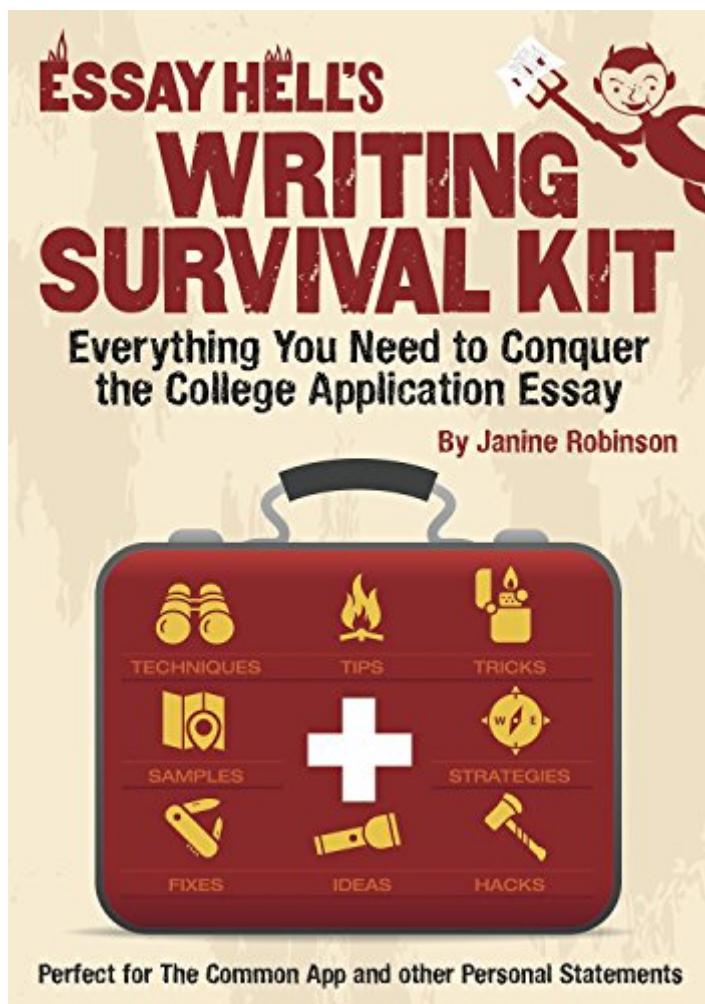


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Essay Hell's Writing Survival Kit: Everything You Need To Conquer The College Application Essay



Synopsis

If you are like most students, college admissions essays push you into the scary, uncharted territory of writing about yourself. It doesn't help that you feel unprepared to craft this unfamiliar type of personal essay or that you also feel incredible pressure to make it perfect. But there's still time to learn and ace it! The Writing Survival Kit will prepare you to write a killer essay using a toolkit of powerful narrative writing techniques. If you can tell your real-life stories, you will engage your readers and reveal your personality, talents, skills, character, intellectual vitality, grit, passions and dreams in the process. Colleges love this! No matter where you are in the essay writing process, learn about finding topics, structuring a narrative essay, crafting anecdotes, showing and telling, adding depth and introspection, displaying intellectual vitality, using sensory details, including dialogue, adding titles, and ending with memorable conclusions. Every "chunk" of advice and instruction is indicated with easy-to-find icons. Besides writing tips, techniques, strategies and other writing tools, this book includes helpful college admissions resources and inspiring sample essays written by real students. Most of the writing instruction is backed up by relevant examples. Outfitted with this easy-to-use Writing Survival Kit, you will be prepared to conquer your own college application essays and land in your dream school! Students looking for a step-by-step guide on crafting narrative college admissions essays would love Essay Hell's companion guide: Escape Essay Hell. They also can find 50 inspiring narrative-style essays in the popular collection of samples written by real students who got into the most competitive colleges and universities in the nation, called Heavenly Essays. Find more help on the author's popular blog on writing college application essays at www.EssayHell.com. She also offers group and private tutoring to students and those who work to help them find their top-choice schools.

