

10. Essay Writing

Mr. Abhijeet Shukla

MBA (Dr. H.S Gaur University, FMS, Sagar, M.P)

Essay Writing:

Basically, an Essay is a “precise academic compositions”. Most of us find it difficult to begin writing. We can make this easier by thinking about the topic either through brainstorming, that is- with several people in the group providing their ideas as they strike them or by putting them down on a sheet of a paper as they occur to us.

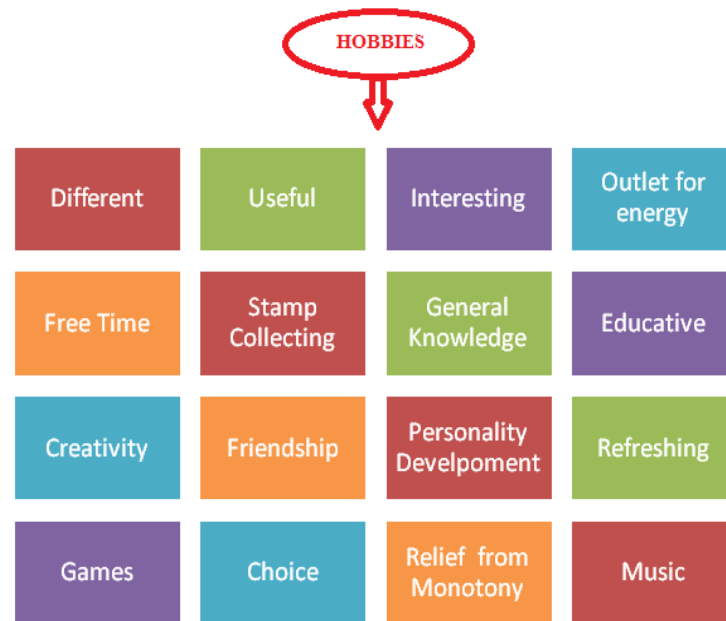
Keywords: Definition of essay, Kinds of essay, Parts of an essay, how to write an effective essay, kinds of essay writing, most important elements of an effective essay.

Introduction:

The word “Essay” is derived from French words “ESSAI” or “ESSAYER”, which mean “trial “. In composition an essay is a piece of non –fiction writing that tells or describes a specific given topic. Currently essay is part of every degree program.

A formal essay is a piece of writing that informs or persuades its audience.

For example, if the topic is “Hobbies”, we can draw a circle and write “Hobbies” in it: n we can put down our ideas and thoughts as they come to us naturally in a random manner as shown below:



Definition Of Essay:

“An essay is a sort of writing, which usually demonstrates author’s position, personal view, or a research of a certain topic.”

Having Done That, We Select The Points And Expand Each Into A Sentence.

- Hobbies are free-time activities. Examples are stamp- collecting, painting etc.
- They are matters of personal choice, not forced.
- They are interesting and provide pleasure.
- They refreshed the mind by giving an opportunity to do different kinds of activities.
- They provide relief from monotony.

We usually begin a topic with a definition or short description. So, specifically in this topic (Hobbies), we could begin thus:

Traditional Example Of Essay Writing: (Hobbies)

Hobbies are activities that we engage in, in our free time, we may be interested in needlework, drawing and painting or music. Other common hobbies are stamp-collecting, clay-modelling, solving crossword puzzles.

Although hobbies also entail work, they are taken upon through one's own personal choice. They are activities that we are really interested in and hence give us a great deal of pleasure. They are not forced upon us. Hobbies make life interesting. They refresh our minds after a hard day's work. We need to do something different in order to do our routine work effectively. Hobbies provide this variety. Hobbies relieve us from the monotony of daily life. They fill us with enthusiasm for work and keep our energy levels high. Hobbies are also useful activities. Quite a few hobbies, like stamp-collecting, widen our general knowledge about various countries of the world. When we share common interests, we even get into correspond once with people of other countries.

Here we can divide the Essay in some important different parts:

Parts Of An Essay:

Introduction:

An introductory paragraph is the first paragraph in an essay. It consists two parts.

- General Statement – a few sentences about your subject that catch the attention of your reader.
- A Thesis Statement – one sentence that tells your reader the main points of your topic and states the overall “plan” of your essay.

