Tips and Strategies for taking the RTW

Read the article carefully, outlining the main points.

Read the essay questions and make sure to address ALL of them.

Connect in your mind the essay questions to the main points in the article.

A good essay will have some kind of introduction and conclusion sentence along with smooth transition between points. The essay should flow logically.

Write in your own words, do not paraphrase or copy any sentence verbatim.

Style: do not use slang, familiarities, nor contractions. Unless mentioned in the article, spell out any initials into full words.

Do not use graphs, tables, nor equations.

The article will have some economic content at a level a student who would have taken the introductory economic courses can understand – you may elaborate on specific economic issues thus demonstrating your deeper knowledge, but not at the expense of omitting some of the essay questions.

Never forget the actual purpose of the essay: checking your RTW skills.
   Reading Ability: you must demonstrate that you understood what you read.
   Analytical Thinking: you must show that you are able to use your understanding of the article to compose a well-argued and logical essay that answers the questions.
   Writing Skills: you must be able to put together a congruent and well-written essay.

The RTW and personal statement serve different purposes. The RTW examines your reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing abilities. The personal statement is the forum to discuss your interest in the major and any outside issues. Please refer to the personal statement prompt on the application form.