HERE ARE SOME SAMPLE ESSAY QUESTIONS

• Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

• Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?

• Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

• Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there, and why is it meaningful to you?

• Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

• What person (current or historical) do you most admire and why?

• Describe an experience that has given you great satisfaction.

• What do you feel are the most significant issues facing the world today? Why?

• Describe an experience from a play, film, or book that has been instrumental in changing your viewpoint.

• Discuss one or two academic experiences (books, projects, or papers that you have done; a specific course or subject in school) that have meant the most to you during your secondary years.

• List the books that have had the greatest impact on you, and briefly discuss one of them.

• For which one of your personal qualities would you want to be remembered by your classmates?

• Identify and discuss a significant problem facing your generation that has special significance for you.

• Discuss any academic/intellectual interests that are especially important or meaningful to you.

• Discuss nonacademic interests that have been most meaningful to you.

• Analyze a problem that faces you or your community, region, or nation. How did the problem develop and how might it be solved?

• Whom would you like to interview and why?

• Ask a provocative and revealing question of a college applicant. Now answer it.

• Describe the greatest challenge you have faced or expect to face.

• If you could create a national holiday, what would you choose to celebrate?

• If you could spend a day with anyone, who would it be, and how would you spend your time?