



UC INSIGHT QUESTIONS



Goals

- Learn how to write a strong essay for:
 - UC's
 - Private/Independent universities (Common App)
 - Scholarships
- UC Insight Questions
 - Learn what the questions are
 - Begin brainstorming your answers
- Brainstorm Activity



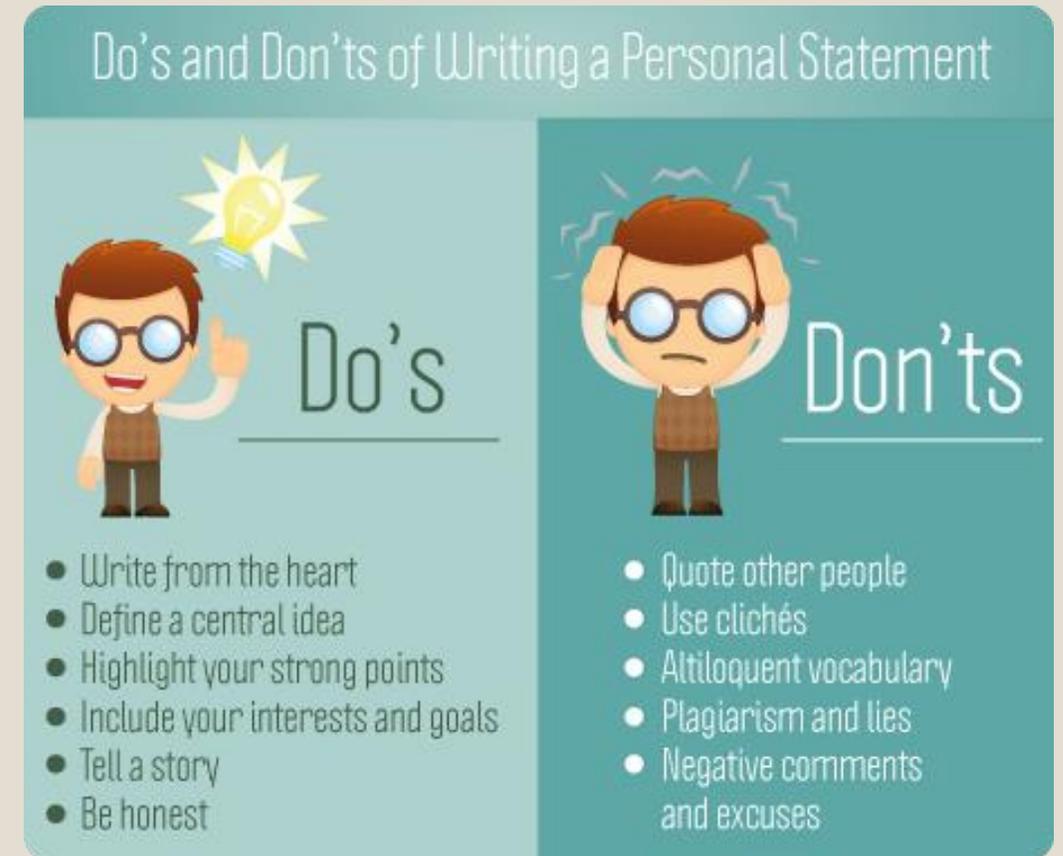
Writing a Strong essay

How to write a strong essay

- Consider the essay or statement question
- Develop a plan
- Write an outline
- Begin writing

When writing a response to any question for scholarships, or college applications make sure you take your time thinking about how to answer the question.

Do's and Don'ts of Writing a Personal Statement



Do's

- Write from the heart
- Define a central idea
- Highlight your strong points
- Include your interests and goals
- Tell a story
- Be honest

Don'ts

- Quote other people
- Use clichés
- Arrogant vocabulary
- Plagiarism and lies
- Negative comments and excuses

UC Insight Questions

Purpose

The purpose of your personal statement is about getting to know your personality, background, interests and achievements

Which questions should you answer?

Choose questions that are most relevant to your experience and best reflect your individual circumstance. Express who you are and what matters to you.

Quick info

- There are 8 different questions you can answer from
 - You must answer 4 out of the 8 questions
- 350 words max per response

Keep in Mind

- All questions are equal
- Do NOT answer question #8 unless it cannot be answered by any of the other questions
- There is no right or wrong answer
- The purpose of the questions

UC Insight Questions

- Question #1

Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes or contributed to group efforts over time.

- Question #2

Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.

- Question #3

What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?

- Question #4

Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.

- Question #5

Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?

- Question #6

Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom.

UC Insight Questions

- Question #7

What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?

