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ESSAY WARM-UP PROMPTS

COLLEGE PREP

#	TITLE	Prompts
1	The Flashback Game	Think back to 5th grade – what were you obsessed with at the time? A book, a game, a show, a hobby, or a person? What do you think that interest says about the younger you?
2	The Moment You Didn't See Coming	Write about a time when something didn't go the way you expected – good or bad. How did you react, and what did you learn about yourself?
3	What's On Your Wall?	Imagine someone walks into your room and sees what's on your wall, desk, or bookshelf. What would those things say about who you are and what matters to you?
4	The "Why Not Me?" Moment	Describe a time when you saw someone succeed and thought, "Why not me?" How did that moment motivate or challenge you?
5	The Weirdest Tradition	Does your family, school, or friend group have a weird tradition or inside joke? What is it, and what does it say about your community?
6	Invisible Work	What's something you do regularly that others might not notice or understand? Why is it important to you?
7	The Song That Stuck	Pick a song that brings back a strong memory. What do you associate with it, and why does it still matter?

8	The Thing I Do Differently	What's something small or surprising you do differently from others? How did that habit or point of view develop?
9	A Time I Felt Seen	Describe a moment when someone truly understood or recognized you. What impact did it have on you?
10	The Unexpected Expert	What's something random or obscure you know a lot about? How did you get into it, and why do you enjoy it?
11	The Parallel Universe Prompt	Imagine a version of you in a parallel universe who made one big different choice. How is their life different, and what does that say about your values or path?
12	What Would They Say?	If your best friend, favorite teacher, or grandparent had to describe you in three words, what would they say – and why? Do you agree with their perspective?

"A POSITIVE MINDSET IS THE FIRST STEP TO AN ENGAGED MIND."



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