

## College Application Topics

Imagine that you have the opportunity to travel back through time. At what point in history would you like to stop and why? (Swarthmore)

What is the best advice you ever received? Why? And did you follow it? (University of Pennsylvania)

What do you think has been the most important social or political movement of the twentieth century? Do you share a personal identification with this cause? (Trinity College, CT)

Andy Warhol said that "in the future everyone will be famous for fifteen minutes." Describe your fifteen minutes. (New York University)

What single adjective do you think would be most frequently used to describe you by those who know you best? Briefly explain. (Stanford)

Create a question we haven't asked and then provide the answer. (Dartmouth)

Tell us about the neighborhood that you grew up in and how it helped shape you into the kind of person you are today. (Yale and the University of Chicago)

You've just written a 300-page autobiography. Send us page 217. (University of Pennsylvania)

If you could be a "fly on the wall" to observe any situation--historical, personal, or otherwise--describe what you would choose to observe and why. What would you hope to learn and how would it benefit you? (University of Pittsburgh)

Describe a risk that you have taken and discuss its impact on your life. (Kalamazoo College)

If you could spend a year with any real or fictional person in the past, present, or future, whom would you choose? Why? (Kalamazoo College)

What invention would the world be better off without, and why? (Kalamazoo College)

If you had the power to change three things in your community or in the world, what would you change and why? (Middle East Technical University in Turkey)

If you had the gift of telepathy, the ability to read other people's minds, would you use this gift or not? Explain. (Middle East Technical University in Turkey)

Tell us about one of the best conversations you've had. (Stanford)

Select a technological innovation of this century and discuss its effects on your family, local community or nation. (Notre Dame)

What is the greatest challenge you have faced, and how did you react to it? (Bowdoin College)

Discuss some creative work that has been meaningful to you or has changed or affected the way you view the world and how it has done so. The creative work may be a novel, film, poem, scientific theory, painting, or other form of art. (Colorado College)

Describe your experience with a person, culture, or belief system different from what is familiar to you. Discuss how the experience affected you. (Colorado College)

What do you hope to study and learn in college? (Colorado College)

What has been your most profound or surprising intellectual experience? (Duke University)

According to Stephen Carter, we can admire those with integrity even though we disagree with them. Are there people you admire even though you deeply disagree with them? What do you admire about them? How do you reconcile this apparent contradiction? (Duke University)

Please choose a subject of genuine interest to you. There is no right or wrong response to this request. In writing about something that is of interest to you, you will express more about yourself. Good writing can address any topic. (Emory University)

Describe the personal experience that gave you the feeling of greatest achievement or satisfaction because of the challenges you faced. (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Describe a specific situation or experience that led you to question your values or change one of your strongly held opinions. How did you change as a result of the experience? (Lewis & Clark College)

Twenty years after you graduate from college you receive national and international recognition for your work. Describe this work and your hope for its effects on society. (Pomona College)

What would people who know you be surprised to learn about you? (Presbyterian College)

Is there any situation in which you believe it is acceptable to lie, cheat, or steal? (Presbyterian College)