

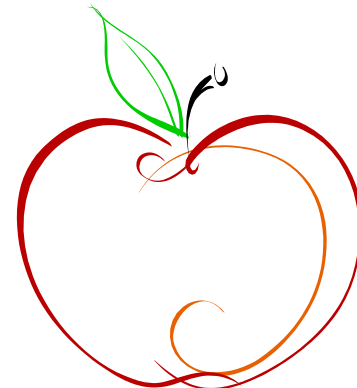


Understanding the three groups of
college applicants:
Definitely Yes
Definitely No
Maybe.

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What Are Colleges Looking for in Applicants?

- Make good grades and graduate
- Get involved on campus; demonstrated character & personal quality
- Become successful, supportive alumni, and citizen of the world



Colleges Deal with 3 Applicant Groups

- Group 1: Definitely Yes
- Group 2: Definitely No
- Group 3: Maybe!



Group 1: Definitely Yes

Facts:

- A 4.0 GPA student
- President of the senior year class
- Captain of the soccer team
- Regular volunteer at a food bank
- Internship at NASA

Questions:

- Make good grades and graduate?
- Get involved on campus?
- Become successful, supportive alumni?



Group 2: Definitely No

- A 2.0 GPA student
- No activities at school
- No interests
- Make good grades and graduate?
- Get involved on campus?
- Become successful, supportive alumni?



Group 3: Maybe!

- A 3.0 GPA student
- Upward grade trend
- Participate in some activities
- Make good grades and graduate?
- Get involved on campus?
- Become successful, supportive alumni?



GPA Grade Trend

4.0



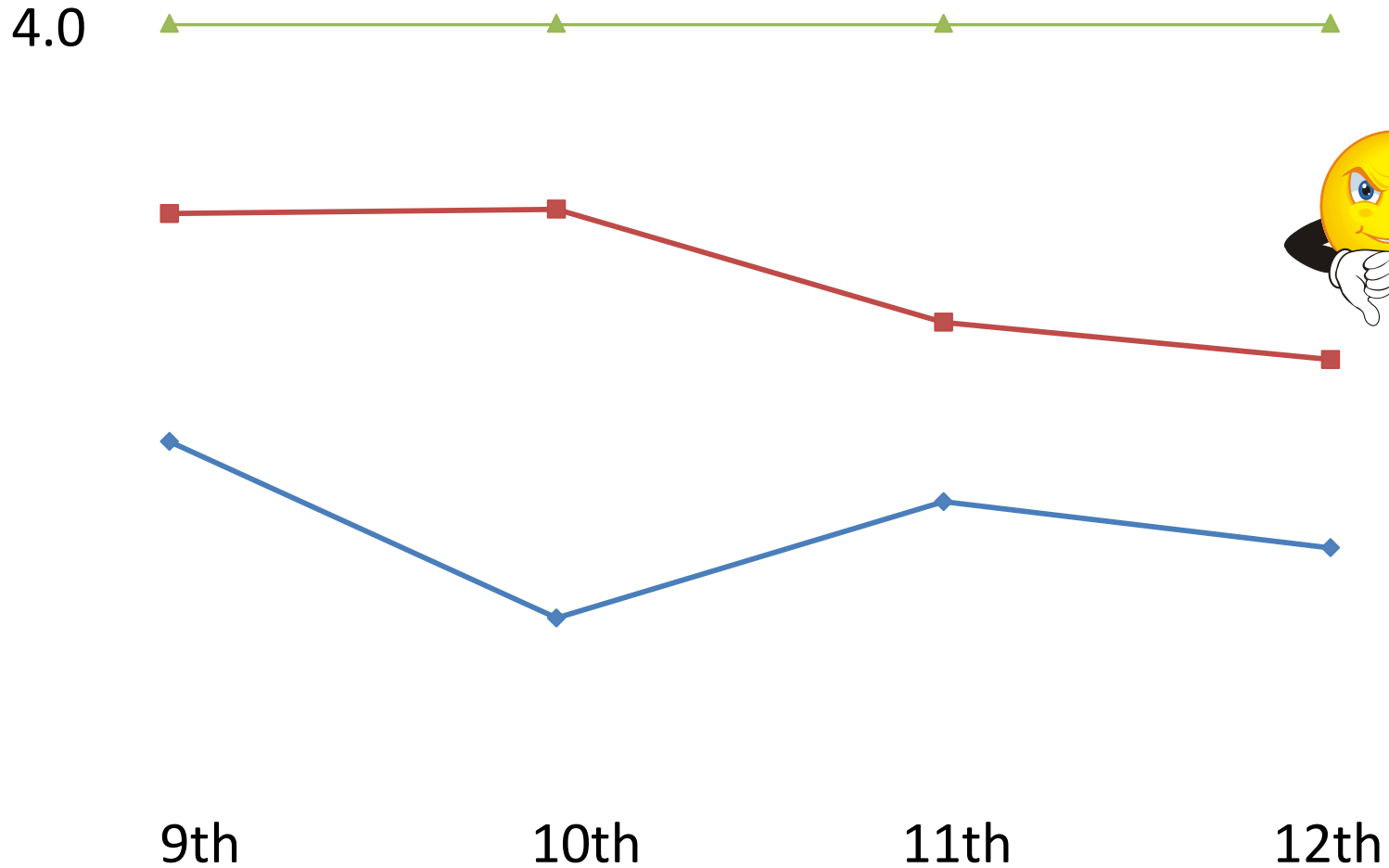
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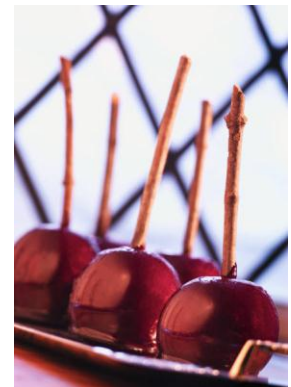
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GPA Grade Trend



