



University of  
Roehampton  
London



**Most**

research intensive  
modern university<sup>2</sup>



**140**

nationalities  
represented



**30 mins**

from the centre  
of London



**175 years**

of providing  
higher education

1. Research Excellence Framework 2014

# Personal Statements



**True or  
False?**



**TRUE**



**FALSE**



There is no  
word limit.

TRUE

FALSE




There is no  
word limit.



TRUE

There is a 4,000 character limit (including spaces) or 47 lines.


It comes to about 1.5 A4 pages.



You need to  
include your  
grades in your  
personal  
statement.

TRUE

FALSE



You need to include your grades in your personal statement.

The university will receive your whole UCAS application which includes your grades in a separate section.



**FALSE**



You write a different personal statement for each course you apply to.

TRUE

FALSE



You write a different personal statement for each course you apply to.

You only write 1 personal statement for all 5 choices. Make sure to not state which other universities you are applying to.



**FALSE**






UCAS scans  
your personal  
statement for  
plagiarism.

TRUE

FALSE




UCAS scans  
your personal  
statement for  
plagiarism.



TRUE

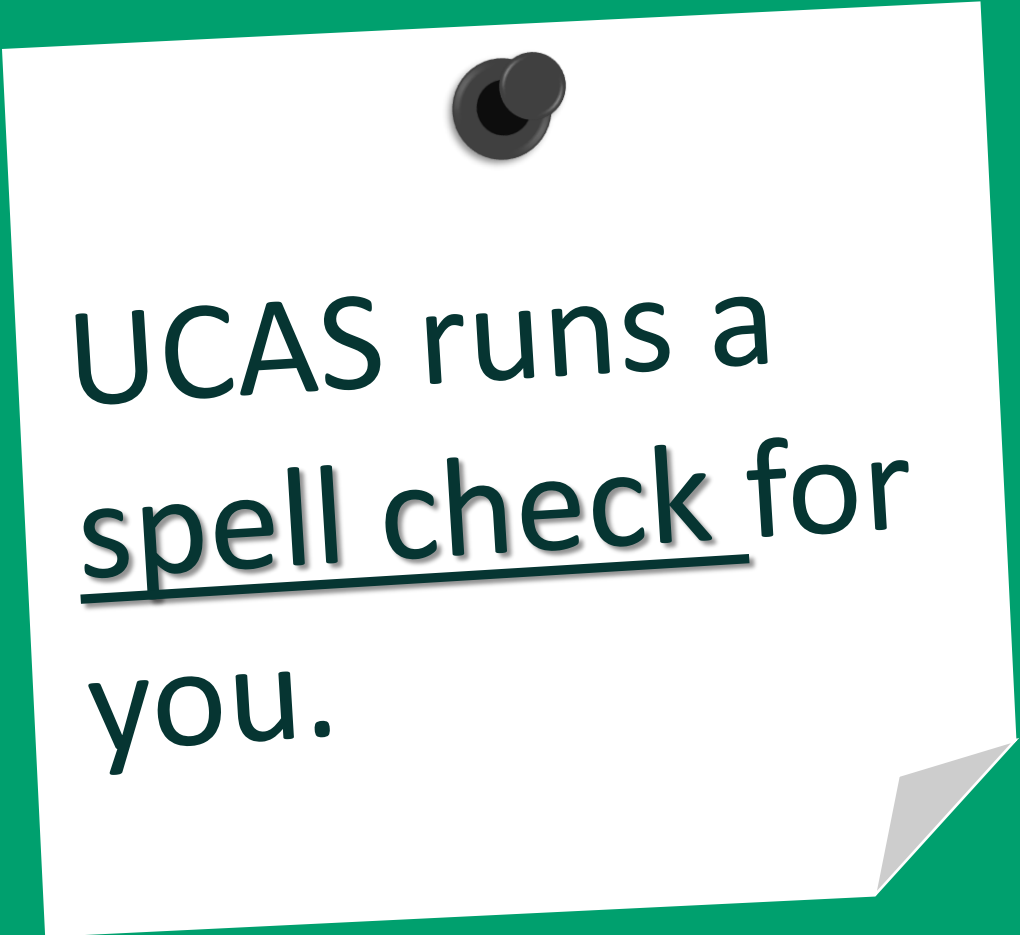
Plagiarism is the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and pretending they are your own. Your personal statement should be written by you.



UCAS runs a  
spell check for  
you.

TRUE

FALSE



UCAS runs a  
spell check for  
you.

It is up to you to check your  
personal statement for  
spelling and grammar  
mistakes.