“Body Paragraph 1”:

After introduction part an Essay consists “Body Paragraph 1”, which contains some initial features related with given topic of Essay writing.

“Body Paragraph 2”:

Body paragraph 2 contains some information’s about the main topic of Essay writing, like consequences, reasons for particular topic.

“Body Paragraph 3”:

Thus, Body paragraph 3 contains another valuable content like,” Benefits”,” Disadvantages”,” Features” about that particular given topic.

Conclusion:

The Conclusion paragraph sums up the writer’s opinion, taking into account all he has said in paragraphs 2,3 and 4(if written), i.e. it forms the conclusion. Just as every essay has a clear beginning; it should have a clear ending in the form of “Conclusion”.

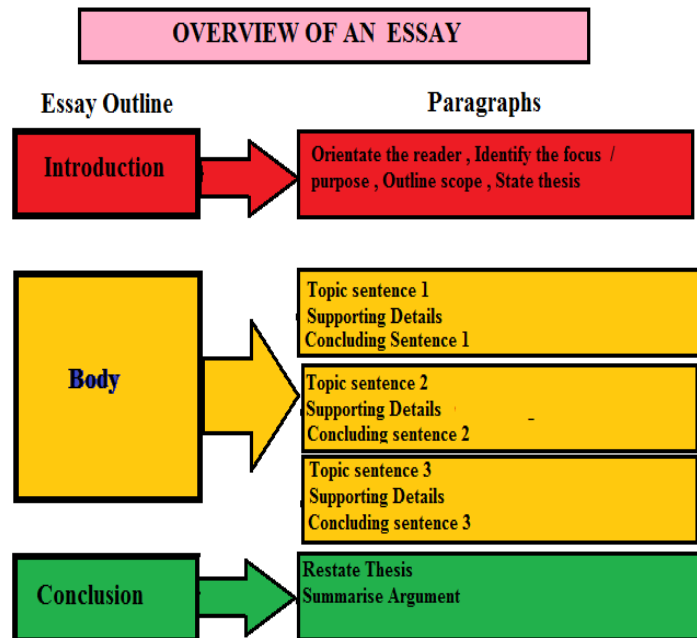
The concluding paragraph typically has two parts:

- “The summary statement” is one or two sentences which restate the thesis in a fresh way to reinforce the essay writing’s main idea.
- “The clincher” is a final thought which should create a lasting impression on the reader.

How Can We Write An Effective Essay?

A composition on a particular subject consisting of more than one paragraph is an “Essay”. An effective essay is the crux and abstract of the writer’s ideas,

thoughts and concepts which should be able to touch the audience’s mind and soul naturally.



The Characteristics Of A Good Essay:

- **Unity:** The essay should deal with the main subject, and all parts of it should be clearly linked with that particular specific subject.
- **Coherence:** There should be logical sequence of thoughts. This requires a logical relationship between ideas, sentences and paragraphs.
- **Relevance:** Unimportant information should not be included.
- **Proportion:** Giving more space to the important ideas.

Effectively writing different types of essays has become critical to academic success. Essay writing is a common school assignment, a part of standardized test, and a requirement on college applications. Often on test, choosing the correct type of essay to write in response to a writing prompt is key to getting the question write. Clearly, students can’t afford to remain confused about types of essays.

There are over dozen types of essays, so it's easy to get confused. However, rest assured, the number is actually more manageable.

Types Of Essays:

Essentially there are four major types of essays, with the variation making of the remainder.

- Narrative Essays
- Descriptive Essays
- Expository Essays
- Persuasive Essays
- Narrative Essays: (Telling a story)

In a Narrative essay, the writer tells a story about a real-life experience. While telling a story may sound easy to do, the narrative essay challenges students to think and write about themselves. When writing a narrative essay, writers should try to involve the reader by making the story as vivid as possible. The fact that narrative essays are usually written in the first person helps engage the reader. "I" sentences give readers a feeling of being part of the story. A well – crafted narrative essay will also build towards drawing a conclusion or making a personal statement.

