

UC PERSONAL INSIGHT QUESTIONS

Advise on How to Complete Your UC Application

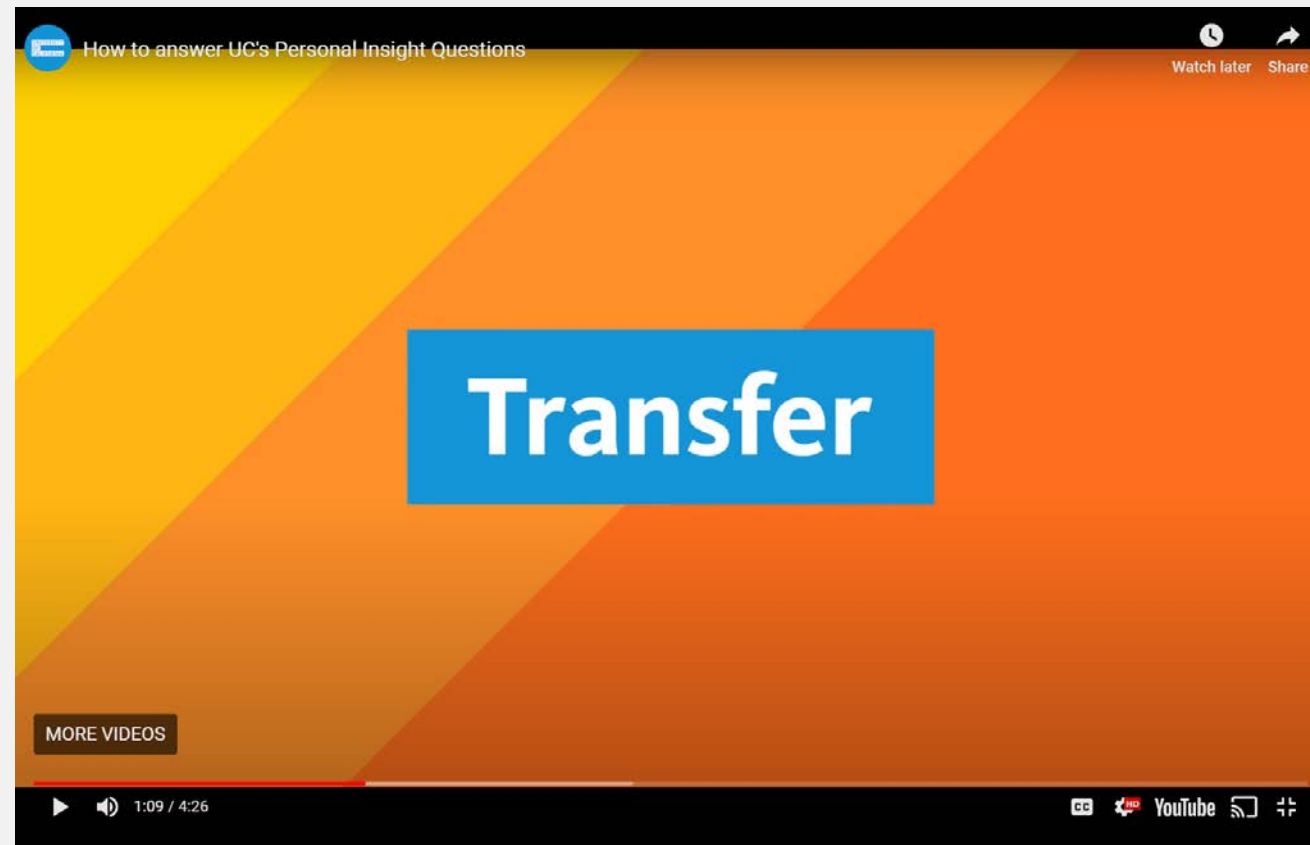
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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ADMISSIONS

- This information is derived from the University of California website
- More information can be found at [UC link to how to apply](#)
- Downloadable worksheet [UC link to downloadable how to apply documents.](#)

HOW TO ANSWER UC'S PERSONAL INSIGHT QUESTIONS



DIRECTIONS

- There is one required question you must answer
- You must also answer 3 out of 7 additional questions
- Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words
- Which three questions you choose to answer are up to you: But you should select questions that are most relevant to your experience and that best reflect your individual circumstances.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND

- All questions are equal: All questions are given equal consideration in the application review process, which means there is no advantage or disadvantage to choosing certain questions over others.
- There is no right or wrong way to answer these questions: It's about getting to know your personality, background, interests and achievements in your own unique voice.

GUIDANCE

- Remember, the personal questions are just that — personal. Which means you should use our guidance for each question just as a suggestion in case you need help. The important thing is expressing who are you, what matters to you and what you want to share with UC.

REQUIRED QUESTION

Please describe how you have prepared for your intended major, including your readiness to succeed in your upper-division courses once you enroll at the university.

- Things to consider: How did your interest in your major develop? Do you have any experience related to your major outside the classroom — such as volunteer work, internships and employment, or participation in student organizations and activities? If you haven't had experience in the field, consider including classroom experience. This may include working with faculty or doing research projects.
- If you're applying to multiple campuses with a different major at each campus, think about approaching the topic from a broader perspective, or find a common thread among the majors you've chosen.

CHOOSE 3 OF 7 QUESTIONS

1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time.
2. Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.
3. What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?

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CHOOSE 3 OF 7 QUESTIONS, CONTINUED

4. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.
5. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?
6. What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?
7. Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you stand out as a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?

WRITING TIPS

- **Begin early**
 - Give yourself plenty of time for preparation, careful composition and revisions.
- **Write persuasively**
 - Making a list of accomplishments, activities, awards or work will lessen the impact of your words. Expand on a topic by using specific, concrete examples to support the points you want to make.
- **Use “I” Statements**
 - Talk about yourself so that we can get to know your personality, talents, accomplishments and potential for success on a UC campus. Use “I” and “my” statements in your responses.

WRITING TIPS, CONTINUED

- **Proofread and edit**
 - Although you will not be evaluated on grammar, spelling or sentence structure, you should proofread your work and make sure your writing is clear. Grammatical and spelling errors can be distracting to the reader and get in the way of what you're trying to communicate.
- **Solicit feedback**
 - Your answers should reflect your own ideas and be written by you alone, but others — family, teachers and friends — can offer valuable suggestions. Ask advice of whomever you like, but do not plagiarize from sources in print or online and do not use anyone's published words but your own.
- **Relax**
 - This is one of many pieces of information we consider in reviewing your application. Your responses can only add value to the application. An admission decision will not be based on this section alone.

RESPONSE REVIEW

- To have your responses reviewed for grammar by one of the Writing Center tutors, click the following link for submission instructions:

[RC Tutoring Services link](#)

- To have your responses reviewed by an instructor, please attend their virtual Office Hours or email them directly.

*Please begin early to allow ample time for the review process.

FOR MORE TRANSFER INFORMATION

- Visit the [RC Transfer Center webpage](#)
- Follow us on Instagram at RC_TransferCenter

