PERSONAL STATEMENTS SELF EDIT:

Did you...

- 1. Work specifically on your first sentence and first paragraph to engage the reader?
 - a. St. Helena Essays Lesson
- 2. Punctuate coordinating conjunctions correctly?
 - a. Grammar Grappler #1 Lesson
- 3. Carefully craft your tone to avoid negative impressions (elitism, entitlement, whining, self-pity)
 - a. "Marketing your Product" Lesson (Colin)
- 4. Incorporate tips from the readings:
 - a. "The Art of Selling Yourself"
 - i. Making the Grade: challenge yourself/demonstrate academic risk/curiosity
 - ii. Express Yourself: Avoid parental help/demonstrate authentic voice/thinking
 - iii. Show a Little Love: Demonstrate why you want THAT college/research
 - iv. Find your Fans: Create themes that your recommenders can touch upon in letters of rec.
 - v. Depth beats Breadth: less is more
 - vi. Show not Tell/Be polite
 - b. "Seven Great Tips"
 - i. One great idea
 - ii. Personal and small
 - iii. Relax; be yourself
 - iv. If love is all you got, go with it.
 - v. Dialogue/Interior Monologue
 - vi. Specify
- 5. Avoid passive voice except where appropriate (in this case, very infrequently)?
 - a. Grammar Grappler #2 Lesson
- 6. Incorporate motifs/metaphors/research/storytelling
 - a. Ala Analy essays and "professional" essays
- 7. Avoid Engfish/BO and employ economy of language
 - a. Every word counts!
 - b. Grammar Grappler #3 Lesson