General Personal Statement Writing Exercise:
Questions To Ask Yourself Before You Begin Writing

Past experiences

What (or who) have been the most important influences in my life?
What is my greatest accomplishment to date? Biggest mistake or failure to date?
What is the best decision I’ve ever made? The worst decision?
What is the most important lesson I’ve learned in life?
What is the most unusual thing I’ve ever done?

Present Motivations

Why do I want to go to law school?
What do I hope to gain from pursuing a legal education?
How do I plan to use my law degree?

Future Goals

Is there a particular type of law I would like to practice?
Is there a particular population with whom I’d like to work?
What are my future goals (personal and professional)?
Where do I see myself in 5 years? 10 years? 20 years?

Enduring Qualities

What motivates me?
What is the most unique thing about me?
If my best friend had to describe me in three words, what would he/she say?
What personal qualities am I most proud to possess?
If I only had 10 minutes with the admissions committee, what 3 things would I want them to know about me?