

Name: _____

Period: _____

Date this section was turned in: _____

The BIG Project

Advanced SAT Prep and College Readiness

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What do you want to be? (Page 2 - due _____)

1. Visit this web site, and familiarize yourself with the available publications:

<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/Publications/>

2. Summarize what you read there (10 pts): _____

3. Attach your completed Bridges worksheet. (10 pts) _____ (done)

4. Answer **all** of these questions thoroughly: How well did the career from Bridges match what you thought you wanted to do? Does it give you other ideas for your future? (40 pts)

5. (20 pts) What career do you now think you would like to pursue?

What do people with that career actually do? _____

How easy or hard is it to find jobs in that field? _____

How much money can you make? _____

What type of degree is required? _____

6. Select a template for your PowerPoint. Create at least two PowerPoint slides about that career. Include information about what people with that job actually do, how easy or hard it is to find jobs, average annual salary, and the type of degree required. **Print out and turn in your slides with these project pages.** (20 pts)

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How will you prepare for that career? (Pages 3-6 - due _____)

7. Prospective career _____
8. Degree required to pursue that career _____
9. College/university at which you will earn that degree. Make sure your area of study is **available at this college**.

10. Print and attach a copy of the actual degree plan for your program _____ (done)
(40 pts)

What is your impression of the amount and difficulty of work required for your degree?

GENERAL INFORMATION:

11. How many undergraduates are enrolled? _____ How many graduate students? _____
12. What city/state is the college located in? _____
What is the population of that city? _____
13. What is the nearest airport? _____ How many miles is it from campus?

14. What percentage of enrolled students is from in-state? _____ Out of state? _____
15. What is the male to female ratio? _____% male _____ female

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STUDENT LIFE:

16. If you are interested in playing a sport in college, is the sport available here? _____

17. Is the sport you are interested in offered at a level at which you could participate? _____

18. What percentage of students is in fraternities or sororities? _____

19. Is there a formal community service organization on campus? _____

20. Find and list three student activities you might like to join: _____

21. Is on-campus housing available? _____ How many years of on-campus housing are required? _____

22. What support systems are offered on campus? (Tutoring, writing center, learning support, health services etc?)

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ACADEMICS:

23. What is the student:teacher ratio? _____

24. Is an honors program offered? _____ What are the requirements for selection? _____

25. Visit www.ratemyprofessors.com and find ratings for **several different** professors at that college. What is your impression of the quality of instructors at this college?

26. After examining all of the above, how well do you believe you will fit at this school? Why? How do you know?

27. Create at least three PowerPoint slides about your college/university. Include most of the information in this section of your project. **Print out and turn in your slides with these project pages.**

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Getting into your college (Pages 7, 8 – due _____)

ADMISSIONS:

You will turn in: DHS transcript request form, three separate completed LOR forms, these pages, and your PPT slides

What is your college? _____ Major: _____

28. Complete **and attach** a DHS Transcript Request form _____ (done) (10 pts)

29. For your college, what is the mid-range score for incoming freshmen in each of the following:

SAT Reading: _____ SAT Writing: _____ SAT Math: _____ ACT composite: _____

30. How does your practice SAT score match up with that for this school? _____

31. What percentage of the students admitted to this university have a class rank and GPA similar to yours? How do your class rank and GPA match up with those for this school? _____

32. Are SAT **Subject Tests** required for admission? _____ If yes, how many? _____

33. In what subjects? _____

34. Does the college offer credit for AP Exams? (If yes, look at the AP courses YOU plan to take at Dawson. For these classes, completely list all tests that you will take and that are accepted here, and the lowest score for which credit is given.

35. Complete **and attach** your Senior Profile _____ (done) (10 pts)

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36. Fill out separately, give to adults, get signatures from adults (no relatives), **and attach** three commitments for letters of recommendation _____ (done) (10 pts each)

37. Which is required by your college, ApplyTexas or CommonApp? _____

38. According to your school, what Apply Texas or Common App essay(s) are required for your college?

39. After examining the above, how well prepared are you to be admitted to this school and to succeed once there? Why? How do you know?

