the personal statement

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it’s more important than you think

this is your chance to separate yourself, sell yourself, start your interview right and get into medical school
I COULD RUT ONLY BACKWARDS
AND WITH DAVID TENNANT.

FAVOURITE
IS 'ROCK N ROLL
ME'. IT'S BY DAVID
YOU SHOULD
LISTEN TO THE LYRICS.

I'VE GOT A
LOVE/HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VIEW FROM THIS WINDOW

I'M MORE PROUD OF MY FRIENDS THAN MYSELF ALREADY.

SOMETIMES I REMEMBER GOOD TIMES, BUT I'M NOT SURE IT WASN'T MERELY
MY MEMORY THAT WANTED TO FORGET.

I WASN'T A CONFLATED PERSON, ANgrund

I LISTEN TO RADIO FOUR. (IN THAT SENSE, AT LEAST. MUSIC IS MY COMFORT BLANKET.)

SOME OF THESE ROCKS ARE LIKE COMFORT BLANKETS.

THIS IS ME
The only place on your application where you can deviate from the norm is the interview. Many applicants have your MCAT scores and GPAs and even experiences, but no one else has your personal statement. Your personal statement will be the starting point for your interview.
what should I keep in mind while writing my personal statement?

three goals:
your goals

don’t get yourself rejected

sell yourself

show them why medicine
### Never do this
- Mention your GPA
- Mention your MCAT score
- Make a typo
- Make a spelling mistake
- Name drop
- Mention the research award you won
- Make mistakes in medical knowledge

### Almost never do this
- Write in the third person
- Say “I want to go into medicine because I want to help people”
- List your qualities
- List your extracurricular activities

### Try to Avoid
- Talking about your third cousin’s roommate who was hospitalized
- Mentioning how you want to be a doctor since you were in the womb
- Talking about one bad grade
the good personal statement
an interesting writing style
a great introduction
personal stories
an interesting writing style

Boring:
"I went to Columbia University and majored in Biomedical Engineering"

Interesting:
"x equals negative b plus or minus the square root... these were the formulas that dominated my life for many years"
an interesting writing style

Interesting Introductions

• "I am a geek..."
• "As I stared out the window I saw a city that was as foreign as any I had ever been to..."
• "I grew up on a tomato farm..."

Boring Introductions

• "Ever since I was born, I loved science"
• "I knew I wanted to be a doctor since I was young"
• "I always wanted to help people"
• "The human body is very interesting to me"
the medical school personal statement

the specifics
Use the personal comments essays as an opportunity to distinguish you from other applicants. Some questions you may want to consider while writing this essay are:

• Why have you selected the field of medicine?
• What motivates you to learn more about medicine?
• What do you want medical schools to know about you that hasn't been disclosed in another section of the application?

In addition, you may wish to include information such as: special hardships, challenges or obstacles that may have influenced your educational pursuits. Commentary on significant fluctuations in your academic record that are not explained elsewhere in your application“
Length: 5300 characters (MD) or 4500 characters (DO)
- Every space, period, letter counts as a character

Formatting: AMCAS is a plain text box.
- Do not type directly into the box (this will lead to spelling errors)
- Type the essay in Microsoft Word
- Save the file as a *.rtf file

Proofing: AMCAS will export your file as a PDF
- Read your entire essay on the PDF for formatting errors
- Apostrophes, quotations and line breaks often come out wrong
Your essay should be looked over by:
• a friend
• your family
• an M.D.
 MEDSCHOOLCOACH
helping you achieve your medical school dreams
What’s special, unique, distinctive and/or impressive about you and your life story?

Give them something to remember you by, and more importantly, sometime that will make them want to meet you.
questions to ask yourself

What details of your life (personal or family problems, history, people or events that have shaped you or influenced your goals) might help the committee better understand you or help set you apart from other applicants?

Let the committee know what has shaped you into the person you are and where you come from.
questions to ask yourself

Have you had to overcome any unusual obstacles or hardships (for example, economic, familial, or physical) in your life?

Again, let the committee know what you have come out of and where you have come from. This will tell them a lot about the kind of person that you are and your ability to endure. (b/c med school is all about endurance)
more questions to ask yourself

What personal characteristics (for example, integrity, compassion, persistence) do you possess that would improve your prospects for success in the field or profession? Is there a way to demonstrate or document that you have these characteristics?

Are there any gaps or discrepancies in your academic record that you should explain (great grades but mediocre MCAT scores, for example, or a distinct upward pattern to your GPA if it was only average in the beginning)?

When did you become interested in this field and what have you learned about it (and about yourself) that has further stimulated your interest and reinforced your conviction that you are well suited to this field? What insights have you gained?
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• Medical school admissions essay editing by advisors who have read hundreds of them
• Honest feedback from advisors who know what admissions committees and medical schools look for in a personal statement
• Guidance for every step of the process – from brainstorming to the final grammar check
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very tree in our forest type has an equal probability.

The best conclusion from the data is biased, so that we can conclude that more than one.

The data are a tape measure, drag line, diameter tape measure.

To collect this data, the point-quarter method and the

Techniques will use random sample points that are chosen using

random number tables to select locations along the main

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