**Tips for College Apps and Classes:**

*Hi y’all, this is Angelynn Nguyen speaking!! This document is for high school experiences and advice for college applications, high school classes, and college. If you are looking for something specific press control F. Please use what you need from this document, but DO NOT PLAGIARIZE ANY OF THESE ESSAYS/WORKS!! Good Luck!!!*

**Tips for College Applications:**

**Angelynn Nguyen:**

Writing:

* Give yourself more time. ALL THE TIME. To figure out what you want
* Brainstorm -> as many drafts possible with individual and mentor revisions
* Focus on growth and development instead of end goal. What you learned NOT what you won.
* Make your essays enjoyable to read. Don't make it too informative. YOU'RE TELLING A STORY!!
* For the shorter essays (like UC) you can include a story like an intro and conclusion, but for the most part, state what you did
* You can either write in present tense, looking back or like you're in the moment
* Don't force anything, Don't lie, Don't stretch the truth too far
* Don't be afraid to brag about your accomplishments. Be convincing, attractive
* Use up all your words.
* Search up words, but if you don't see you using it don't
* Maintain your writing style and message. Present yourself the way you are. BE YOU
* Stay concise. Don't ramble!! Tell your story! Integrate your voice.
* Have a theme for each essay, DIFFERENT THINGS NOT THE SAME THINGS. How do you want the readers to think of you?
* study the prompts and don't answer more than they ask. Make outlines!!
* Choose different prompts to work on. focus on different things
* make use of all your resources

Outline for a typical essay:

* what is your problem or situation?
* How are you going to fix this problem/what are you doing?
* What was the result of your story/problem/situation?
* How are you going to help others with this solution? OR How does your solution apply to a bigger picture?

Writing Style Tips:

* First-person narrative (USE I/ME)
* Include hooks & grabs
* Use imagery, metaphors, similes, personification, alliteration, adjectives, descriptions, diction, symbols, figurative language, literary devices
* link your intro w/ conclusion
* use jokes if you want but don't force

College application process:

* college essays and short essay/questions
* FAFSA & CSS Profile (iDoc)
* Counselor Recommendation form
* teacher recommendations
* College Resume
* interview preparation
* scholarships
* transcripts and test scores
* make a list of extracurriculars
* know your SSN
* SAT subjects
* SAT and ACT
* research on schools
* take care of your health

**Angel Sandoval:**

Extracurriculars

* Why is it important to you / what does it say about you
* What were your goals / what did you accomplish

Challenging yourself

* Academically
  + Classes, IB/AP
* Personally
  + Hardships, inspiration
* Pursuing an interest
  + Extracurriculars, volunteering, leadership

How do you see yourself / What is your story

* Background (family, finances, schooling)
* Personality / morals / goals
* Academic interests (why are you going to college?)

\*\*\*Sell yourself: what makes you qualified to go to that college?\*\*\*

How to represent yourself in essays

* Personal statement
  + Emphasis on style; implement your voice and creativity
  + How do you see yourself and your life; why do you want to go to college
  + Think of it like an interview: you want to convey your identity, experiences, and way of viewing the world
* 150-400 words:
  + Have a main topic in mind and stick to it, but give it a story/description that shows your engagement in the activity

\*\*\*Use the different prompts to show different aspects of your character and abilities (e.g. leadership ability, volunteering, compassion and collaboration, drive to succeed, interest in a particular field, extracurriculars that you participated in AND WHY