40. Create at least two PowerPoint slides about admissions to this college/university. Include most of the information in this section of your project. **Print out and turn in your slides with these project pages.**

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FINANCIAL AID (Page 8 - due _____)

41. What are the costs to attend your college **per semester**? (Remember to include tuition, housing, books, extra expenses)

Tuition \$ _____

Books \$ _____

Housing \$ _____

Extra expenses (laundry, travel home, clothes, social time) \$ _____

42. FAFSA – visit the FAFSA web site. Print **and attach** the list of documents/information you and your parents will need to gather in order to complete the FAFSA. _____ (done)

43. Look at your college’s web site and see which (if any) of the following it requires financial aid applicants to file:

FAFSA

CSS/PROFILE

College’s own form

44. Must you submit your application by a certain deadline to be considered for merit scholarships? If yes, when? _____

45. Are students required to be nominated or complete additional application materials in order to be considered for scholarships, or are they automatically considered based on their application?

46. Textbook expenses - describe how to save on the expense of traditional textbooks. How much money could you save?

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47. Find **and attach** information from **the specific web site** about five scholarships for which **you** qualify.
_____ (done)

Scholarship name	Web site	Criteria <u>you</u> meet	Application deadline

48. Create at least three PowerPoint slides about the costs of college and ways to pay for it. Include most of the information in this section of your project. **Print out and turn in your slides with these project pages.**

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Essay (Pages 10-12 - due _____)

Submit one admission essay required for your college.

Steps:

- Visit <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays> for what universities/college expect in your essays. On a sheet of notebook paper, summarize what makes a good essay and turn that in on _____.
- Select a topic from the next page
- Pre-write your essay (mind map, outline or venn diagram, etc.). Pre-write is due _____.
- Hand write a rough draft. Rough draft is due _____.
- **Edit** your rough draft, then **type** a semi-final draft. Your typed draft must be an improvement over your rough draft. Typed semi-final draft is due _____.
- Make **two** copies of your semi-final draft, then have two other individuals grade your essay using the attached rubric. Your graders must each sign a separate rubric, and their corrections must be attached to your essay. Peer edits and rubrics are due _____.
- Type a final draft
 - Typed, on 8.5 x 11 inch white paper
 - Your essay prompt above the title
 - No more than 650 words
 - Double spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font
 - One-inch margins all around
 - No cover sheet
 - Use a creative title
 - Write your name at the top, right-hand corner of the paper
- In turning in your essay, put items in this order:
 - Final draft on top
 - Semi-final drafts, rubrics and corrections from graders (two of each)
 - Rough draft
 - Pre-write
- Create at least one PowerPoint slides about the essay process. Include the topic you selected, and a discussion of what was easy or difficult for you in writing the essay. **Print out and turn in your slides with these project pages.**

College Admissions Essay

Formatted correctly (12 point, Times New Roman, double spaced, 1" margins, name at top right)	10	
Two peer edits with rubrics (5 points each)	10	
Rough draft	5	
Pre-write	5	
Length: At least one page (3 paragraphs) and no more than 650 words	5	
Creative title	5	
Final essay – content, grammar, etc.	60	

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Essay prompts:

CommonApp

- A. Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- B. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?
- C. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
- D. Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there, and why is it meaningful to you?
- E. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

ApplyTexas

- A. Describe a setting in which you have collaborated or interacted with people whose experiences and/or beliefs differ from yours. Address your initial feelings, and how those feelings were or were not changed by this experience.
- B. Describe a circumstance, obstacle or conflict in your life and the skills and resources you used to resolve it. Did it change you? If so, how?
- C. There may be personal information you want considered as part of your admissions application. Write an essay describing that information. You might include exceptional hardships, challenges, or opportunities that have shaped or impacted your abilities or academic credentials, personal responsibilities, exceptional achievements or talents, educational goals, or ways in which you might contribute to an institution committed to creating a diverse learning environment.

