

## **BASIC WRITING SAMPLE 5:**

### Academic and Personal Challenges of College

High school students are not prepared for what college really is. Studying for exams, going to class, making sure to do your homework and time management, are four ways to be well prepared for the academic and personal challenges of college.

I had learned the hard way that studying for exams was the best idea anyone could ever have. I remember my senior year I had a Humanities exam, in which I failed because I did not study. Well, not in college. If you choose not to study and you fail your exams, you fail the course for the semester and have to retake the course again. In result, your grade point average is hurt by your failing grade. You definitely want to study for every exam you have, to prevent from failing the course and hurting your grade point average.

I know all high school students think about skipping class or do skip class frequently. I was one of them. My classes were never interesting and half the time we did nothing in them anyways. I can recall going to my Law class, where my basketball coach was my teacher, so I never had to do anything. Every class I would listen to my ipod and eat food or just not go. In college, that is unacceptable. You have a certain amount of absences your allowed to have from each course you take and your profesor can with draw you from the course once you have reached that amount. Also, skipping class sets you behind the rest of the class. College is fast paced compared to high school, so skipping one college class is like missing a full week of high school. I strongly suggest staying caught up by not skipping class.

Along with studying for exams and not skipping class, doing your homework is also crucial. I remember in all of my four years of high school, I never did homework. Now, being in college, I do my homework every night. Homework is a big part of your grade and by failing to do it, just like not studying for your exams, you can fail the course. Your profesor can also choose to ask you to leave the class for the day if you do not have your homework. My profesor for my writing class asked many students to leave, every class, because they did not do the required homework for that days class. Profesors' expect that you come prepared to class. Doing your homework can prepare you for every class in college.

Time management is one of the biggest personal challenges of college. Without managing your time properly, you will not have any time to do your homework, study for exams and work/do other activites you enjoy. I learned time management the hard way my first semester of college. On top of doing all the necessary things for college, I also was working at The Gap and coaching two cheerleading teams, Clemson High School and Laurel University. I became a full time student with a full time job, which for me was way to much to handle and took time away from focusing on my classes. From my experience, I suggest you figure out a schedule of exactly what you will be doing throughout the week. Set aside a time every day for you to do your homework and study, that way you will be setting yourself up for a succesful year at college.

High school students soon to be freshman in college, I can not commend more to

you to study for exams, not to skip class, do all your homework and be time managed. If you do those four things, you will be well prepared for the academic and personal challenges of college.

\*Note: Names have been changed within this essay.