**UNC – SHORT ANSWER PROMPTS (In addition to the Common Application prompts)** <http://www.commonapp.org/whats-appening/application-updates/2018-2019-common-application-essay-prompts>

**You will brainstorm your answers here and then TYPE your responses on a Google Doc – with a Word Count at the end of each.**

***First-Year & Transfer Applicants***

*Carolina’s supplement will provide you with four prompts, and you will choose two. Each response will be limited to 200-250 words.*

*(from the UNC Application website: “Your responses will help us get a better understanding of who you are, how you think, and what you might contribute to the University community.*

* Tell us about a peer who has made a difference in your life.
* What do you hope will change about the place where you live?
* What is one thing that we don’t know about you that you want us to know?
* What about your background, or what perspective, belief, or experience, will help you contribute to the education of your classmates at UNC?

**2018-2019 Common Application Essay Prompts**  
  
1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.   
  
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?   
  
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?   
  
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.   
  
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.   
  
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?

7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

*The most popular essay prompt of the 2017-2018 application year (through January 5, 2018) is "Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth..." (23.6%), followed by the topic of your choice option (22.5%), and "Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful..." (21.4%).*

*"Through the Common App essay prompts, we want to give all applicants - regardless of background or access to counseling - the opportunity to share their voice with colleges. Every applicant has a unique story. The essay helps bring that story to life," said Meredith Lombardi, Associate Director, Outreach and Education, for The Common Application.*