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Peer graders college essay rubric

A 99-90	B 89-80	C 79-75	D 74-70	F 69-Below
<p>Demonstrates a well-focused and fully developed essay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay explores the point of the prompt clearly. • Introduced the essay clearly with a well written controlled thesis. • Several paragraphs were presented explaining the main idea (topic sentence) and examples were provided that were apt, insightful and specific. • The prompt is closely related to student’s personal qualities. • Student took a unique creative approach to the prompt. • Student’s own voice present in essay. • Closing paragraph contains a well rounded summary and a unique ending to the essay. • Writes with clarity, precision and coherence. 	<p>Demonstrates competence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts to articulate what the prompt is asking. • Introduced the essay with an adequate controlled thesis. • Paragraphs were presented explaining the main idea (topic sentence) and examples were provided that less specific and/or less detail (examples). • Paragraphs may not be as apt, insightful and specific as an “A.” • Closing paragraph containing a summary and an ending to the essay but did not contain a stylistic flair as that of an “A” essay. • Demonstrated sophistication in both style and substance. • Generally well written and free from significant or sustained misinterpretations 	<p>Suggests competence but tends to be superficial in analyzing the prompt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An attempt to answer the prompt has been made. • Introduced the essay with an attempt at writing a thesis which is not clearly stated. • Introductory paragraph contains a cliché(s)/vague ideas presented with no detail. • Paragraphs were presented with minor/few examples which were implicit or explicit. • Closing paragraph is quick and abrupt. • This essay reveals unsophisticated and immature writing. 	<p>Suggests incompetence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The essay reflects an incomplete or oversimplified understanding of the prompt. • There is no thesis present in the introductory paragraph. • Paragraphs contain no explanation or examples pertaining to the overall opinion or the essay. • Closing paragraph is not present/or is a repetition of the entire paper and/or thesis. • Contains distracting errors in grammar and mechanics, such as: use of “you, your, you’re” • Often wordy, elliptical, or repetitious. • Comma usage/Comma splices. • The constant use of “things,” “very,” and “etc.” Makes the essay sound vague and lacks detail. 	<p>Demonstrates incompetence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This essay is unacceptably brief. • Poorly written. • Contains distracting errors in grammar and mechanics. • No examples provided. • No organization presented. • Inept, vacuous and/or unsound. • Essay reads like a resume (Student covered too many topics.) • The student wrote this essay overnight or the day it was due and rushed through the assignment.

This was graded by: _____ . Date it was graded: _____

Relationship to the student: _____.

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Miscellaneous preparations, plus the actual college application (Page 13 - due _____)

49. Complete **and attach** the paper version of the *SAMPLE* ApplyTexas app, found here:
<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/index.cfm?ObjectID=95B761A0-98AF-0ECE-181D6A23DE0322F8> (or click the link on my web site) _____ done (separate grade)

50. Social media – I certify that I have cleaned up all my Social Media sites, including (but not limited to) Tumblr, Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, etc. _____ (done)

51. Personal finance – Understand what credit cards can do to your credit rating and ability to borrow in the future. Visit <http://consumersunion.org/news/credit-card-tips-for-college-students/> and summarize some concerns you should have about credit cards issue to college students.

What is the difference between a credit card and a debit card?

52. Create at least one PowerPoint slide about credit versus debit, and about the importance of having social media that well represents you. **Print out and turn in your slides with these project pages.**

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Put it all together (Page 14 - Due NO LATER THAN _____)

Review and edit all the PowerPoint slides you have created so far. Make sure your presentation outlines what you're going to be, how well prepared you are now, your college plans, and how you will achieve them.

Include at least one slide that highlights ALL you have learned during this process. Think about what you did not know before you started.

Your presentation must take no fewer than five and no more than seven minutes to discuss with the class, and must be grammatically correct, professional in appearance, and thorough.

Make sure you have practiced your presentation. Part of your grade will include your presentation skills, so make sure you aren't reading to the class as you present.

Presentation Rubric

	Potential points	Earned points, comments
What do you want to be	10	
Getting ready for that career College profile Degree plan Ratemyprofessor.com	10	
Getting into college Admissions info LORs Application	10	
Paying for college \$\$, scholarships	10	
Essay	10	
Miscellaneous preparation Credit cards Social media	5	
"What I Learned" slide	15	
5-7 minutes	5	
Creativity	10	
Grammar/spelling	10	
Presentation skills	5	