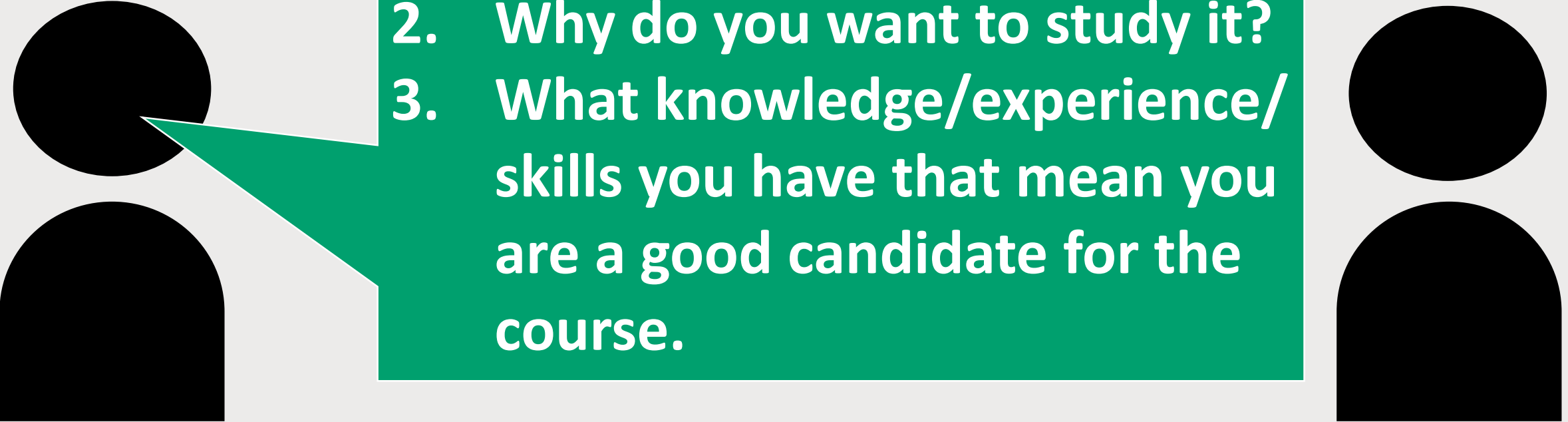


**FALSE**

# Your Personal Statement



# Activity: Talk to your partner and answer these 3 questions.

- 
- The image shows two black silhouettes of people, one on the left and one on the right, facing each other. A green speech bubble originates from the left silhouette and points towards the center, containing a list of three questions.
1. What course do you want to study?
  2. Why do you want to study it?
  3. What knowledge/experience/skills you have that mean you are a good candidate for the course.



## Writing a personal statement.

- Written formal essay.
- Enthusiastic yet concise style.
- Make sure to not just list your experiences but demonstrate your skills and how that is linked to the course.
- Use the ABC method.



# Activity

- What have you done?

# Benefit

- What skills have you gained?

# Course

- How does it relate to your course?





A

I was in the school play.

B

I have confidence and can perform in front of an audience.

C

This will help me in my Primary Education course as I can present in front of large groups with confidence.



# Case Study

# Usain Bolt

- Competitive sport experience.
- Brand ambassador for Puma, Virgin Media, Unicef and more.
- Published autobiography in 2014.





Undergraduate

# Sport Psychology

## Example Modules:

- **Psychology of Peak Performance.**
- **Exercise and Health**
- **Biomechanics: Performance and Injury**

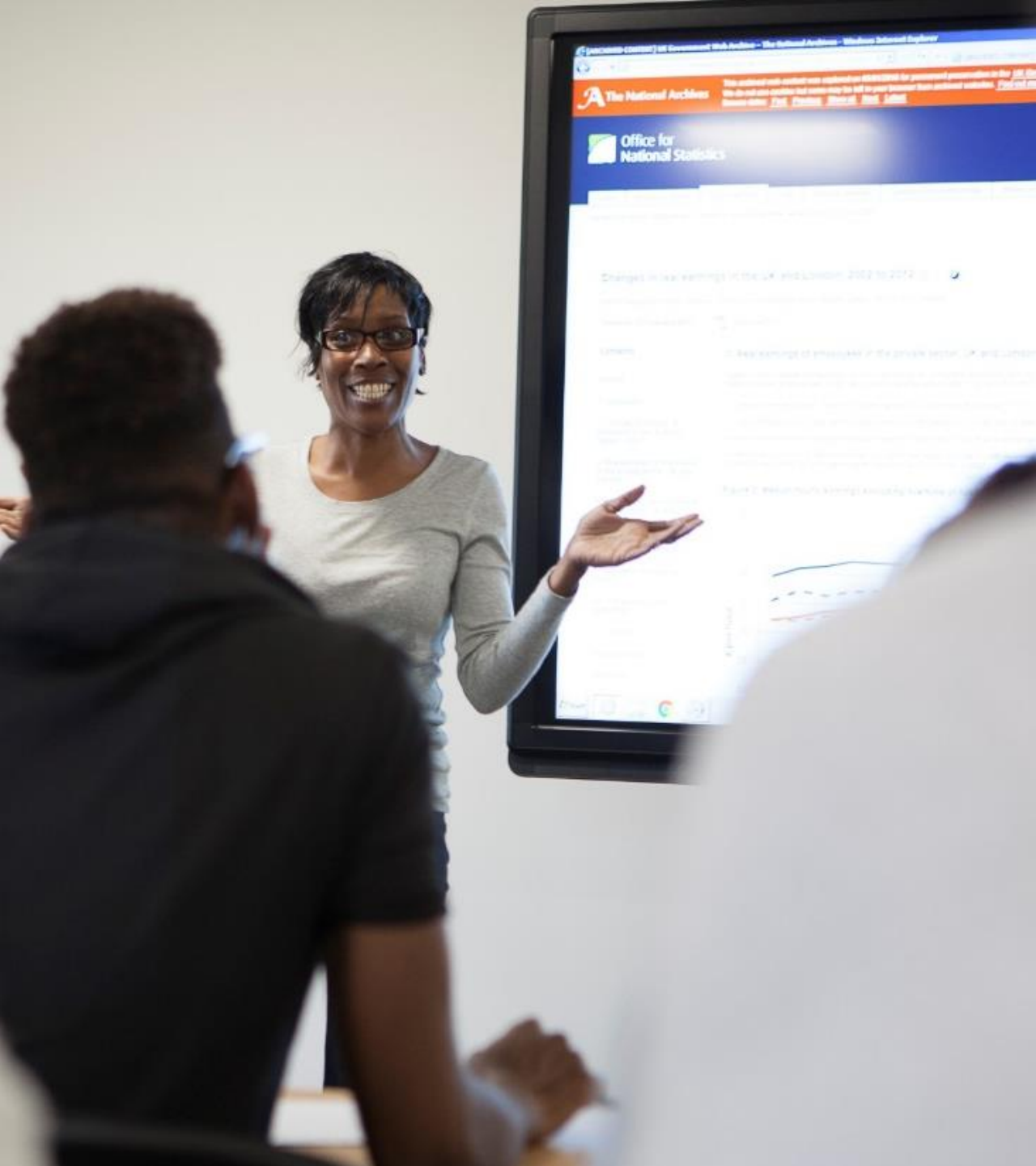
## Activity:

