

WHAT'S A **COMMON MISTAKE** YOU SEE STUDENTS **MAKE** IN THEIR **COLLEGE ESSAYS**?



"I often find myself telling my students, **'Remember, this is about you'** and asking them **'What does this tell us about you?'** It's so easy to veer away from the intended topic (you) and expound on any number of other things. It's understandable, especially when multiple essays are included in the application. It may feel a bit intense standing in that bright spotlight, and your instinct may be to try to shine it elsewhere. But the admissions officers (just other humans) want to get to know you **beyond the numbers and stats**, and the essays are the best opportunity in the application to do that. Even if you're describing a project, an event, or an influential person, the focus should be about **the impact it had on you** and how it **contributed to who you have become.**"

— Shelli Sivert, Educational Consultant