Exploring Getting started on Profile

Try to answer questions such as these to get started on your profile:

1. What is a possible topic?
2. What do I already know about my subject?
3. What positive or negative preconceptions do I have?
4. Why am I interested in exploring this subject?
5. What questions about the subject would I most like answers to? Who might I be able to talk to about the subject?
6. What do I know about my audience? What can I say to interest them in my subject?
7. What might my audience already know about my subject? What questions might they have?
8. What is my purpose in exploring this subject? What would I like the end result of my research and writing to be? More knowledge? Information that I might use to pursue some goal?

Using these questions, free write for 10 minutes, writing down everything you can think of about your subject. Or list your ideas about the subject. Develop categories for your list to help you brainstorm. Or you could try clustering.

Source: The McGraw-Hill guide: writing for college, writing for life. Rosen, Glau, and Maid.