

**3** EASY STEPS  
*to a*  
**KILLER**  
*PERSONAL*  
*STATEMENT*



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## Your what and your why

- First, [watch Video 3 – Your what and your why](#)



In this first section we're going to talk about your 'what' and your 'why'. Basically, what subject you want to study and why you want to study it. We're going to delve deep and get as many ideas down as possible so you can pick and choose the most eye-catching and inspiring for your personal statement.

**Firstly, write down the subject you want to study.** If you don't know yet, you need to decide before starting this decision process. (This [blog post](#) might help you though!)

**I am going to study:**

In the following boxes I want you to write down as much as you can possibly think of for each prompt. You mustn't edit yourself at this stage, just write down anything that comes into your head and spend as long doing this as you can. You can even have a rest and come back to it later.

**What parts of the subject are you most interested in and why?** Think back over everything you've ever studied in this subject and write down the things that really interested or inspired you, or the things you were excited to go away and find out more about in your own time. You can also look at the course outlines for your subject to identify the areas you're most interested in learning more about during your degree course. Don't forget to write down why you found these things interesting as well.

**What questions are you most keen to answer about your chosen subject in your degree?** Do you have any burning questions that you really want to know the answers to? When I chose A-Level chemistry I really wanted to know about the science of colour. When I chose a degree in geography I was fascinated to learn how the landscape was formed by all the different natural processes interacting with each other. What burning questions do you have?

**Where do you want your degree course to lead you in the future?** Is there a specific job you want to do? Do you really want to continue to do academic research? Or, are you studying this subject because you have a genuine interest in it and you'd like to see where that interest takes you.

**Have you had any seminal moments connected with your subject?** When I was in Year 10 I went on a geography field trip to North Wales. Sitting at the bottom of a cliff, my geography teacher knocked away a piece of the soft rock that the cliffs were made from. He picked it up and told us that that piece of rock hadn't seen the light of day since before the last ice age. In that moment I was entranced and fascinated. It was almost like a spiritual moment for me. I had to know more. Have you had any similar experiences connected with your subject? Maybe, if you want to study economics you've heard an interview with someone who is the victim of global economic processes and you've seen the human side of the subject. Maybe, if you want to study English Literature, there was a quote, a poem, a play or an author that spoke to you. Write about that seminal moment here.

**How have your previous studies (A-Levels or similar) led you to want to study this course?** If you're already studying the subject you want to study at university outline why you want to continue studying it and what aspects of the course have interested you most. Then, for all the other subjects you're studying, say how they lead you to want to study the course. So, if you want to study law and you're taking history at the moment you might talk about how you've enjoyed learning about how social changes have led to changes in the law over time e.g. the abolition of slavery. If you aren't already studying the subject you want to take at university, it's key to make links from what you're already studying to what you want to study.

**Did you find this video and worksheet helpful?**

Then come and [download your copy](#) of the whole guide straight away. You can get going with the quick and easy way to write your personal statement and stop wasting time on stress and worry. You've got more important things to be doing - like focusing on getting your grades!

**Lucy.**

P.S. Have you got questions about the guide? Email me at [lucy@lifemoreextraordinary.com](mailto:lucy@lifemoreextraordinary.com).