



Personal Statements

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What makes a successful application?

GRADES

TEACHER'S
REFERENCE



PERSONAL STATEMENT



Personal statements: The facts

4,000 characters
(approx. 47 lines)
including spaces

No formal
structure

No spelling or grammar
check in UCAS form

Our admissions
team read every
personal statement

Your skills

Why this course?

30%

70%

UCAS

Why are personal statements so important?



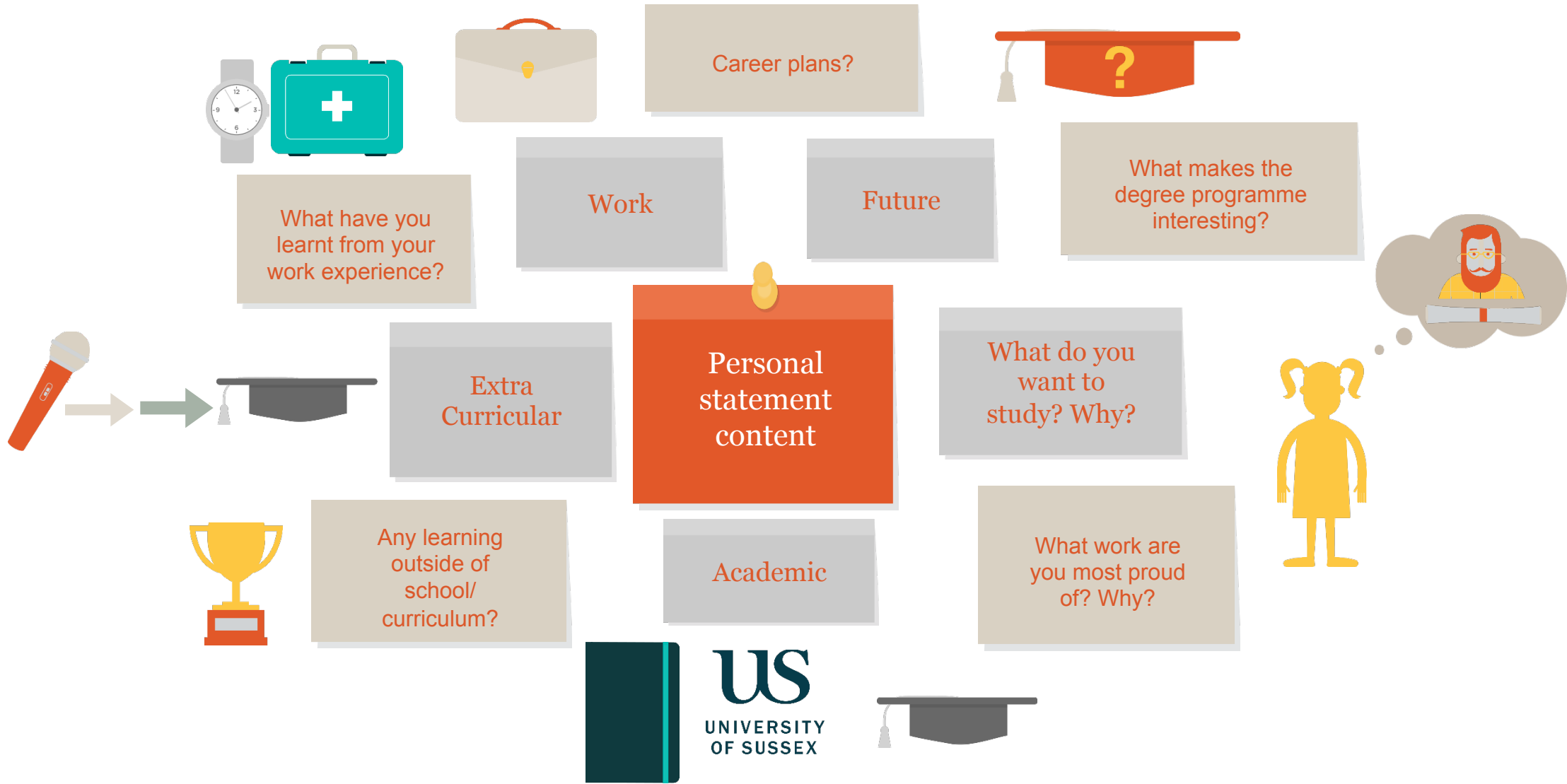
NOT ALWAYS AN INTERVIEW
SELL YOURSELF
WHY YOU?

BETTER STATEMENT
MORE OFFERS
MORE CHOICES

COMPETITION



Personal statements: What to include



Transferable skills

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

RELIABLE

TRUSTWORTHY

DIPLOMACY

INDEPENDENCE

PASSION AND DRIVE

COMMITMENT



CONSCIENTIOUS

FINANCIALLY ASTUTE

TIME MANAGEMENT

LEADERSHIP

FLEXIBILITY

RESPONSIBILITY

COMPUTER LITERACY

Personal Statement: What to include

SPORTS CAPTAIN
VOLUNTEERING
DRAMA PRODUCTION



Things to consider

IMAGINE WHO IS READING
YOUR APPLICATION

TRY TO BE ORIGINAL

PROOFREAD

START AND FINISH ON A
POSITIVE NOTE



Things to avoid

DON'T MENTION SPECIFIC
INSTITUTIONS

DON'T GO MAD WITH A THESAURUS

DON'T INCLUDE IRRELEVANT
INFORMATION

DON'T EXAGGERATE OR LIE



Things to Avoid

How Not to Start a Personal Statement

“Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only” (189 times)

“Nursing is a profession I have always looked upon with”... (178 times)

“For as long as I can remember I have been interested in”... (166 times)

“I am an International Academy student and have been studying since”... (141 times)

“Academically, I have always been a very determined and”... (138 times)



Questions?

www.sussex.ac.uk/study

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