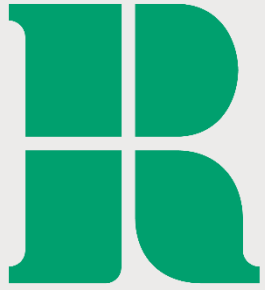
Write an ABC for Usain Bolt as if he were applying to study Sport Psychology. Think about the skills he will need and his experiences.

# Transferable skills

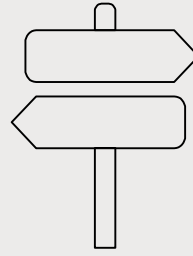
We all know Usain Bolt has experience in sports but what if he wanted to apply for something completely different?

He would need to talk about his transferable skills. A skill he can take from one place and apply to another.

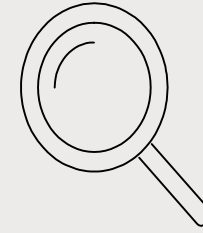




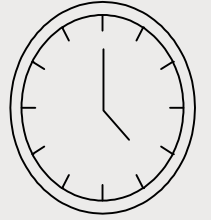
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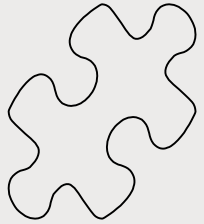
**Leadership**



