

GOOSE CREEK MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Student Brag Sheet

Recommendation letters can have an important impact on you getting into a college or earning a college scholarship. College admissions officers and/or members of a scholarship selection committee want more than a list of descriptive academic adjectives or a list of personal traits, activities or honors. To say that you are *responsible, creative or possess intellectual curiosity* is not enough. You must provide examples or anecdotes that support these personal or academic traits. This helps the reader gain insight into your true essence. Our task is to help the reader of the letter of recommendation, distinguish you from other qualified applicants.

Directions: The tasks that follow will help me write an effective letter of recommendation for you. *You don't have to answer all questions.* However, the more information you provide, the more likely it will be that I will be able to write you a good recommendation letter.

Task 1: Describe yourself – What are the first words that come to mind to describe yourself? At least 3.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Task 2: Family Background – Is there anything unusual about your family (cultural background, shared interests and activities, travel, size, crisis, etc.) that has had a significant impact on your personal or academic life?

Task 3: Personal/Academic Traits – Examine the academic and personal traits listed below. Rate yourself using the following scale: 1 = Below average, 2 = Average, 3 = Good, 4 = Very good, 5 = Outstanding

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ Initiative/motivation | _____ Leadership/influence | _____ Emotional maturity |
| _____ Intellectual curiosity | _____ Integrity | _____ Sense of humor |
| _____ Creativity | _____ Concern for others | _____ Reaction to setbacks |
| _____ Energy | _____ Responsible | _____ Tolerance for differences |

Directions: Next, select your top two traits. Provide an example(s) or an anecdote that explains why you selected it as your most important trait. Explain why you selected the traits below as your two most important.

Student Name: _____

Student ID #: _____

Top Trait: _____

Second Highest Trait: _____

Task 4: College Choice – List the colleges you plan on applying to in order of preference:

Task 5: Intended College Major/Career Goal (If you are unsure of what your major or career goal will be, move in to Task 7).

Major: _____

Career Goal(s): _____

Why have you selected this major/career goal?

Task 6: Favorite Academic Subjects – What academic subject(s) are most interesting to you? Why? How does this subject connect with your career goal?

Task 7: Greatest Academic Strengths – What are your greatest academic strengths? Explain.

Task 8: Greatest Areas of Weakness – What are some areas you need to improve in? Explain.

Student Name: _____

Student ID #: _____

Task 9: Athletic Accomplishments – What sports have you participated in? List them below along with the years you participated and/or any special recognition (Team Captain, MVP etc.) you received.

In what ways has your athletic involvement impacted your personal development?

Task 10: Extra-Curricular Activities – List the extra-curricular activities and years you have participated.

Which of these extra-curricular activities was most important to you? Explain why.

Student Name: _____

Student ID #: _____

Task 11: Community Service – In what organizations or activities outside of school have you participated?

Which community service activity was most meaningful to you? Explain.

Task 12: Leadership Experiences – Describe any leadership roles you have taken in your community service activities OR at school. List the activity or office and describe what you did.

What makes you a successful leader?

Task 13: Overcoming Adversity – Explain any situations that required you to overcome challenges, adversity, or obstacles (divorce, accident, illness, etc.)

Student Name: _____ Student ID #: _____

Task 14: Work Experience: Describe your most significant work experience – employer, length of employment, position, and responsibilities. What lessons did you take away from this experience?

Employer: _____ **Length of Employment:** _____

Responsibilities: _____

Lessons Learned: _____

Employer: _____ **Length of Employment:** _____

Responsibilities: _____

Lessons Learned: _____

Task 15: What are your hobbies, interests, or activities outside of school? List any leadership roles.

Task 16: Are you fluent in any other language(s)? If yes, which one(s)?

Task 17: Additional Information – What additional information should I know to write your letter of recommendation?
