

State your academic SMART goal.

Before starting this assignment, check out the feedback you received on your Week 1 assignment to see if you need to adjust your SMART goals.

My academic SMART goal is that in order to complete my Early Childhood Education degree within two years from now, I will successfully pass all courses in my major with at least a 3.0 GPA. My professional SMART goal states that by having at least three job interviews with reputable companies prior to graduation, I will land a new job as an assistant director of a daycare. My motivation for achieving my academic goal is mostly intrinsic because it has been my dream to earn a degree. I want to be the first in my family to graduate from college and a 3.0 GPA sets a high bar for myself. My motivation for achieving my professional goal is that I want to build a sustainable career instead of moving from job to job. This motivation is extrinsic because I will be rewarded for my efforts by having a solid career with opportunities to grow and earn more. Challenging myself to participate in interviews is a good step in establishing the career I desire.

Each paragraph begins with a **topic sentence** that includes language from the assignment directions and indicates the topic of the paragraph.

A topic sentence is needed for every paragraph you write for an assignment.

Consider talking about your LCI scores.

State your professional SMART goal.

Be sure to discuss your **motivation** for achieving your goals.

Clearly state what your **3 strengths** are.

Three strengths that I possess that can help me reach my goals are my ability to manage time well, my detail-oriented nature, and my ability to communicate effectively. My ability to manage time well will help me reach both my academic and professional goals. My Use-First Sequence reflects how well I like to be organized and meet deadlines, which are important to time management. These are critical characteristics if I want to earn the best grades on assignments and manage my workload. It is also important to demonstrate to potential employers that I have the ability to be organized and complete tasks on-time.

In addition to time management, I am detail oriented as reflected by my Use-First Precision. This is valuable in the classroom where I have to read and follow instructions to perform well on assignments. Paying attention to details is

Include examples for each strength you listed.

Use examples from your personal, professional, and academic life.

also important in the workplace, where I will be required to keep records and write reports. Demonstrating to potential employers that I can pay attention to details will make me a valuable candidate. Lastly, I communicate effectively with peers and colleagues. Effective communication will help me in the interviews. I will need effective written communication skills to create my resume and cover letters to land the interviews. I will then use oral communication in the interviews to articulate my value to future employers. Effective communication will also help me achieve my academic goal as I will have to write well in my classes to demonstrate my learning and earn the grades I desire.

A paragraph should have a **single focus or topic**. The student has begun a new paragraph to transition to their new topic of opportunities for improvement.

Practice beginning a new paragraph when you transition to a new topic.

Along with my strengths, I also have opportunities for improvement. Three areas where I need to improve in order to reach my goals are knowing when to ask for help, finding work-life balance, and improving my writing skills. My high score for Technical Reasoning indicates that I am an independent learner. That can be an advantage, but it also presents an opportunity to make improvements. I can be so independent that I fail to ask for help when I need it. If I do not understand assignment instructions, I will spend too much time trying to figure it out instead of asking for help. That is something I need to work on if I want to achieve my academic goal.

Finding work-life balance is also an area where I need to make improvements. I am highly organized, but I have many responsibilities. I also have a hard time saying no to friends and family. In order to do well in my classes, I have to find ways to strike a better balance among my many responsibilities, so I have enough time to focus on school. This will help with my professional goal as well.

Clearly state your 3 areas of opportunity (otherwise known as, your weaknesses or obstacles you need to overcome).

Providing examples helps to explain why something can be considered a weakness.

Without a healthy work-life balance, I will not find the time to adequately prepare for the interviews. Additionally, I need to work on my writing skills if I want to reach my goals. I think I am a good writer, but I do have problems with my

Give examples for each of your areas of opportunities.

grammar. My writing creates an impression on the reader. To create a positive impression on my peers, instructors, and potential employers, I need to work on perfecting those skills.

Need help with grammar or proofreading? Be sure you are utilizing the Grammarly tool for any writing you do.

Set up your free account now by following instructions found on the Writing Center's [Grammarly Guide](#).

Still have questions about this assignment? Reach out to your instructor! They are happy to help answer your questions.