**Research**



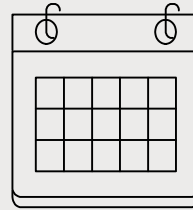
**Time Keeping**



**Problem  
Solving**



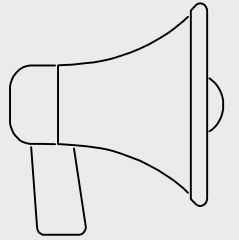
**Data  
Analysis**



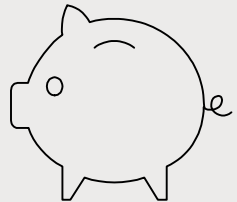
**Meeting  
Deadlines**



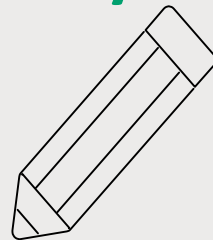
**Initiative**



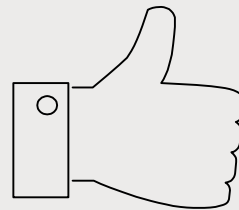
**Public Speaking**



**Budgeting**



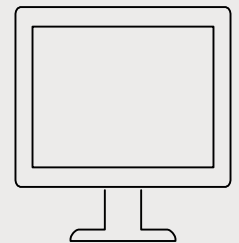
**Written  
Communication**



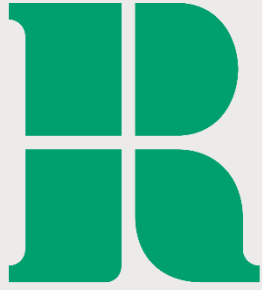
**Work Ethic**



**Verbal  
Communication**



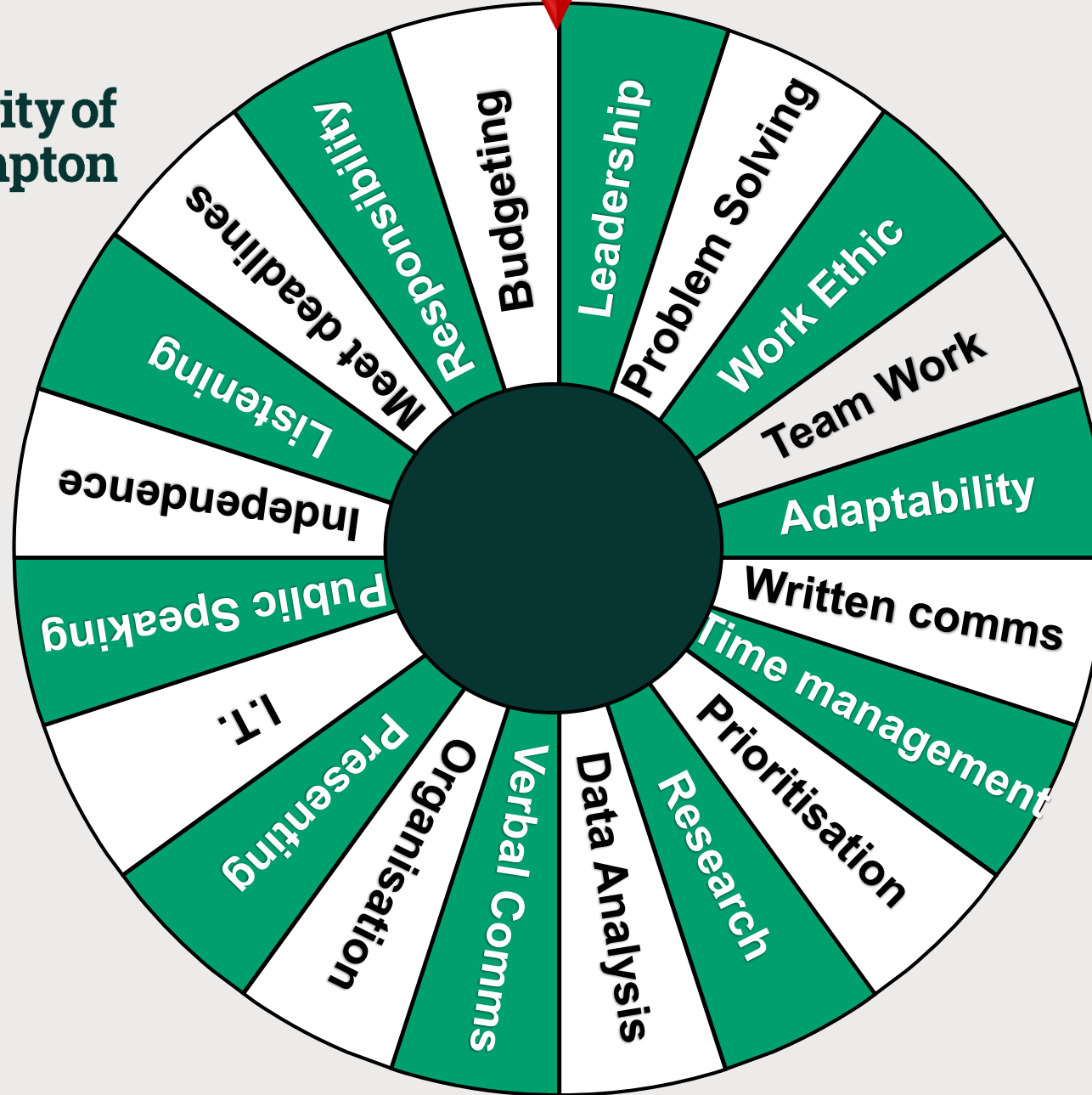
**I.T Skills**



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## Activity:

Pick a skill and tell your partner a specific time you have demonstrated this.





Undergraduate

# Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies

## Example Modules:

- Encountering Theatre: Performances in a global Context
- Experiences in Performance and Failure
- The Theatre Image

## Activity:

Write an ABC for Usain Bolt as if he were applying to study Drama.  
Think about his transferable skills.



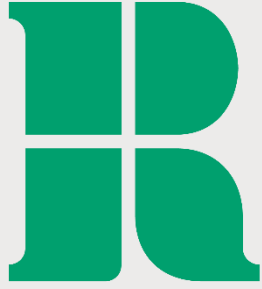


# Case Study

# Emma Watson

- Had her acting debut in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone film.
- Enjoys reading in her spare time and started 'Our Shared Shelf' book club.
- Achieved 3 A's at A-Level in English Literature, Geography & Art.
- Works as a UN Women Goodwill Ambassador delivering speeches on women's rights.

