

ENG IV – The College* Application Essay (Personal Writing-Creative Nonfiction)

Purpose:

Nearing the end of their secondary education career, high school seniors are thinking about their next steps: Do I want to go to college? What's a good school for me? How do I get in? One thing that many seniors don't do is to explore colleges from other regions. Today, we are going to virtually travel around the country doing just that.

Objective:

Students will explore and identify College Application Essay Prompts for different public and private colleges from different regions of the United States (CT and Northeast, South, Midwest, and West).

Steps:

1. Open up your Notebook and label today's activity: **Essay Prompts from Different US Regions**
2. Go to <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges> and scroll down to "More Rankings Lists" and select "Regional Universities" if you're interested in *larger institutions* **OR** "Regional Colleges" if you're interested in *smaller institutions*.
3. You will see the United States divided up into 4 regions:
 - a. Northeast (select from a state other than CT as CT will have its own list)
 - b. South
 - c. Midwest
 - d. West
4. You must select *one Public College* and *one Private College* from **each** region (the US News website will identify this characteristic for each college) and complete the following:
 - a. Name the College
 - b. Transcribe that college's Application Essay Prompt
 - i. **IF** the college uses *Common Application*, you may simply write Common App Essay instead of transcribing the essay prompt.
5. At the conclusion of this activity, you will have listed the following:
 - a. **CT:** 1 Public College and its essay prompt **AND** 1 Private College and its essay prompt
 - b. **Northeast:** 1 Public College and its essay prompt **AND** 1 Private College and its essay prompt
 - c. **South:** 1 Public College and its essay prompt **AND** 1 Private College and its essay prompt
 - d. **Midwest:** 1 Public College and its essay prompt **AND** 1 Private College and its essay prompt
 - e. **West:** 1 Public College and its essay prompt **AND** 1 Private College and its essay prompt

Expectations:

At the conclusion of this activity, you will have listed the name and the essay prompt for 10 different colleges. The essay prompt must be transcribed fully (with the exception of Common App colleges). This activity is worth 100 Formative Assessment points.

Extra Credit:

List a college and its application essay prompt from a country **OTHER** than the United States.

College – for this activity, when I say "college," I mean either college **or university. You should select the institution based upon your campus size preference.*