What to do if “Maybe”

- Demonstrate that you are worth of admitting
- Show qualities of a diamond in the rough
- Thoughtful GPA explanation
- Strong supportive letters of recommendation

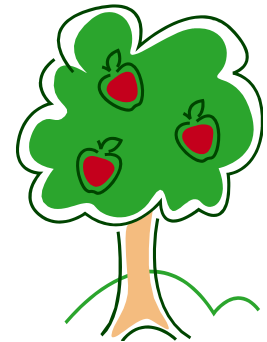


Thoughtful GPA Explanation

About My Grades:

IvyClimbing Sample:

When I first started high school, I often forgot to check my homework and tests, resulting in mistakes that would have been avoided. As I grow older, I developed better study and time management skills which resulted in my improved GPA. I hope that the admissions office would take my growth into consideration in viewing my application.



Explain - A Diamond in the Rough

IvyClimbing Sample: Why Boston College (BC)?

I'm a student, my name is Ali Chen,
I was looking for a place to reason with my pen.
I liked Economics and Communications
But I had only one small frustration.
I didn't know where to apply,
There was no college in my mind's eye,
But my future changed when I took a trip,
To Boston, where tea was dumped off ships.
BC, oh BC, this is the college for me,
your courses and my interests merge,
I'd love to sit in the Bapst Art library,
where there are 400 places to study with my classmate(s).

A Diamond in the Rough

Why Boston College (BC), continued...

I'm pretty interested in communications,
I want to reach out to people of all nations,
Take some courses in advertising,
This requirements list is so appetizing!

Economics is very interesting,
With the stock market constantly tanking,
I will master the concepts of macro and micro,
And understand the meaning of quid pro quo.

I've tried to start multiple businesses,
It's mostly crazy ideas and blind guesses,
But I hope some of them will become successes
After I am able to wade through all these messes.

A Diamond in the Rough

Why Boston College (BC), continued...

When I looked through your website,
One other major seemed quite right,
Nursing, the work of caring for the injured or sick,
It seemed like a career that I just might pick.

Now when I apply to BC, what should I do,
Majors, I can only pick a maximum of two.
All will set me down different paths,
But either way I'll have to study basic math.

I hope your classes will help me learn,
So I can donate some of the money I earn.
With your guidance and my brain of solutions
I'm sure we'll find a way to end pollution.

A Diamond in the Rough

Why Boston College (BC), continued...

Boston College is so prestigious.
Even though I am not religious,
I will absorb the culture of Christianity,
And study for the sake of humanity.

I hope my GPA is high enough,
Maybe you'll see me as a diamond in the rough.
Getting in will definitely be tough,
But my skills are surely not fluff.

IvyClimbing Definition of “Best” College

- Impossible to determine which college is the best college
- “Best” only has meaning when a student is not an “island” and fully embraces available opportunities
- A college filled with straight “A” students may not be the right place for everyone

Where did they go to college?

- **David Fry**, CIO and co-founder, Fry's Electronics
- **Gavin Newsom**, Mayor of San Francisco
- **Jerry Brown**, California Governor
- **Dee Dee Myers**, former White House press secretary
- **Janet Napolitano**, Secretary of Homeland Security
- **Leon Panetta**, Director of the CIA, Obama Administration
- **Steve Nash**, Basketball player, Phoenix Suns

Where did they go to college?

The Answer: **Santa Clara University!**