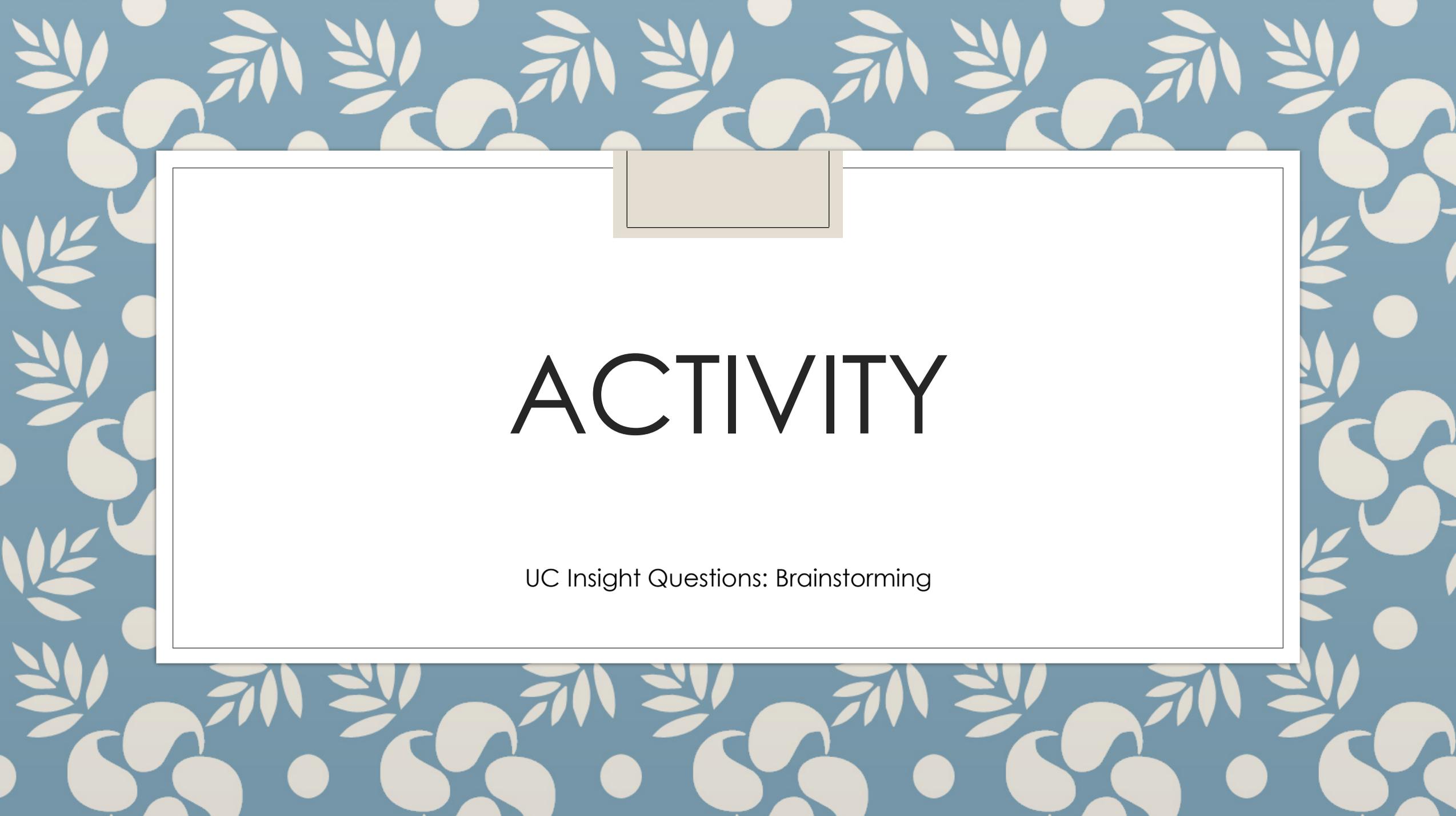
- Question #8

Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you stand out as a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?



For more info or help on the UC Insight questions visit:

<http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/personal-questions/freshman/>



ACTIVITY

UC Insight Questions: Brainstorming

Activity

What are the key words in these question?

Question #1

Describe an example of you leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time.

Question #4

Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.

Writing Tips:

1. Start Early

1. Give yourself enough time (~1 month) to develop a good and well written response.

2. Write persuasively

1. Use concrete examples to support the points you wish to make

3. Use “I” statements

4. Proofread and Edit

1. Have a friend, a teacher or your academic advisor proofread your work and help you improve your responses
2. Reading your responses aloud can help you catch writing mistakes

5. Get feedback

1. Have someone look over your responses and have them give you pointers on how to improve your work

6. Copy and paste

1. Once you are satisfied with your responses copy them and paste them onto your online application

7. Relax

1. This part of the application process will only add value to your entire application. Keep in mind that this is one of the many pieces that UC admission officers will consider.

Things to avoid:

- **Talking about one campus:** Remember that your responses are for all of the UC campuses!
- **Inappropriate use of humor**
- **Creative writing (poems, clichés)**
- **Quotations:** They want to know your thoughts & words, not someone else's
- **Acronyms:** Spell it out!
 - Ex: I am a member of CB.
- **Generalities:** Try to be specific. Stick to the facts and personal examples.
- **Repetition:** You're response is limited therefore try to provide new information they will not be able to find elsewhere in you're application. This includes same examples or same clubs.
- **Asking philosophical questions:** Get to the point!



QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
CONCERNS?



Week 5 of Webinars

Mon. May 4th @ 12:00 : Imposter Syndrome- Learn what it is and how to identify it within yourself

Tues. May 5th @ 3:00 : College Knowledge Jeopardy- Play a game to test what you know!

Weds. May 6th @ 11:00 : How COVID 19 has impacted extracurricular activities- Learn how to still build your college profile amid the pandemic

Thurs. May 7th @ 2:00 : Scholarships- Gain knowledge of the basics to applying

Fri. May 8th @ 11:00 : Undocumented Students in Higher Education

Meeting ID: 297-504-6222

Please make sure to reach out to your advisor ahead of time for the meeting password.