**The personal statement is one of the most important components of your application. This is your opportunity to tell us about yourself, and your passion for the subject. Personal statements are not easy to write, and good ones require substantial work. Entry to our programs is highly competitive, so spending time on writing the best personal statement is important.**

How to write your Personal Statement

**What are we looking for?**

Successful applicants are people who we think will excel in our programs. We are looking for applicants who can demonstrate the following traits;

 *University of Tsukuba English Programs*

* A broad understanding of program focus
* Evidence of a vision of your long-term goals
* Evidence of general academic competence
* Emotional resilience for life in a different academic environment

**Planning your statement**

* **“Why do I want to study this major?”**

Think about your academic interests and experiences. Why did you become interested in this subject? What do you expect from the program and university?

* **“How does a Tsukuba degree help me achieve my long-term goals?”**

What do you want to do in the future? Graduate school? Work? In Japan? Overseas? How does a Tsukuba degree help you get there?

* **“What makes me a stand-out candidate?”**

We are looking for exceptional candidates. Tell us about your passions and life experiences which led you to this program. We are passionate about our subjects, and we expect that in our students.

**Write drafts and get feedback**

You should have lots to tell us by now! Organize the information into a coherent narrative, and write a draft (or two, or three). We appreciate that English may not be your first language, but try to use correct spelling and grammar. Keep your sentences short and simple. The use of concrete examples can help you express yourself clearly.

Entrance examiners have many applications to read—so clarity is key!

The personal statement is one of the most important components of your application. Make sure to ask your teachers, parents or friends to read over your personal statement and give honest feedback. Give yourself plenty of time to work through several versions of your draft, until you are completely happy.