**RW4. ESL Scholarship and Essay**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Level: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Sections 1-3 in this SDLA must be completed before meeting with a tutor and receiving a stamp. Write/type all your answers on this handout.**

**After completing this SDLA, you will be able to:**

* Define the term *scholarship*
* Apply for an ESL Scholarship at Mt. SAC
* Identify the important points used in an example ESL Scholarship essay
* Write an ESL Scholarship essay including 4 important points

**Sections 1-3 (approximately 45 minutes):** Read the information. Follow each step below to complete this SDLA. Be prepared to explain your answers when you meet with a tutor.

**Section 1: ESL Scholarship Overview**

**How do students pay for their education? Write 3 ways students pay for their education.**

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There are many ways that students can pay for their education including: income, student loans, and scholarships. A scholarship is money awarded to students to support their education. Students can receive money for academic achievement, athletic performance, or student involvement in the community or college.

The Mt. San Antonio College ESL Scholarship Committee offers scholarships annually for students who plan to take Mt. SAC credit classes.

**Part A: Scholarship Eligibility:**

Applications are accepted from December to March on an ongoing basis. The committee encourages students who have the following requirements to apply:

* Current Mt. SAC ESL Students Level 4, 5, 6 or VESL or prior Mt. SAC ESL Students with fewer than 6 units of credit.
* Students who attended at least 12 weeks of a semester and have passed a Mt. SAC ESL Level class with Priority Status.
* Students who are planning and are eligible to attend credit class at Mt. SAC in the Fall semester.

**Do you qualify?**

1. **What is your current student status at Mt. SAC? Circle one:**

Level 4 Level 5 Level 6 VESL Prior ESL Student (Less than 6 units) None

1. **Have you attended at least 12 weeks of a semester? Circle one:**

Yes No Not Sure

1. **Have you passed a Mt. SAC ESL Level class with Priority Status? Circle one:**

Yes No Not Sure

1. **Are you planning and eligible to attend credit classes at Mt. SAC in the Fall semester? Circle one:**

Yes No Not Sure

**Note:** If you answered no to any of the questions above, you unfortunately don’t qualify for the ESL Scholarship yet. However, you should still practice writing the essay for the scholarship.

**Part B: Required Documents:**

To apply for the ESL scholarship, all students must complete the following:

1. **APPLICATION (either online or paper):** Provide basic contact information about you. A copy of the paper application is attached to this SDLA.
2. **ESSAY:** Describe your educational and career goals, potential for success in credit classes and the obstacles you have overcome in becoming a successful student. **See Section 2 for more help.**
3. **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** Two letters of recommendation from Mt. SAC instructors.
4. **ATTENDANCE:** Completing a Mt. SAC ESL Level class with good attendance.

**Section 2: Scholarship Essay**

**Part A. Student Video:**

Watch this video and answer the following questions **http://tinyurl.com/qh2fukc.**

1. What do you think is one of the student’s goals in school?

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1. What do you think is one of the student’s goals in life?

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1. How will college help the student achieve these goals?

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**Part B: Brainstorming the Essay:**

Just like the student in the video, you must consider your goals and the purpose of your education as you write your essay for the ESL Scholarship. You must write about the 4 underlined points below. The questions that follow each point can help guide your essay. You can write your thoughts or answers to the questions in the graphic organizer below.

1. Your goals in college and in life
   1. What do you want to achieve in school / in your personal life / in your career?
   2. Why do you want to achieve these goals?
2. Your potential for success in credit classes
   1. What skills have you developed by taking ESL classes? Give an example of how you have used these skills.
   2. How do you plan to use your ESL classes to improve your personal life/your career/your academic performance?
3. How you have overcome obstacles in becoming a successful student
   1. How have you overcome a challenge in your life? Describe your experience.
      1. What did you learn from it?
      2. How did you grow/improve?
4. How the scholarship will assist you financially
   1. How will the scholarship help you pay for your classes?

