

HELP WITH YOUR COLLEGE ENTRANCE ESSAY

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EDITORIAL ADVISORY SERVICES - REVIEW, REACTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Hourly rates apply

Role of the Essay – A powerful, truthful, well-written essay shows an admissions committee what makes you stand out from other applicants.

How Important? – It can be the **tie-breaker** when all else is equal between competing applicants. Top factors are grades, strength of high school courses and scores on admission tests (such as SATs). For a marginal applicant, an insightful, imaginative essay can sometimes tip the balance.

Before We Start – Student is required to work independently, and spend sufficient time personalizing the draft, which means choosing a topic/theme that means something to you (that you care about or can't forget), and reading over/revising your first attempts, voicing your opinion with care and focus. If student is absolutely "stuck," I have an exercise (based on Kevin Costner's tirade in "Bull Durham") that helps!

What You Get – Student receives practical, hands-on suggestions about the draft's key ideas and theme, content, organization, word usage, idea flow and overall coherence. If necessary, I'll help you pick a new topic. Working via email (and in-person if requested), I'll send back specific edits to the document and provide guidance through several revisions until we finish.

True Voice – Essay writing is also (an optional) part of the SAT exam. If a college entrance essay differs dramatically in style/voice from the one on the SAT, it will not only look out of place, it could potentially "raise suspicions" in admissions reviews about who actually wrote it. In our work, the voice is really the student's.

Say It Like You Mean It, Kid – I *will not* write the essay for you, but I will help you express yourself authentically, and make the most of this opportunity to show who you've become, what you've learned, and what makes you stand out from the crowd!