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Customer Reviews

I think this is a good basic writing tool - short book so easy to read through. It covers the basic do's and don'ts but it's not going give you much ideas about how to go about writing a college essay and give you basic information about how to go about editing your essay. I do find that College Essay Essentials by Ethan Sawyer does a MUCH better job on approach to writing a college essay especially when you don't know how and where to begin.

Excellent, practical treasure trove of tips for seniors preparing to write their personal statements. As a tutor and advisor who gives guidance to students, I definitely appreciated Janine Robinson's down-to-earth approach, practical suggestions, examples, and very readable structure. I highly recommend this book to students and to counselors helping college-bound students in this task of essay writing. Buy it!

I read this book after going through Janine Robinson's guide 'Escape Essay Hell', and expected it to be redundant. Surprisingly, both books offer different perspectives as well as fresh advice. 'Escape Essay Hell' is written in a much more light-hearted style while it guides students with the specific steps to follow for a winning essay. This book on the other hand, is written in a more serious tone and deeply explains what qualities make a good college essay and why. Knowing my daughter, I think I will start her on 'Escape Essay Hell' first, as she will find the style fun to read and unintimidating, and then get her to follow some of the suggestions in this book once she starts the editing process.

Janine Robinson's "Writing Survival Kit" stresses that although there are no secrets to success in

college essays, there are a lot of ways to write authentically and find the topic and writing style that lets you showcase your best qualities. She encourages students to find their own story and take unorthodox angles on commonly written topics. She showcases concrete examples to demonstrate her points and offers a lot of food for thought on how to craft not just great essays, but responses that fit into a larger application portfolio. I recommend her guide to anyone who needs help getting started or are refining their final drafts. -- Kevin Robert Martin, author of *Your Ticket to the Forty Acres: The Unofficial Guide for UT Undergraduate Admissions*

An awesome companion to the process of essay crafting! This guide does not teach you to be a good writer. It teaches you to be a good application essay writer as all the concepts inside are tailored to meet the "criteria" of an effective college application essay. You may ask, "What's the difference between this guide and *Escape Essay Hell*?" Well, unlike Janine's previous guide "*Escape Essay Hell*", this guide does not tell you how to write your essay in detailed steps. Rather, it lists out all the qualities of a good application essay. I highly recommend reading this book before writing for an idea of the expectations of a good essay. I also recommend reading this book again after writing your essay drafts as a quality-control check list.

I've been a big fan of Janine's work ever since I started reading her blog posts over a year ago. As a college counselor and former college admissions counselor, I understand all too well just how important the essay can be in a student's application yet how challenging it can be to write an essay that truly conveys something of significance about the student. And I'm not talking about Earth shattering, life altering moments here. Rather, the best essays are born of random moments, issues, struggles, accomplishments - every day type of things that students often overlook when they try to come up with an idea. Janine's guide takes students step by step through this process whether they already have an idea and are trying to figure out how to start their essay or if they have no idea where to start at all. The *Essay Hell Writing Survival Kit* is a must-read for any college applicant who is struggling with their essay. And let's be honest, they all do at one point or another.

Before we discovered Janine's blog and her books *Essay Hell* as well as the *Survival Kit*, we had purchased every other book to try and understand for our oldest daughter how to write a college essay and how to choose a topic that would not cause a college admissions officer to roll their eyes in boredom. The other books we purchased for my child were either so basic as to be worthless or quite frankly, so esoteric as to be of no assistance. My complaint is that a number of the well known

books on this topic are written by former admission professionals or counselors who are unable to relate to a very busy high school senior who is trying to juggle academics and the college application process. I felt many of the books we purchased discuss the theory of an essay but never really helped the student walk through how to write the essay. In other words, the other books tell the student what to do, not how to write the essay. *Essay Hell* and *The Writing Survival Kit*. Both books are informative and most importantly walk the applicant through the essay writing process. Janine actually helps them find a topic by getting them to focus on a singular incident or event that leads to a broader discussion. My daughter read through the books and instantly understood what she needed to do to craft an essay that was reflective of her. Lastly, what I love about the process is that Janine actually helps the student find their own unique voice instead of producing an over polished or canned essay. Finally, these books reduce the stress and tension that accompany the entire college process. You will need every break you can get. Good luck and go with Janine. The price can't be beat.

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