

# COLLEGE ESSAYS COLLEGE ESSAYS ENGLISH 4H

## OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you will have crafted a “personal statement” that you can submit as part of your college applications.

Items we will discuss/consider:

- What makes a good essay?
- Topics to avoid.
- Examples of quality college essays.

We will review the essay prompts on the Common App for 2021-2022 and decide which is the best fit. **You will also learn techniques that will strengthen your writing more generally.**

**\*All instructions and deadlines are on Canvas.**

# College Essay Writing Slides Presentation

## Sample Essay Discussion

Read & Discuss teaching points of each!

- 1) *Topics*
- 2) *Tips*

*Sample essays can be found in Canvas*

## COLLEGE ESSAY PROCESS

Brainstorm -  
“Topic Dump”

CHECK IN WITH ME.  
IMPLEMENT  
FEEDBACK.

BEGIN ROUGH  
DRAFT.

CHECK IN WITH ME  
AGAIN.  
REVISE. THEN CHECK IN  
AGAIN.

BEGIN FINAL  
DRAFT.

SUBMIT.

## Teaching Points = Grade Checklist

### Summative Benchmarks/Rubric:

- ⇒ **Anecdote:** “Show” don’t “tell”
- ⇒ **Vocabulary:** 5 precise topic-specific verbs/nouns
- ⇒ **Purpose:** Meaningful /clear traits displayed
- ⇒ Writing is well-crafted and **organized well** (*solid draft to work from*)
- ⇒ **MLA/Length:** Basic MLA Page format; Falls in suggested length range (400-500 words)

# Moral Dilemmas

## Hippocratic Oath

You are a very skilled doctor with five dying patients, each of whom needs a different organ in order to live. Unfortunately, there are no organs available to perform any of the transplants. It just so happens that you have a sixth dying patient, suffering from a fatal illness, who will die sooner than the other five if not treated. If this sixth patient dies, you will be able to use his organs to save the five other patients. However, you have a medicine you can give to this sixth patient that will cure his illness and he won't die.



### Poll

- A. a. Wait for the patient to die and then harvest his organs or
- B. b. Save the patient even though the other patients won't get organs.

*What would YOU do?...*

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# Moral Dilemmas Slides/Nearpod Activity

## The Railroad Choice

### What should you do?

You're standing by the side of a track when you see a runaway train hurtling toward you: clearly the brakes have failed. Ahead are five people, tied to the track. If you do nothing, the five will be run over and killed. Luckily you are next to a signal switch: turning this switch will send the train down a side track just ahead of you. On the side track you spot one person tied to the track: changing direction will inevitably result in this person being killed. You do not have time to untie the victims.



### Collaborate!

What will YOU do?  
And why?

How to Edit  
Click [here](#) in the plugin to make changes.  
Don't have the Nearpod add-on? Open the "Add-on" menu in Google Slides to install.

The thumbnails show the following content:

- Slide 1:** Title slide 'Moral Dilemmas' with a green and blue abstract background.
- Slide 2:** 'The Railroad Choice' text and 'What should you do?' question with a train illustration.
- Slide 3:** 'What will YOU do? And why?' text on a dark background.
- Slide 4:** 'To steal, or not to steal?...' text with two columns of text describing a scenario about a woman's cancer treatment and a pharmacist's dilemma.
- Slide 5:** 'Collaborate!' header and 'To steal, or not to steal?...' text on a brown background.
- Slide 6:** 'The end justifies the means...?' text with a paragraph about a man robbing a bank for an orphanage.
- Slide 7:** 'Future consequences' text with a scroll illustration and a paragraph about a student council member's dilemma.
- Slide 8:** 'Poll' header and two poll options: 'A. a. Call the police and report the robbery, even though they would likely see the money away from the orphanage or' and 'B. b. Do nothing and leave the robber and the orphanage?'
- Slide 9:** 'Collaborate!' header and 'What would you do?' text on a yellow background.