Descriptive Essays: (Painting A Picture)

A cousin of the narrative essay, a descriptive essay paints a picture with words. A writer might describe a person, place, object, or even memory of special significance. However, these types of essay are not description for description's sake. The descriptive essay strives to communicate a deeper meaning through the description. In a descriptive essay, the writer should show, not tell, through the use of colorful words and sensory details. The best descriptive essays appeal to the reader's emotions, with a result that is highly evocative.

Expository Essays: (Just The Facts)

The Expository essay is an informative piece of writing that presents a balanced analysis of a specific topic. In an expository essay, the writer explains or defines a topic, using facts, statistics, and examples. Expository writing encompasses a wide range of essay variations, such as the comparison and contrast essay, the cause and effect essay, and the “how to” or processes essay. Because expository essays are based on facts and not personal feelings, writers don’t reveal their emotions or write in the first person.

Persuasive Essays: (Convince Me)

While like an expository essay in its presentation of facts, the goal of the persuasive essay is to convince the reader to accept the writer’s point of view or recommendation. The writer must build a case using facts and logic, as well as examples, expert opinion, and sound reasoning. The writer should present all sides of the argument but must be able to communicate clearly and without equivocation why a certain position is correct.

Important Elements / Components Of Essay Writing:

Traditionally, there are three necessary components to any essay. The main parts (or sections) to an essay are the Intro, Body, and Conclusion. In a standard short essay, five paragraphs can provide the reader with enough information in a short amount of space.

The introduction is a paragraph that gives an overview of the essay topic, often with background information.

Elements of an Essay persuade the audience and convey the Essay’s meaning. An Essay is not just a haphazard piece of writing. It’s important to keep improving your approach to research, writing and structure.

Essay Basics:

- An essay is a piece of writing our genuine thoughts, ideas where you present your opinion, backed up by evidence, in response to a specific topic.
- This opinion is referred to as ‘your contention, position or thesis Statement’.
- There are many different types of essays, but they have several common features that make them straight forward to plan and execute if you follow the rules!
- SALIENT FEATURES OF GOOD ESSAY WRITING:
- A strong contention, supported by ideas, arguments and evidence
- The summary and analysis of other writer’s research and opinions
- A clear structure, including an Introduction, Body paragraphs and a Conclusion
- A reference lists.

Prerequisites For A Good Essay Writing:

- A good Essay writer should always leave enough time to prepare himself/ herself for writing an effective Essay.
- Essay writer will need to complete the required reading (both from classes and wider sources).
- Decide on your point of view, brainstorm keywords and concepts.
- Draft an outline of the contents of your paragraphs.

At Last But Not The Least, Most Important Elements Of Effective Essay Writing Are:

1. Engaging Beginning:

- The title suggests the problem, it’s strong and fitting, it brings the reader in.

- The lead grabs the reader's interest. It's deliberate and inviting.
- The lead introduces the problems the problem and establishes a context, a time, a place, or situation.
- The essay goes right to the topic and sticks to it.

2. Effective Support:

- The writer explains his or her r the topic and shares his or her thoughts and feelings about it.
- By the second paragraph, the reader gets the point and the writer's position.
- There is strong "I" or "we" voice.
- Arguments are supported with evidence: statistics, dates, facts, quotes, history, stories, experts, analogies and personal experiences.
- The writer brings in opposing arguments, quotes them, and shoots them down.

3. Coherent Structure:

- The essay moves at a good pace.
- Transitional words and phrases make the essay flow and connect paragraphs.
- The data has been organized for its best presentation; it flows with the movement of the essay and appears in a logical place.
- The diction, or word choice, is precise and strong- not passive. The language is crafted and literary.
- The essay is cut to the bone: just long enough to say what needs to be said.
- The length is about eight to eleven paragraphs –about 750 to 1000 words approximately.

4. Joins The Conversation:

- The writer presents a straightforward history of the problem.

- The tone is conversational, and the writer speaks directly to the reader.
- The essay makes the reader think and/or feel.
- The writer encourages the reader to ask questions.
- The essay is full of opinions and provocative statements.
- The effective essay conforms to the standard conventions of its genre.

5. Thoughtful Conclusion:

- There is a strong conclusion: direct opinion, statement, question, anecdote, solution, echo of the lead, etc.
- The writer proposes a solution or multiple solutions to the problem.
- When you read the last sentence, you know it's the end.