1. **Describe a facet of your identity, background or story that is essential to who you are.**

For this essay, try finding a part of your identity that will set you apart and highlight the unique perspective you will bring to the university. Try to avoid writing an essay that a school will most likely get a million different times — for example, an essay about your talent playing a sport or your early love of learning. Think about an aspect of your personality, family or upbringing that is truly special.

1. **Write about a time that you failed at something. How did that failure affect you?**

Don’t be afraid to dig deep and talk about something that may feel vulnerable. Try to conclude with an example of how the failure improved the way you deal with similar situations now. It can be uncomfortable for anyone to admit they’re less-than-great at something, but that honesty can be refreshing, especially if you tell your story in an authentic, relatable way.

1. **Tell us about a time where you challenged your pre-existing worldview. Why? Would you do this again?**

In this essay, choose a time that you were able to listen to experiences and perspectives contrary to yours with respect and maturity. Demonstrate that you are able to zoom out from your personal worldview and learn from those you may disagree with. This can not only give colleges an idea of your ability to engage in difficult ideological debates, but also your character and humility.

1. **Write about a problem that you have or want to solve. It can be as big or as small as you can think of!**

For this question, don’t be afraid to think outside of the box. It is easy to say a typical world issue — like hunger — but a creative problem can showcase your specific passions and interests and set you apart. An admissions officer is much more likely to remember an applicant who has a very specific essay written in a unique and quirky way.

1. **Write about a moment that illustrated your shift from child to adult within your community or family.**

If you can’t immediately think of a pivotal event for this essay, you may want to skip it and try a different one. Essays like this are best answered with significant and unique moments rather than less important ones.

1. **Describe a favorite book or movie where the main character has to decide something difficult. What did you think about their choice?**

The defining factor for this essay is what book or movie you choose. Stay away from pop culture novels that many people may use (*Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games*, etc.) and try to pick a book you have read in school or something unique you read for fun that stayed with you. However, don’t use a book you didn’t enjoy! Inauthenticity will always come through in your writing.