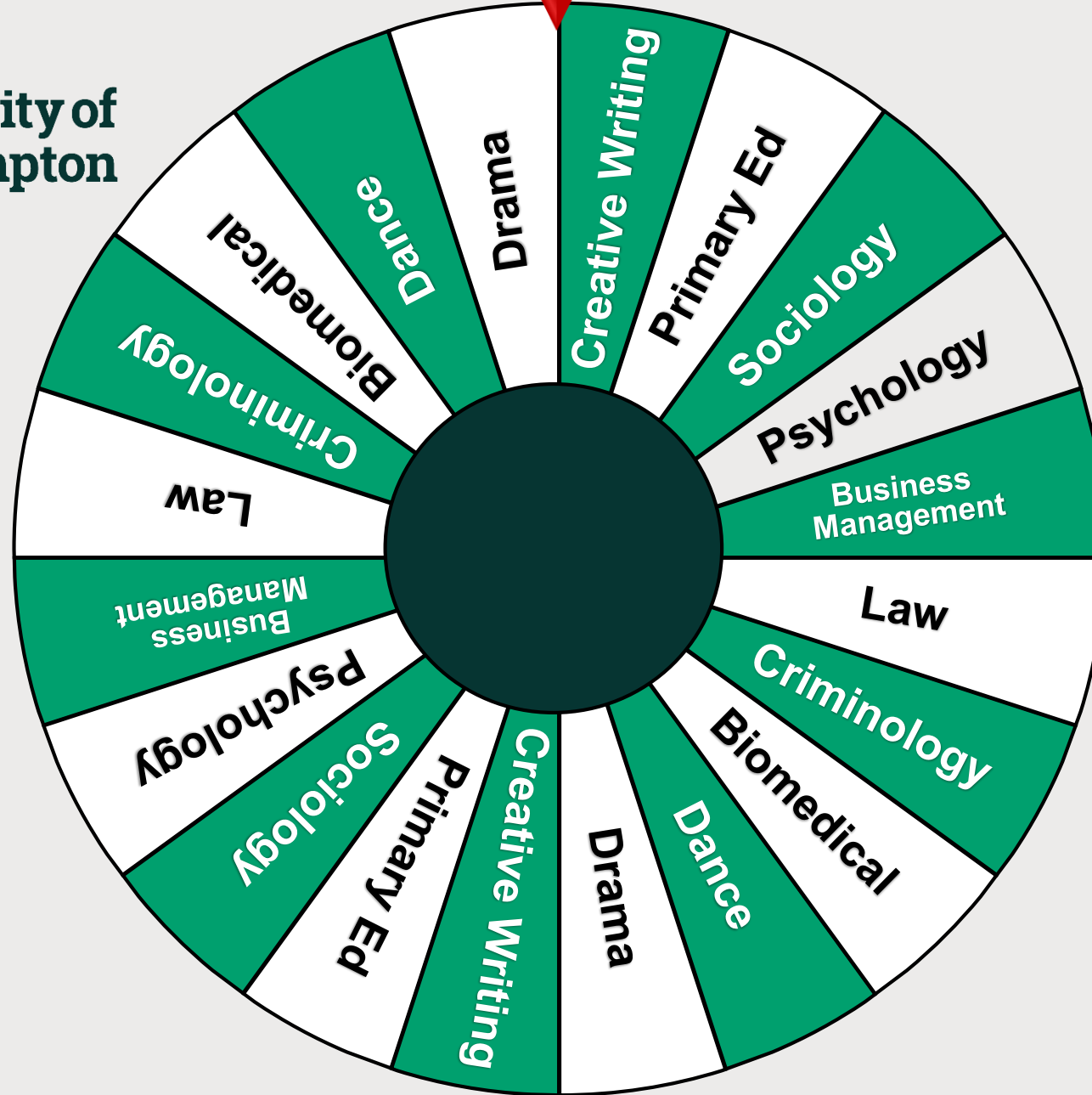




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## Activity:

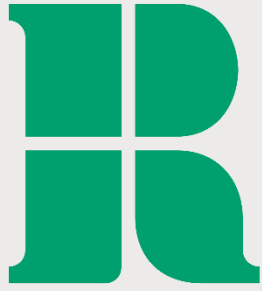
Pick a course  
and write an  
ABC for Emma  
Watson.



# Stormzy

- Joined rapping sessions at local youth club from age 11.
- Worked in quality assurance at Southampton Oil Refinery for two years.
- Won the first ever MOBO Best Grime Act award.
- Played role in Grenfell Tower charity single and support efforts.

