

# Lesson plan

## Creating a UCAS personal statement

40  
Minutes

16-18  
Age

KS5:L24  
PSHE

### Learning outcome(s)

By the end of the lesson students will:

- Understand what makes a great personal statement
- Have identified the information and evidence to include in their personal statement
- Have started to write their personal statement

### Summary of the lesson

This activity helps students to create their own UCAS personal statement:

- A short video explains how to plan, start and structure a personal statement
- Students use the **Personal Statement builder** or complete the form/worksheet **My Personal Statement** to gather information and evidence to include in their personal statement
- They start to draft their personal statement

#### Classroom requirements

- Interactive whiteboard
- **My personal statement** form/worksheet, one per student

#### Suitable for students aged

16-18

#### Time required to complete tasks

40 mins max

#### Gatsby Benchmarks covered



#### Learning area in the CDI Career Development Framework

Explore possibilities

#### Programme of Study for PSHE Education

KS4:L19 / KS5:L24

#### Skills Builder Universal Framework



# Lesson activities

## 1. Finding a formula

Show the video (5 minutes).

Encourage students to feedback what they have learned from the video and to raise any questions or concerns they may have.

Suggested questions for discussion:

- What are admissions tutors looking for in a personal statement?
- How can you make your statement stand out from the crowd?
- What should you avoid in your personal statement?

Time  
Required

10  
Min

### Resources

Access the video here:  
<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>

## 2. Worksheet exercise

Note: For schools with Higher, students can use the **Personal Statement builder** in their Morrisby account in **Progress > Applications > Personal Statement**. For schools with Tracker, students can use the form **My Personal Statement** in their Morrisby account in **Progress > Activities > My personal statement**. For either activity students need access to a computer/device.

For schools without access to Higher or Tracker, hand out the worksheet **My Personal Statement** to the class:

- To record the reasons for their course choice
- To identify the evidence to support their choice

Time  
Required

20  
Min

### Resources

**My personal statement** worksheet for each student

## 3. Drafting the personal statement

After completing the first two sections of the form/worksheet **My Personal Statement**, students can start drafting their personal statement on paper or electronically. Students using the **Personal Statement builder** create a draft personal statement using this online tool.

Time  
Required

10  
Min



## Differentiation



Some students may need help to complete specific sections of the **Personal Statement builder** or the form/worksheet **My Personal Statement**.

## Extension activities



Students can continue working on their personal statement in their own time. Remind them to revisit the advice on how to write a personal statement in their Morrisby account or on the UCAS website at <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>.

