

Literature review

Writing a sample literature review

- Read the text and write out its key ideas with key words. Provide info about the source of the information.
- Exchange the results of your work so that each person has ideas from all other texts.
- Make a plan of short review. Include all the key words and expressions.
- Join the bullet points of your plan into a story.
- Insert linking words to make the text easier for the reader.
- Insert the sources of information for each idea.

Personal Statements

- Writing a personal statement requires a good level of academic language and ability to formulate fully and concisely your purpose and motives, along with ability to motivate your readers to get interested in you. Propose a structure, in bullet-points, for such a statement (4-5 minutes to complete).
- After you have made a plan for a personal statement, read an example of a sample one. What is its structure? How many words and signs might it contain? How is it generally organized?

Generally, your personal statement is not supposed to be longer than 4000 signs (better a bit shorter). It is important to organize your text in clear and compact paragraphs each starting with a topical sentence.

Although you do not need to follow a set structure, here is a rough guideline of how you could order your personal statement for university:

1. Reasons for wanting to study (this may include your personal story of how you got interested in the subject)
2. Why you are suitable (what you did to realize your interest)
3. How your current study is relevant
4. Your related hobbies and interests
5. Your skills and achievements

Read the personal statement again and match paragraphs and numbers of the points in the plan above.

What expressions does the author use to signal transition to a new idea? List them below and state their function:

- to start the text: **I reckon I have been around computers for as long as I can remember.**
- to write about what the applicant really did - _____