

# TYPES OF ESSAYS

TYPE OF ESSAY	Description	Author's Purpose	Text Elements	Style	Sample Topics
<b>Descriptive</b>	Presents sensory details, (sight, sound, smell, taste, feel) about a person, place, event or thing	To create a strong impression and "paint" a picture with words in the reader's mind	Figurative language such as similes, metaphors, imagery  Focus on mood	Tends to be non-academic	-Sunlight sets the mood for my day -A day in the life of a smoker -Snowshoeing in Nakina
<b>Narrative</b>	Tells a story about an event or experience in the writer's life	To reveal a life lesson or insight	Conflict  Action and plot  Figurative language  Mood	Tends to be non-academic	-Why I became a smoker -My week camping in the sun -The time I got a concussion
<b>Expository</b>	Objectively presents researched facts, statistics, expert opinions, details and examples	To inform, explain, describe, or define the subject	Thesis statement  Clear introduction, supporting body paragraphs, and conclusion	Can be academic or non-academic depending on context, (e.g. university assignment or magazine feature)	The effect of smoking on a person's health  The effects of sunlight on a person's health  The effects of concussions on student learning
<b>Argumentative/ Persuasive</b>	Presents evidence, reasoning, and arguments to support an opinion or point-of-view	To convince readers of an opinion or move readers to perform an action	Thesis statement  Clear introduction, supporting body paragraphs, and conclusion	Can be academic or non-academic, depending on context	It should be illegal for persons under 18 to use tobacco products  All schools should have a source of natural sunlight