



# University of Sheffield

Your

personal statement.

Your personal statement can be the difference between securing a place and being unsuccessful.

Maximum length - 4000 characters, 47 lines

## Structure

- Why do you want to study that subject?
- What makes you a good applicant (what relevant skills do you have)?
- What else do you do?

## Focus on

- Why you chose to study this subject - demonstrate your enthusiasm
- Why we should choose you to study this subject
- Showcase your skills and experience
- Show your potential and stand out
- Your career plans and how your degree will help
- 75% academic content, 25% personal/hobbies

## Why have you chosen your subject?

- Your current studies/work experience/voluntary work/EPQ or MOOCs/university tasters/subject related reading or podcasts/hobbies and interests
- What else do you do?
- Things that make you interesting (not necessarily related to the course - Sport/school/ social responsibilities/special achievements)

## Top tips

Opening sentence:

- Subject focused
- Avoid cliches

## Do:

- Use appropriate language
- Double check spelling, grammar and punctuation
- Mention any wider circumstances that may have disrupted your studies

## Don't:

- Lie or exaggerate
- Include lists
- Copy from another personal statement