

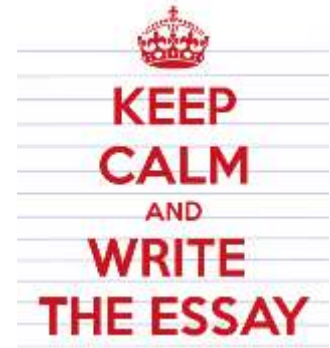
Using Indigo to Write a College Essay or Personal Statement (Version 2)

The Goal: To help students stand out in their college essays and other personal statements by using language found in their Indigo Reports. The language in their Indigo Reports can help students learn how to use accurate, personal, and positive language to advocate for themselves in writing.

Materials:

- Full Indigo Report

Note: At the end of the day, the main point of this exercise is to help students find specific adjectives and phrases that they can include throughout their essays that will help them enhance who they are and the point that they are driving home.



Part 1: Have your students read the **About You** section to start getting a better sense of their unique style and how they can describe themselves in their essay. As students read through the section, have them underline adjectives and phrases that stand out to them.

Part 2: Next, have students look at their **top five skills** and **Value To a Team** sections on their **Indigo Summary Page** and underline all of the bullet points that stand out to them. Once they have finished doing that, have them do the same thing for the **What Others May Value in You** and **Your Strengths** sections later on in the report.

Part 3: Once students have underlined bullets, adjectives, and phrases in all of the sections from Part 1 and Part 2, have them rewrite them in a separate piece of paper or document. Students should have about 10 total phrases, adjectives, and bullets. These will be the foundation for their essay.

Part 4: Students should add in examples, personal stories and their own language to turn the statements chosen into a well written essay. When completed, students should share them.

Note: This exercise may also be used to help students enhance their job application essays and cover letters! Feel free to follow the same format, just talk about it as if for a job.