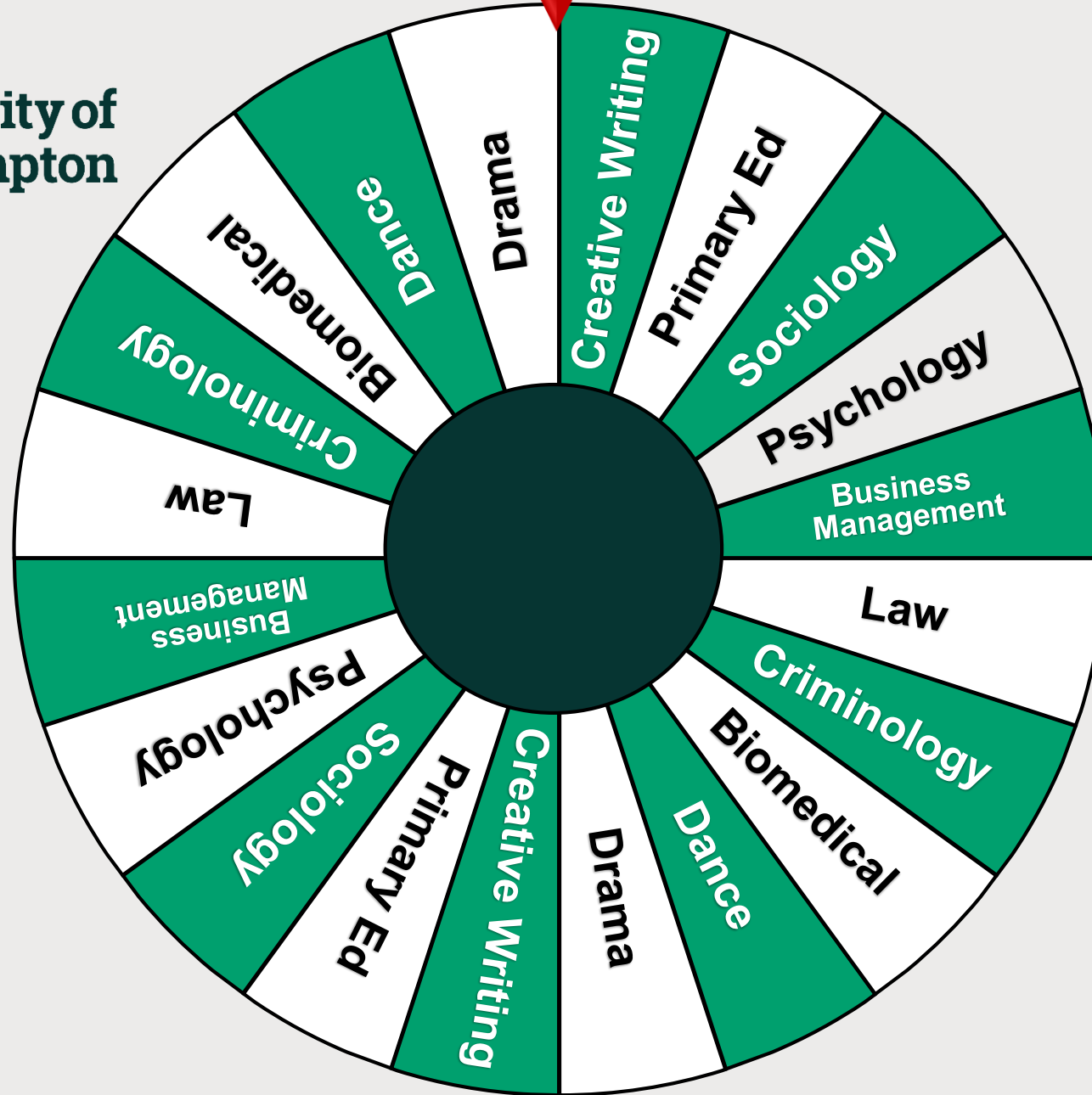




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## Activity:

Pick a course and write an ABC for Stormzy.





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Write the  
introduction  
last!

