

APPLYING TO COLLEGE ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON

A permanent divot in my finger from the pen
I mutter to myself around another mouthful of cold coffee
and try to remember some things I'd forgotten
my mother's middle name
the cubs I'd helped raise
what awards of academic honor besides the fruits of labor
attach here a photograph
we cannot really know you
this essay will let us correct your grammar
what you say is not important

what you say is not important
it's how you say it:
say it so your signature says Joe Student
say it so they know you'll fit
say it so your only difference is a difference they like
a difference they can incorporate into their community...

what you say is not important
when applying to college on a Sunday afternoon