

PIONEERS IN ENGINEERING

# PiE Scholarship Workshop



March 10, 2018

*Andrew Vanderburg*

# Who?

PiE students in their last year of high school, moving on to postsecondary education

# What?

One \$2000 scholarship award, plus smaller awards for finalists.

# When?

Application due on April 7, 2018

Interviews likely on April 28, 2018

# Where?

Application can be submitted online:

<https://pioneers.berkeley.edu/programs/scholarship>



# Where?

Go to [pioneers.berkeley.edu](https://pioneers.berkeley.edu)  
Scroll to bottom: [RC Scholarship](#)

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# Why?

# Why?

1. To help deserving students receive higher education.



# Why?

1. To help deserving students receive higher education.
2. To promote science, technology, math, and engineering (STEM).

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# Promoting STEM



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# Promoting STEM



# How?

- Application components
  - Short response questions (4x 200 words)
  - Unofficial transcript
  - Recommendation letter
- A short list are interviewed to select finalists and a winner.

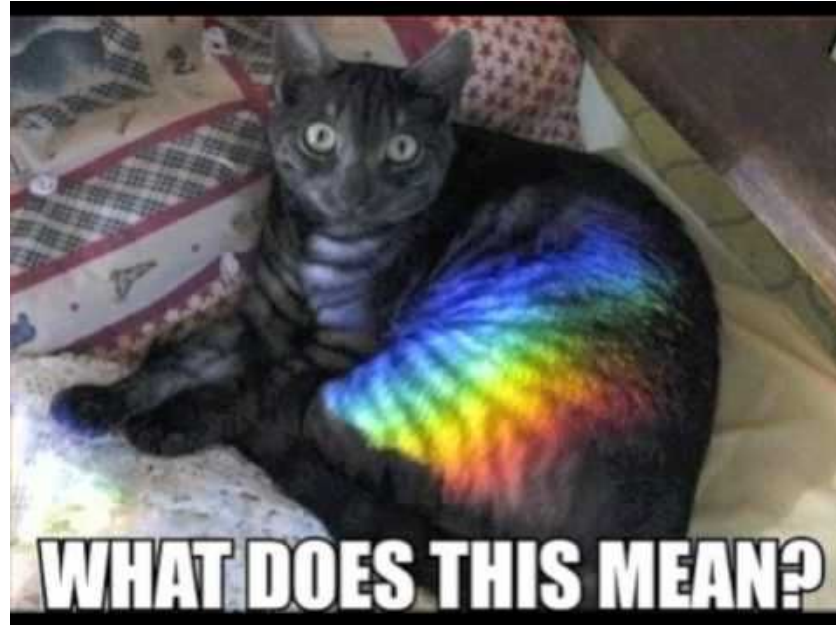
# Recommendation Letter



- Recommendation Letter
  - Approach early on.
  - Someone who knows you well.
    - Mentor
    - Teacher
  - Follow-up/reminder emails as necessary.



# What do we want to learn from Short-Response Questions



**What do we want to learn from  
Short-Response Questions**

**Where have you come from?  
What has shaped you?**

**What do we want to learn from  
Short-Response Questions**

**Where do you want to go?  
What do you want to do?**



# **What do we want to learn from Short-Response Questions**

**What do you understand about yourself?  
What will you do with that knowledge?**

# **How to write a short response answer**

## Practice Prompt

*How has your favorite class affected the way you see the world?*

# Brainstorming

- **What is the prompt really asking?**
- There's no bad idea
- Just get it out on paper
- Bounce ideas off of friends
- Essay will “fall out” from ideas



**Your turn!**

## **What is the prompt asking?**

*How has your favorite class affected the way you see the world?*

Where have you come from?

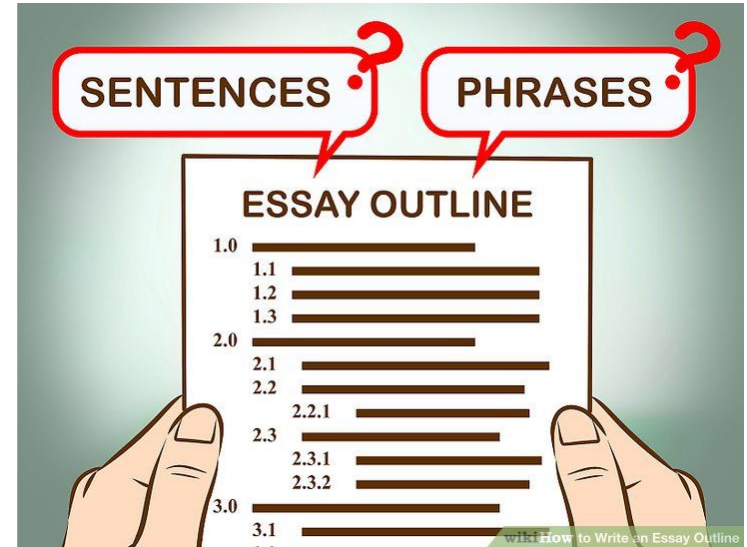
Are you aware of how you have grown?

# Brainstorming

- I had a teacher who noticed that I was bored and taught me to program computers
- I used to hate English class until I realized it wasn't just about spelling and grammar
- I always thought history was about old people who became president, but now I know there is all sorts of history, like sports, fashion, entertainment, etc.

