melodramatic, without intention, can be detrimental to this type of writing.



Killin' It!
*Enchant your
cover letter*

- Tell who you are, what you're about and how you'll be an asset to the program or job
- Demonstrate why you possess the skills or attributes required
- Focus on responding directly to the prompts; try not to go off-topic
- Don't try to be too picture-perfect



Meet the consultants

TWC Business Hours:
Monday - Wednesday

9 AM to 5 PM

Thursday

12 PM to 4 PM

Friday

Closed



Kaylee S.

She is an expert in proofreading.



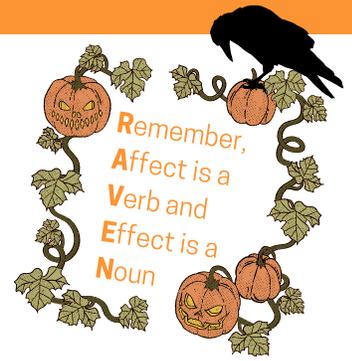
Megan S.

She is an expert in APA format.



SPOOKY SEASON: SONG SYNTHESIS

Writing does not have to be a scary endeavor; it can be as fun as the vocal medium. This spooky season, we wish to invite you to look even closer at some of your favorite song lyrics for stylistic or literary devices.



Monster Mash (1962) Bobby Pickett

From my laboratory in the castle east
To the master bedroom where the vampires feast
The ghouls all came from their humble abodes
To get a jolt from my electrodes

What literary devices are at play here? Think about the locations described.

Answer: Setting and Imagery

Spooky Scary Skeletons (1996) Andrew Gold

Spooky, scary skeletons
Send shivers down your spine
Shrieking skulls will shock your soul
Seal your doom tonight

What literary devices are used to describe the skeletons? Think about repetition.



Answer: Alliteration, Hyperbole, and Imagery

Calling All the Monsters (2011 & 2021) China Anne McClain

Calling all the monsters,
calling all the monsters,
Calling all, I'm calling all, I'm
calling all the monsters,

Heart thumps and you jump
Coming down with
goosebumps

What literary devices are used here? Think about the scene being painted here.

Answer: Anaphora and Imagery



Writing Cure-Alls

- Don't forget to keep an eye on your deadlines!
- Remember that all complete sentences have at least one subject and one verb, and it never hurts to consult spell-check.
- Be aware of differences between APA and MLA formats.
- Pay attention to your citations and include where necessary.
- When in doubt, cite it!



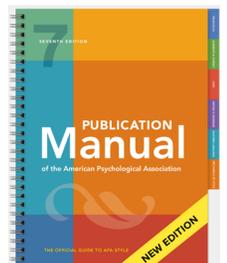
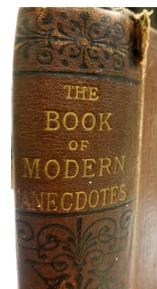
Word of the Day Goosebumps



- A state of the skin caused by cold, fear, or excitement, in which small pimples appear on the surface as the hairs become erect.
- The name of a popular book series by R.L. Stine.
- The television series of the same name based on Stine's books that will be playing in the Center during the week of Halloween.



The scariest books at the Center!



For writing tips on APA and MLA formatting, visit the Citation Station outside the center!