10% Introduction

35% Why you want to study that course  
Your understanding of the course

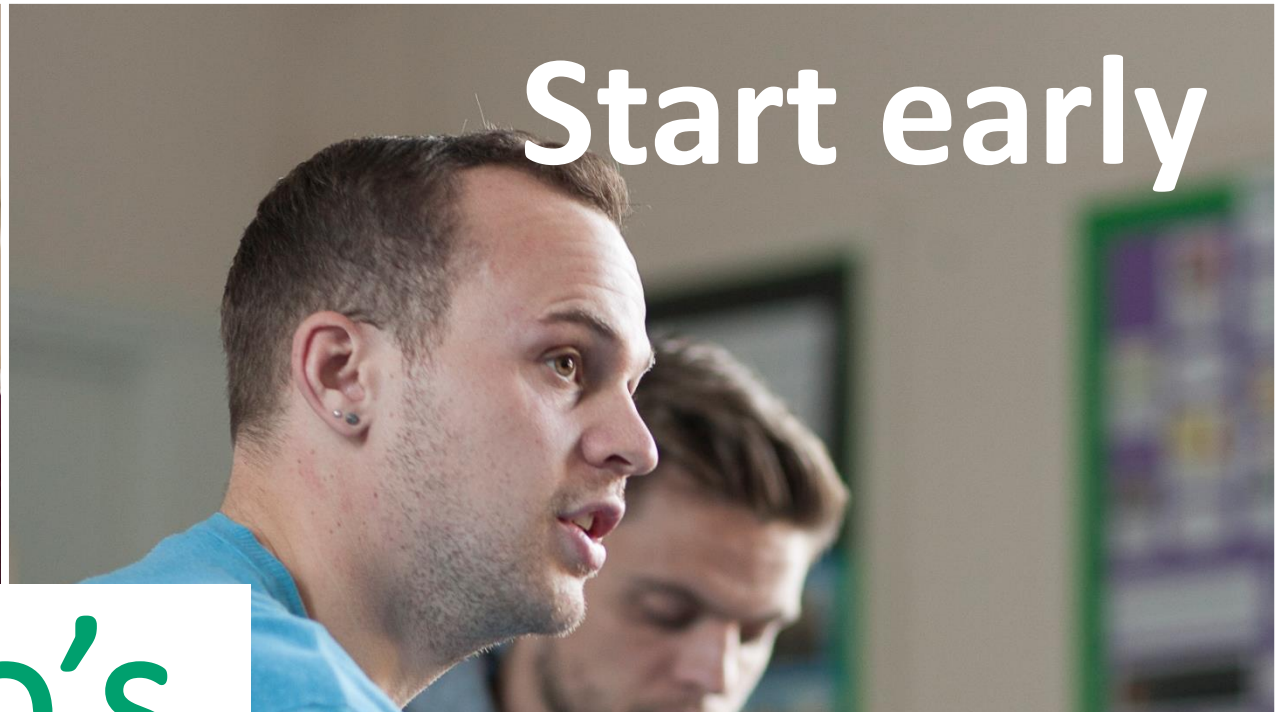
25% Your experience and skills

20% Your hobbies and interests

10% Conclusion



Research

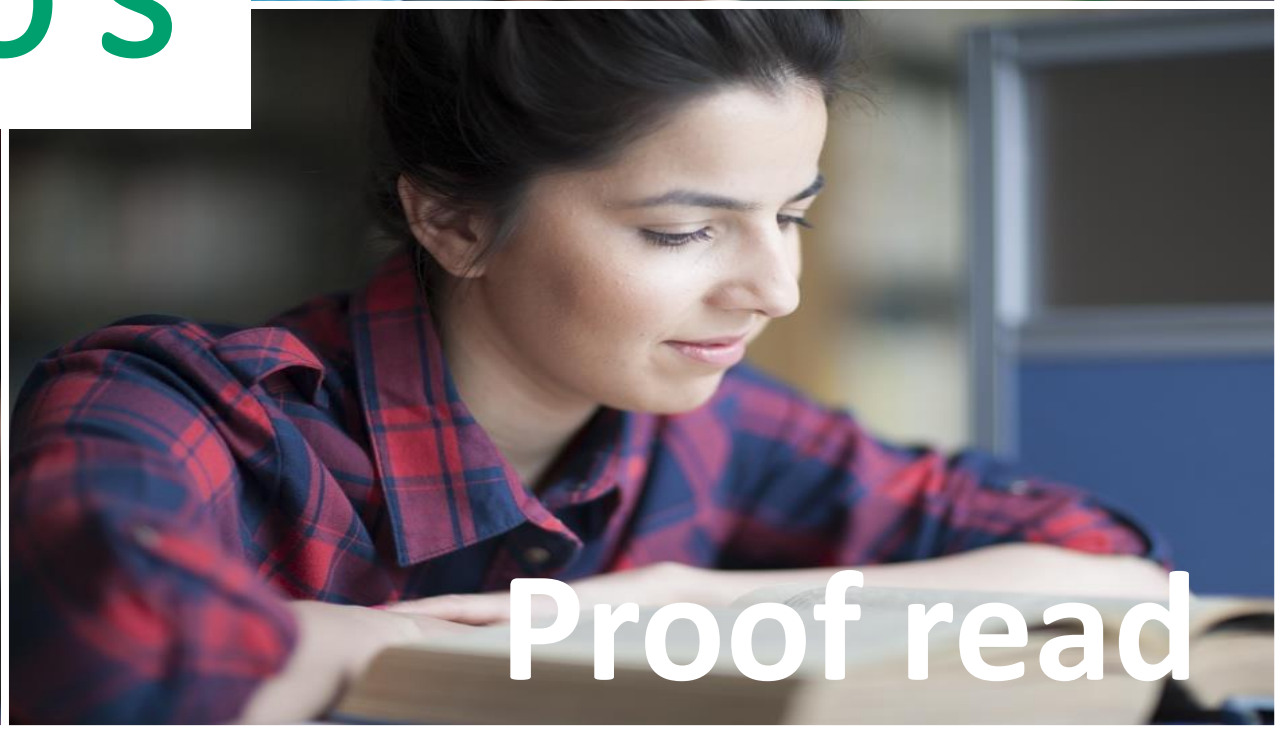


Start early

Do's



Multiple drafts



Proof read



Undersell yourself



Plagiarise

Don'ts



Use quotes



Lie





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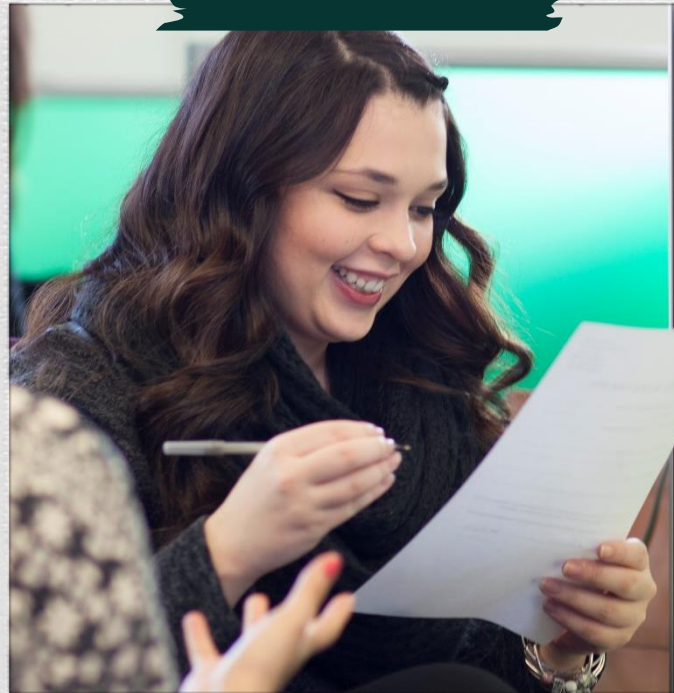
Don't use  
words you  
don't  
understand.