# Planning and Outlining

- Example format:
  - Topic Sentence
  - Concrete Detail/Example
  - Commentary
  - Concrete Detail/Example
  - Commentary
  - Concluding Sentence





**Your turn!**

# Brainstorming

- I had a teacher who noticed that I was bored and taught me to program computers
- **I used to hate English class until I realized it wasn't just about spelling and grammar**
- I always thought history was about old people who became president, but now I know there is all sorts of history, like sports, fashion, entertainment, etc.

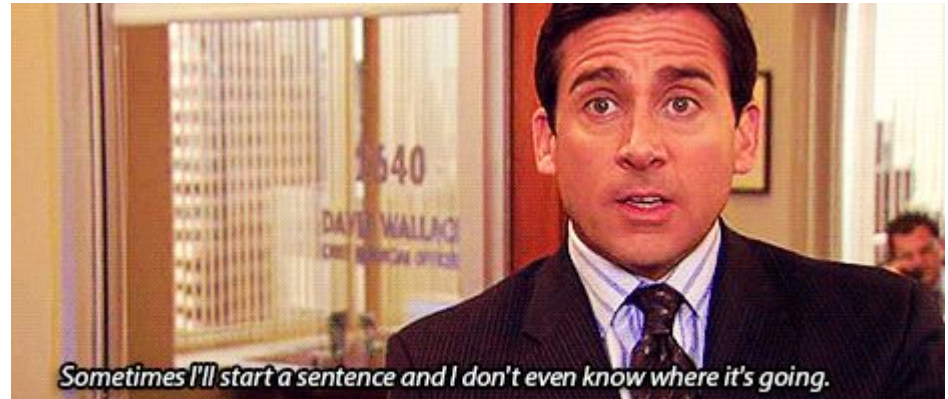
# Planning and Outlining

- Example format:

- **Topic Sentence:** English was my least favorite subject until I learned that wasn't just remembering rules.
- **Concrete Detail/Example:** My 10th grade English class
- **Commentary:** Before this, I never liked English, but now I realize I do.
- **Concluding Sentence:** Now, I might take an advanced English class that I wouldn't have before.

# Rough Draft

- Fill in the outline
- Different approaches
  - Brain dump
  - (Sorta-)Popcorn style
- Can tweak the outline, edit, clean up, cut down later
- Goal: Get story on paper



**Your turn!**

# Planning and Outlining

- Example format:

- **Topic Sentence:** English was my least favorite subject until I learned that wasn't just remembering rules.
- **Concrete Detail/Example:** My 10th grade English class
- **Commentary:** Before this, I never liked English, but now I realize I do.
- **Concrete Detail/Example:** Now, I might take an advanced English class
- **Commentary:** I wouldn't have done this before.
- **Concluding Sentence:** That class changed how I thought of the subject.

# Rough Draft

English was my least favorite subject until I learned that it wasn't just remembering rules. In my 10th grade English class, we didn't study spelling or grammar at all, and just read cool books. I always thought English was boring, but now I know I like studying these books. I might even take an advanced English class! I never would have done this before. This class really changed how I think about English.

# Proofreading & Revising

- Read it out loud
- Ask a friend to read it and say if they can understand what you're saying
- Spell Check! Be better than a lolcat.
- It's more important to be clear than to sound smart!





**YOUR OFFERING PLEASES KITTY**



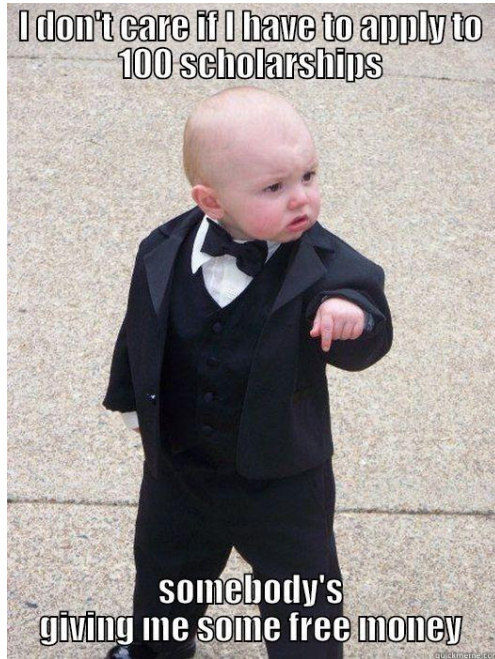
# Recap

**No can do...**



**I'z all wrapped up for  
the day..**

# PIONEERS IN ENGINEERING



- Start application early.
- Brainstorm, write, proofread, revise/re-write essays.
  - Draft in Word Processor (not the online site).
  - Ask people to proofread: friends, teachers, counselors, PiE mentors.
- Ask for rec. letters early & follow-up.
- Look around for other scholarships too.

## Keep in mind

1. No grammar or spelling mistakes
2. Be as concise as possible
3. Don't thesaurus-ize your essay
4. Show, don't tell
5. Answer the question
6. Be genuine

# Questions??

Email: [scholarship@pioneers.berkeley.edu](mailto:scholarship@pioneers.berkeley.edu)