



UCAS Personal Statement: 5 suggested paragraph topics

This is not the only way to structure a personal statement, below are ideas to get you started on giving your paragraphs themes.

Remember: Don't just describe yourself, explain why these details link to succeeding on the degree course that you are applying for.

This is because a key goal is to demonstrate your understanding of the course you're applying for, to reassure the university that you are well informed.

1 st paragraph: Introduce your key points
Demonstrate your understanding of the degree through some of these topics...
Why you want to study the course; what your career aim is (if you have decided); where did your interest stem from? Any independent research/reading? If the course has a direct career path such as Midwifery, ensure you make reference to the skills and activities needed in this role throughout your personal statement.

2 nd paragraph: Your academic skills and experiences
Demonstrate your understanding of the degree through some of these topics...
Talk about your studies and what skills and knowledge you gained that is relevant. How does it relate to what you will be doing at university? (Research the modules for the courses you are applying for). You could mention general skills to university such as essay writing skills, analytical skills, research skills, presentation skills and where you gained them. Or you can mention something that you have studied as part of your course which relates to what you will be doing in your future course (again, you will need to research the courses and work out what modules they have in common). You can also mention any relevant mock lectures, taster days, summer schools you have been on and the knowledge gained.



3rd paragraph: Workplace and life skills

Demonstrate your understanding of the degree through some of these topics...

Talk about your work experience, what skills have you gained? How does it relate to what you will be learning at university or any transferable skills?

4th paragraph: Other relevant information

Demonstrate your understanding of the degree through some of these topics...

Interests/hobbies and other personal experiences impacting your life - how have they developed you as a person? Do not just put what you did but also remember to mention how it has developed a certain skill/or knowledge, and how this has prepared you at university.

5th paragraph: Other relevant information

Demonstrate your understanding of the degree through some of these topics...

Ending, reinforce that study at university will help you to achieve your goal. If you are planning to go into a career that needs further study after your degree, highlight you are aware that future study is needed (i.e. Solicitor, Psychologist etc) and plan to take this on.