

Personal Essay Outline

LEAD: Use these ideas as inspiration for your opening lines.

BEG: Talk about your experience. Don't forget the **sensory details** of your setting.

MIDDLE: Establish the **WWWWW**. Build your **scene**-snapshot + thoughtshot + dialogue. Add **perspective** here if it works. Add **thoughts and feelings**, too.

END: Explain how your **thoughts and feelings** have changed as you reflect on your experience. Add **perspective** here if haven't already. How have you changed? What is the long-lasting effect of this experience? What will you remember in 10-20 years? What is your **belief or aha**?

Building a Scene For Personal Essay

*It's easy...just include these three techniques: Snapshot +
Thoughtshot + Dialogue*

Character #1 thoughts	Character #2 thoughts
Character #1 actions	Character #2 actions
Character #1 words	Character #2 words

Now write your scene. Be sure to write one that illustrates the point you want to make about your belief.
