Starting a Statement of Educational Philosophy or an Application Essay

This is an activity designed to help you start your first paper in this class.

Step One

To Start an Educational Philosophy: Describe, in detail, a key moment in your education. Something that helped you realize something about the way that education did, or didn’t, work. (7 min)

To Start an Application Essay: Choose one of the topics below and come up with some text on it in the next seven or so minutes of freewriting:

a. Your motivation to become a teacher.
b. Personal qualities that you will bring to the teaching profession.
c. Experience working with elementary/secondary school age students.
d. Experience and interest in working with diverse student populations, personal achievements, or contributions. (from: http://www.education.ucsb.edu/tep/mst-handbook2.html#guidewrite).

Step Two

Next, make sure that you read through what you wrote, and underline text that you might want to use in your formal paper.

Step Three

Share this underlined material, via a read aloud, with your peers. Hear what your text sounds like.