

**SUMMER ADVICE TO JUNIORS...** as you start to think about writing your college application essays

**BEGIN WITH THIS LINK:** [http://www.applywithsanity.com/blog-1/2021/5/10/what-juniors-should-be-doing-this-summer?ss\\_source=sscampaignt&ss\\_campaign\\_id=60a7d92c8a5b2b4210792a10&ss\\_email\\_id=60b69b45f0b59576dbc8954b&ss\\_campaign\\_name=Your+June+college+admission+newsletter%21&ss\\_campaign\\_sent\\_date=2021-06-01T20%3A40%3A40Z](http://www.applywithsanity.com/blog-1/2021/5/10/what-juniors-should-be-doing-this-summer?ss_source=sscampaignt&ss_campaign_id=60a7d92c8a5b2b4210792a10&ss_email_id=60b69b45f0b59576dbc8954b&ss_campaign_name=Your+June+college+admission+newsletter%21&ss_campaign_sent_date=2021-06-01T20%3A40%3A40Z)

(Mr. Holloway's "Apply with Sanity" website has a lot of great information & resources on it. We would recommend that you begin with this article and then continue to look through the rest of his website too.)

**NEXT:** to prepare yourself for writing strong & compelling college essays... **please follow this advice:** The very best thing that you can do over the summer is: write journal entries (for yourself) about your life, in general.

(*Don't let yourself overthink it – just write!*) It doesn't even really matter what the subject matter is as long as it is **about YOU** and requires you to put your perspective & feelings into words.

→ → → If you could get into the habit of journaling *-now-* over the summer, it will improve your writing tremendously when it finally comes to the process of writing for the targeted college essay prompts themselves.

**PLEASE ALSO READ THESE ARTICLES:**

<https://dailystoic.com/journaling/> & <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/25/style/journaling-benefits.html>  
(these articles will give you a nice overview of the benefits you will get from the practice of journaling)

## **Our "summer prep" advice would be this:**

**Spend June & July focused on keeping up with a personal journal!** Just focus on writing from your own perspective and identify your feelings in the moments that you journal about. Keep up with this as often as you can throughout June & July. (The focus should be achieving a vast quantity of personal writing!)

→ → And then **AFTER you have a lot of personal entries behind you, in early AUGUST**, go to this link (<https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>) and then you can start writing drafts for these essay topics.

Keep in mind, you will likely revise these drafts (a lot) once the year begins.... (These published prompt topics are VERY common prompts that you should/can prepare for because *-the majority of you-* will apply to CommonApp schools. And, since these are likely to be relevant to you soon enough, this would be a good place to start.)

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And then -later on- when we see each other in late August/early September - Mr. Parker & I will begin the process of telling you about what you should strive for in your college essays and we will also talk to you about how to (properly) ask for recommendation letters.

Until then, *get to journaling!* 😊

~ Casperson & Parker