**Essay Graphic Organizer**

**Part C: Example Student Essay:**

Read the example essay below. Underline all the points that are included from Part B above. Write the letter or number that applies next to each underlined section. The first two have been done as an example.

|  |
| --- |
| ESL Scholarship  I am applying for the ESL Scholarship. Currently, I am enrolled in the VESL program, and I am going to take AMLA 43W this spring. Upon successful completion of the VESL program, I will take credit classes.  **a.**  **b.**  My career goal is to become a registered nurse in the United States. I have been a registered nurse in my country for five years, and I really love this career. I enjoy listening and working with others. When I see my patients getting better and better, I feel successful. When they are discharged, they come to my office to thank me for taking care of them; I am happy from the bottom of my heart for their recovery. To pursue a career as a registered nurse in the U.S., I decided to achieve my educational goal first. My educational goal is to earn an Associate’s Degree and then transfer for a Bachelor’s Degree. I know that all my goals will remain dreams if I do not take action. Therefore, I take classes to improve my English skills to make all my goals a reality.  I believe education and hard work are the keys to success. As a result, I study hard. Despite the time-consuming Student Union activities and volunteer work I did in my country, I received scholarships for two consecutive academic years at college. In the United States, I studied at Bassett Adult School and earned a High School Diploma with a 4.0 GPA. Additionally, I successfully completed Level 6 at Mt. SAC Spring 2013.  Life has completely changed since I immigrated here, and I faced many obstacles in the beginning like culture shock. Different languages, different cultures, and different customs made me afraid. I did not learn English in my country, and I was not used to the American English accent at first. I needed to listen carefully two or three times to understand, and I preferred reading to listening. In order to overcome these obstacles, I went out with native speakers to learn their cultures, language, and customs. At home, I would watch English news, films, and TV shows. When I would drive, I always turned the radio on to push myself to get used to English.  I have learned to appreciate what I have and people who help me. Now I have a part time job that helps me pay for part of my education. I would be honored and grateful for your assistance. It makes me feel that I am not alone on the journey of my higher education. Your investment in me will not only assist me to accomplish my personal goals, but will also benefit our community. I appreciate your consideration. |

**Part D: Writing the Essay:**

Using the essay from Part C as an example, you will now write an essay for the ESL Scholarship. Include all the underlined points from Part B.

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\*This SDLA was planned in accordance with the Mt. SAC ESL Department Scholarship requirements as of 2014

**Section 3: Student Self-Assessment**

C:\Documents and Settings\wcuser1553\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\Z02HHZPN\MC900072629[1].gif*Complete this self-assessment before meeting with a tutor.* **Now that you’ve completed sections 1 to 3, check the things you can do:**

* I can define the term *scholarship*.
* I can apply for an ESL Scholarship.
* I can identify the important points used in an example ESL Scholarship essay.
* I can write an ESL Scholarship essay including 4 important points.

**DON’T FORGET! Write your name on the clipboard to work with a tutor. The tutor will call your name when he/she is ready.**

**Section 4: Practice with a Tutor!**

After completing the self-assessment, meet with a tutor and give this completed SDLA to the tutor. The tutor will review your ESL Scholarship essay with you. You may also ask the tutor any questions that you might have. The tutor will provide you with feedback using the table below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area of Focus** | **1 Point** | **3 Points** | **5 Points** |
| **Content** | Not enough information is provided about student’s goals, potential for success, obstacles, and need for financial assistance. | Sufficient information is provided about student’s goals, potential for success, obstacles, and need for financial assistance. Specific examples and details may be lacking. | All necessary information is provided about student’s goals, potential for success, obstacles, and need for financial assistance. Specific examples and details are used to support each point. |
| **Organization** | Writing is disorganized or underdeveloped. No transitions are used. | Writing follows the correct format. Few transitions are used correctly. | Writing includes a strong beginning, middle, and end with accurate use of transitions. |
| **Sentence Fluency** | Frequent run-ons or fragments. No variety in sentence structure. | Some run-ons or fragments. Minimal variety in sentence structure. | Few run-ons or fragments. Frequent and consistent variety of sentence structure. |
|  |  |  | **Total points: /15** |

**\*Students must receive at least 10 points to move on.**

**Tutor Recommendations:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * **Congratulations! Move on**   *Student has successfully completed this SDLA and is ready to continue to the next.* | * **Repeat**   *Student hasn’t yet mastered this SDLA. It is recommended that the student complete it again.* |

**Tutor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**