

Dear Auntie Cheryl

I just got brilliant grades in my Highers (I'm really clever). All I needed to do was a few subjects in S6 to top them up, then off to uni for me.

But . . . we had a talk the other day about UCAS, and they told us that this Personal Statement thing really matters!

Surely my great grades will let the uni's know that I'm a total brainiac. Why should I bother putting time and effort into telling them again, when I'm so obviously gifted?

Also – I am a modest person and the thought of having to tell total strangers – IN WRITING – how clever I am makes me feel a bit sick.

Should I put some real work into this, or will I just let my genius declare itself??

Brain-under-a-bushel

Dunfermline

Dear B-U-A-B

Let's call you Bob for short!

Put the work in Bob. Make the effort.

Your Personal Statement lets you say a little more about yourself, particularly why you are interested in your chosen course/s, and what qualities you could bring. No matter how clever you are (and I know you are very clever) there are always plenty of other clever people out there too. See this as your chance to shine!

Never underestimate the power of the Personal Statement, Bob.

Go to the UCAS website for some great advice about writing it
<http://www.ucas.ac.uk/students/applying/howtoapply/personalstatement/>

Good luck with overcoming that crushing modesty, too!

Auntie Cheryl