

Daniel David

Prof. Justin Dixon

ACC Strategies

October 17 2016

Crossing the Finish Line

I approach the starting line. My heart is ready to jump out of my chest and I'm sweating in all the wrong places. Yet, I won't be deterred. In my head I'm sizing up my competition, ranking them based on their looks. The official calls us to our positions. It's time. I place my feet in the blocks and say a quick prayer. "You got this," I chant to myself over and over. Two long blasts of the whistle and the desire to win overcomes my body. I raise my hips in the air and the gun goes off. The rest is a blur.

I'm well aware that millions of students submit their applications about sports every day.

however, I want this one to be set apart from the rest because running is much more than a sport to me.

When I'm on that track, I feel like I actually belong somewhere. I'm in my element. When I'm away, I can hear the track calling me like a mother calls her child to come home. That's exactly what the track is to me, my home.

Five years ago, I never would've thought that I'd fall in love with the sport of track. My elementary school used to have a cross country team that ran around the school in these appalling short shorts. I would think to myself, "Who would embarrass themselves by running around in those?" Now those shorts are the same ones that give me the freedom to move effortlessly around the track. I wouldn't trade those shorts for any other piece of clothing in the world.

Kind of cliché but I understand your point
good simile/connection

maybe start paragraph here

consider rewording - J. Dixon

"around the track" → "when I run" - (consider)

If I can't succeed anywhere else in this world, I know I can be successful on the track. I've proven time and time again ~~that~~ I have what it takes to hang with the fastest out there. From the numerous medals and plaques, to appearing at state meets my freshman and sophomore year, I'm determined to make a name for myself in high school track. With these accolades comes a sense of accomplishment. When you grab that metaphoric brass ring, it leaves you with a desire to push yourself even further and set the bar higher than you'd even think possible. I attribute my success to the fact that I can keep on clearing the hurdles that I set before myself.

Under no circumstances am I claiming to be the fastest in the state of Missouri, let alone my school. I've been beat before and I'll be beaten again. The ability to pick myself up and dust myself off is another reason why I claim to be so successful. Failure is the seed of growth and success. Failure is a big part of any successful person's life. Without failure would success even exist? I choose not to dwell on my failures, I choose to rebuild and redesign so I can overcome what once was an obstacle.

} rearrange sentences

(Insert Closing paragraph)

A big part of any successful person's life is just that. Failure just that, failure.

Block: 6

Your Name: Alexa Hallibuton
Author's Name: Daniel David

College Application Essay Peer Review

Before you exchange papers, write a paragraph about specific questions or concerns you have about your writing piece that you would like your reviewer to focus on. Write your paragraph here:

Was it easy to understand what my main topic was? Did I have elements that made my writing stand out? Would you accept my application based on this essay?

Directions: Read through your partner's paper and respond to the questions below. Be sure that your responses are detailed and specific - vague feedback does not help your partner at all!

1. Do you understand the focus of this essay after reading the first paragraph?

What is it? Yes, how much trade means to you

2. Is the essay focused on ONE experience/theme/topic, or is the writer "skimming" the surface on too many topics? Note any noticeable detours or tangents in the essay that need to be eliminated.

Everything was focused on 1 theme even though you ^{wrote} ~~talked~~ about different times.

3. Is the writer "showing" his/her experience through sensory imagery and vivid details? Write the most vivid line. Then note any parts of the experience that you cannot imagine.

"I raise my hips in the air . . . goes off"

Everything was thoroughly explained.

4. Does the writer separate the essay into paragraphs at appropriate times? Would you suggest merging or separating the text differently?

All the transitions went together very nicely.

5. Are there vague, cliché, or generalized phrases that leave you wishing the writer would be more specific? (example: "Through hard work and discipline, I discovered I could accomplish anything.")

I noted the sentences that were a bit cliché although I understand you wanted to make it known that your paper would be different from the rest. We used good words to make what would have been a cliché sentence not be. Ex. accolades

6. What does the last few lines of this essay leave you thinking/feeling? In other words, what kind of impression does the end of this essay leave?

7. Mark the essay for grammar and usage errors. Don't be lazy - this takes time.

Switch up "When I'm" maybe put it at the end of the sentence

"I can hear the track clanging... to come home when I'm away"

8. What is the best line in this essay? What makes it stand out?

"That's exactly what track is to me, my home."

"I wouldn't trade... the world"

9. What line could be most improved? How?

Grammatical errors, otherwise, everything is very clear.

10. Address any other issues with the paper and respond to the author's concerns on page 1.

You began consecutive sentences with the same word a few times.