

15. ESSAY WRITING

An essay consists of many paragraphs. The first Paragraph is the **Introduction**, followed by the **body** which consists of 3-5 paragraphs on each sub topic and the last is the **conclusion**.

How to write

- First note down all the points and relevant quotes that come to your mind.
- Then read the points and combine ideas that are similar or related.
- Decide on the topic sentence and the opening line.
- Find out the order of importance of the sub topics.
- Start writing the essay in a logical sequence.
- Transition from one idea to another idea should be smooth.
- Use discourse markers or connectives like however', 'in addition', 'nevertheless', 'moreover'. etc. in the first sentence of the next paragraph to bring cohesion and continuity.
- Give a good conclusion for the essay. - read, revise and finalise the draft.
- Avoid using personal pronouns like 'I' or 'you'.

Introduction: This paragraph must contain the topic sentence which gives the gist of the essay. The first sentence should be attractive and should arrest the reader's attention. Make it clear what the reader can expect in the essay.

Body: Here all the sub topics can be explained in different paragraphs in the order of importance. Each paragraph should contain only one idea and that idea should be explained clearly with proper details.

Conclusion: This paragraph provides a summary of all the other paragraphs and restates the topic sentence.

TYPES OF ESSAYS

1) **The Descriptive Essay** - This is a writer's explanation of a short theme, idea or issue. It must

- Have a well defined topic sentence. Do not wander from your topic.
- Provide evidence to support what you are saying with facts and reasoning. Do not simply list facts.
- The essay should be concise. Make your point and conclude your essay.

2) **The Narrative essay** - This is the type of essay where you try to convince the reader to adopt your position on an issue or point of view. You present an opinion and try to persuade readers to accept your view.

- Have a definite point of view.
- Use sound reasoning and solid evidence.
- Remember the rules of the good paragraph. One single topic per paragraph, and natural progression from one to the next.
- End with a strong conclusion.

3) **The analytical essay** - In this type of essay you analyze, examine and interpret such things as an event, book, poem, play or a situation.

Your analytical essay should have an Introduction and presentation of argument- again support it with examples and reasons. Give a conclusion (related to the analysis and the argument). Be objective, avoid using 'I' and use present tense.

4) **The argumentative essay** - This is the type of essay where you prove that your opinion, theory or hypothesis about an issue is correct. Here you argue for your opinion as opposed to others. Such an essay should be focused and have a clear statement and solid evidence. Be aware of the pros and cons of the topic