

Common App

Essay Prompts 2024-2025

Choose One

1	Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2	The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3	Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4	Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5	Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6	Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7	Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Q: What is the min/max word count for the essays on the Questions page or Writing Supplement?

A: Each school has different requirements/word counts for their essay questions, so be sure to check the specified word count for each section. Some schools have their word count specified in the question, so make sure to read each question carefully. The system will notify you if you exceed or do not meet the word limit for any given essay question.

Please note that some short answer questions do not have a min/max word count listed. If you don't see a green check for a completed section, please go back and click into the text box and add a space. If the text box has a word count limit, the system will notify you and you can adjust your answer accordingly.