

The Chevening Application Worksheet

Milestone timeline, STAR, and priority mapping

This is the exercise I used to find my story before I wrote a single essay. Work through it before you draft. It is blank on purpose. The point is not to hand you answers but to draw your own out of you, so the words in your application are unmistakably yours.

How to use it

- Set aside an hour or two, without distraction.
- Write in headlines, not paragraphs. You are mapping, not drafting.
- Be honest about the low points. They shape the story as much as the wins.
- Return to it once you have a first draft, and check nothing drifted.

Write your own answers. Chevening now screens applications for plagiarism and AI-generated text, and a borrowed voice reads as a borrowed voice. This sheet exists so the voice stays yours.

Read the full guide at
abrahamologundudu.com/the-novice-guide-to-becoming-a-chevening-scholar-plus-relevant-resources

01 Your milestone timeline

List the significant events of your life and career in order, the highs and the lows, each as a short headline. Do not judge them yet. When the page is full, look for the thread that runs through them. That thread becomes the spine of all four essays.

THE THREAD RUNNING THROUGH THESE

IN ONE LINE, THE FOCUS MY WORK KEEPS RETURNING TO

02 The four essays

Chevening tests four things: your leadership and influence, how you build relationships, why your course and university fit, and your plan for after. The exact questions and word limits live inside the application portal, so confirm them there. Use the prompts below to gather your raw material.

Leadership

LEADERSHIP, TO ME, IS (ONE LINE)

AN EXAMPLE, IN STAR

S SITUATION

T TASK

A ACTION

R RESULT

WHAT THIS REVEALED ABOUT ME

Networking

HOW I BUILD RELATIONSHIPS (ONE LINE)

A RELATIONSHIP I BUILT, AND THE OUTCOME, IN STAR

S SITUATION

T TASK

A ACTION

R RESULT

HOW I WILL USE THIS WITH THE CHEVENING NETWORK

Course of study

MY FIRST-CHOICE COURSE AND UNIVERSITY

WHY THIS COURSE, LINKED TO MY BACKGROUND

SPECIFIC MODULES OR SKILLS I NEED

THE PRIORITY AREA IT MAPS TO

Future plans

FIRST 0 TO 12 MONTHS

1 TO 3 YEARS

3 TO 5 YEARS

HOW THIS LINKS TO WHAT THE UK IS DOING IN MY COUNTRY

03 Priority mapping

Chevening funds four priority areas. You do not have to force your work into one, and a strained fit reads worse than a real one. Where your work already sits near a priority, name the connection plainly. Confirm your own country's priorities on your Chevening country page, since they differ by country.

☐ Growth and prosperity

MY HONEST CONNECTION

☐ Climate resilience

MY HONEST CONNECTION

☐ Security and stability

MY HONEST CONNECTION

☐ Inclusive and effective societies

MY HONEST CONNECTION

Before you submit

- Draft in a separate document, then paste in once it is final.
- Cut hard. Shorter and specific beats long and general.
- Read it aloud. If it sounds like a brochure, rewrite it.
- Give it to one person who knows your work.
- Confirm the current word limits in the portal before you finalise.
- Keep the voice yours.

The full guide:

abrahamologundudu.com/the-novice-guide-to-becoming-a-chevening-scholar-plus-relevant-resources

After the essays, read: how I prepared for the Chevening interview at

abrahamologundudu.com/how-to-prepare-for-chevening-scholarship-interview-questions