

WHAT UNIVERSITIES ARE LOOKING FOR?



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ADMISSIONS TUTORS LOOK FOR

Academic results eg. A levels, IB, BTECs, GCSEs

Certain subjects (if required)

Work experience (if required)

Pre-admissions tests

Personal statements

Teacher's reference



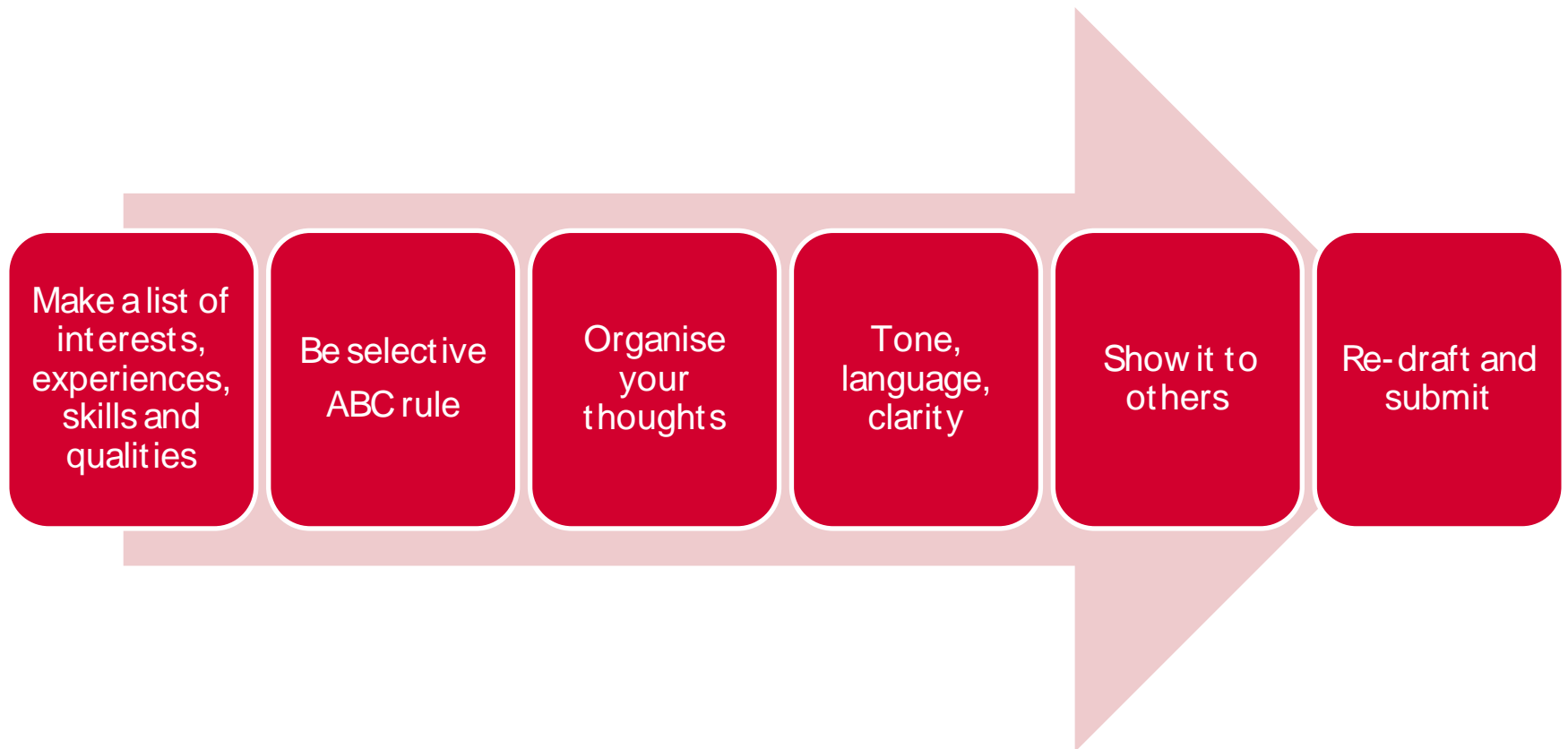
ADMISSIONS TUTORS LOOK FOR

- An inquiring mind
- Burning desire to study the subject
- Ambition
- Interest in the field
- Research & knowledge
- Independent learning
- Application of skills learnt
- Awareness of real world issues in their chosen area



GET STARTED: GET ORGANISED

WRITING THE PERSONAL STATEMENT





BE ORIGINAL

TOP 10 MOST OVERUSED PERSONAL STATEMENT OPENINGS

- Of over 700,000 candidates who applied to university last year 1,779 began their personal statement: "From a young age I have (always) been.." and most of these continued "interested in" or "fascinated by".
- "For as long as I can remember I have..." was used by 1,451 applicants
- "I am applying for this course because..." by 1,370 applicants
- "I have always been interested in..." (927)
- "Throughout my life I have always enjoyed..." (310)
- "Reflecting on my educational experiences..." (257)
- "Nursing is a very challenging and demanding (career/ profession/ course)... (211)
- "Academically, I have always been..." (168)
- "I have always wanted to pursue a career in..." (160)
- "I have always been passionate about..." (160).

Source: BBC Online 21st April 2016 published by UCAS



SUPER CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Work experience
- Voluntary work
- Reading newspapers, journals etc
- Public lectures
- MOOCs
- TED talks
- Museums/Theatre
- Taster and masterclasses



WHAT COULD BE INCLUDED?

KEY THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Admissions tutors want to see a person not just an application
- Students need to show themselves as a highly motivated and independent learner with an inquiring mind
- The content and style of the personal statement
- Applications take time to complete
- Above all be truthful, be specific and be interesting

WEBSITES

www.reading.ac.uk

www.ucas.com

www.unistats.direct.gov.uk

www.push.co.uk

www.thestudentroom.co.uk

www.gov.uk/student-finance

www.opendays.com

www.ukcoursefinder.com

www.prospect.ac.uk

www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus

www.futurelearn.com/courses

ANY QUESTIONS?