# Top Tips



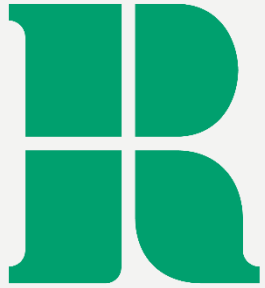
Do your research



Give examples



Show enthusiasm



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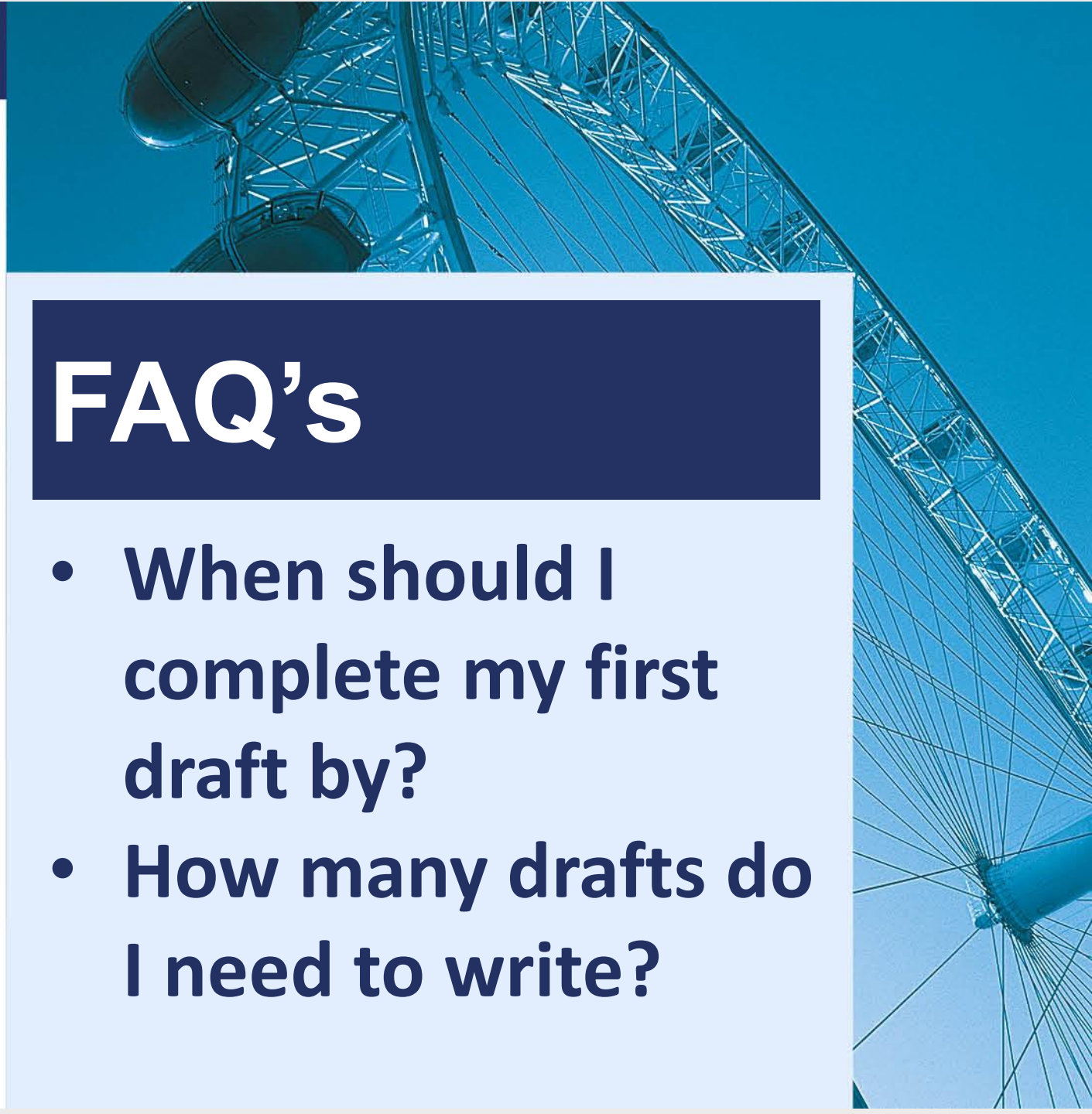
Your turn

# Questions




## FAQ's

- **When should I complete my first draft by?**
- **How many drafts do I need to write?**



# Quick Quiz

  
What is the character limit for your personal statement?



# Quick Quiz

What is the character limit for your personal statement?

4,000 or 47 lines



# Quick Quiz

What does  
ABC stand  
for?



# Quick Quiz

What does  
ABC stand  
for?

- **Activity**
- **Benefit**
- **Course**





# Quick Quiz

What is the purpose of a personal statement?



# Quick Quiz

What is the purpose of a personal statement?

- **To sell yourself!**



