

GHS STUDENT AUTOBIOGRAPHY INSTRUCTIONS



Most four-year universities and many scholarships require that students submit an essay as part of the application process. Your autobiography will be a great way for you to practice and be a base for future essays. Be sure that you CHECK THE DIRECTIONS for ALL scholarships or colleges because their essay requirements might be DIFFERENT than what you write for this. Once you have completed your essay, keep a copy under the “Important Papers” tab in your senior binder. **This assignment is due November 11, 2021.**

Your essay should follow these MINIMUM requirements:

- ✓ 1 page in length
- ✓ Typed NOT handwritten
- ✓ Grammatically correct (use proper spacing, punctuation, spelling, etc.)
- ✓ Well written. Have your English teacher or someone with essay writing experience PROOFREAD your essay!
- ✓ Papers with 5 or more errors of any kind will have to be re-written so have it proofread before you turn it in!

Topics to cover in your essay:

- ✓ A brief introduction of yourself. Just the important points.
- ✓ What is important to me?
- ✓ What is a challenge I have faced in my life? What did I learn from the experience?
- ✓ What are my plans/goals for the future? How will I reach those goals?
- ✓ Wrap your essay up with a conclusion that ties all of our topics together and leaves the reader with a positive sense of your future.

Example Outline for Autobiography (Please use your own creativity—these are just tips to help if you are stuck!)

Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself.

- Introduction of self. Give reader a sense of who you are (just the important points)
- Brief history of you and a little about your family
- Personal characteristics or words that describe me
- Values: What is important to me?

Paragraph 2: Identify a challenge you have overcome in your life.

Almost everyone has gone through a challenging time in their lives. Identify an experience or life situation that you have had to overcome.

- How did you get through the difficult time?
- What did you learn from the experience that will help you in life and/or to reach your goals?

Paragraph 3: Your Future...

- What kind of post-high school training or education have you selected?
- What is your top choice for your career?
- How do you intend to reach your schooling and/or career goals?
- What have you already done that has gotten you closer to your goal (ie: applied to a school, received acceptance letter, applied for scholarships, completed the FAFSA, etc.)
- Why is it important to you to reach your goals?

Paragraph 4: Conclusion

Tie all of your points together and leave the reader with a positive sense of your future.

*****Remember...**

Use “Save As” to modify the autobiography to meet specific scholarship or college application requests.