Essay writing Workshop

An essay (one of the most common types of assignment at university) is a piece of writing generally between **100 and 500** words long.

An essay is more 'discursive' than, say, a report – i.e. the points are developed in more depth and the language may be a little less concise.

Typically, it will consist of a number of paragraphs that are not separated by subheadings or broken up by bullet points (unlike in a report). However, giving subdivisions and headings can help both the writer and the reader with the structure of the content.

Purpose of writing essays:

The purpose of writing an academic essay is to provide written evidence of your ability to research a topic, weigh arguments, organise your thoughts, express these thoughts in a logical, coherent and critical manner, and reach conclusions which follow from the evidence and the arguments you put forward. There will be a constraint on the number of words you can use so, inevitably, you need to be selective about content.

Companies conducting Essay writing round:

S.no	Company name	Pattern	Description
1	Wipro	Write X 1 Q for 25 minutes 300 words	An online essay writing test where situation/scenario based topics are given.
2	CapGemini	Essay writing 1 Q for 30 minutes 300 words	An online essay writing task – General or current affairs
3	Tech Mahindra	Story writing 1 Q for 15 minutes 200 words	Picture based story writing

And plenty more……

The Structure:

Structure of an essay/story should communicate your ideas in a ***logical order***.
The following structure applies to a typical essay.

1. Introduction:-

The introduction moves from general to specific.
This is where you:

- Open with a short orientation (introduce the topic area(s) with a genera, broad opening sentence or two.
- Provide a summary or 'road map' of your essay (keep it brief, but mention all the main ideas).

2. Body:-

The body of your essay consists of paragraphs. Each is a building block in the construction of your argument. The body is where you:

- Show your knowledge and grasp of material you have read.
- Offer exposition and evidence to develop your argument.
- Use relevant examples and authoritative quotes.

3. Conclusion:-

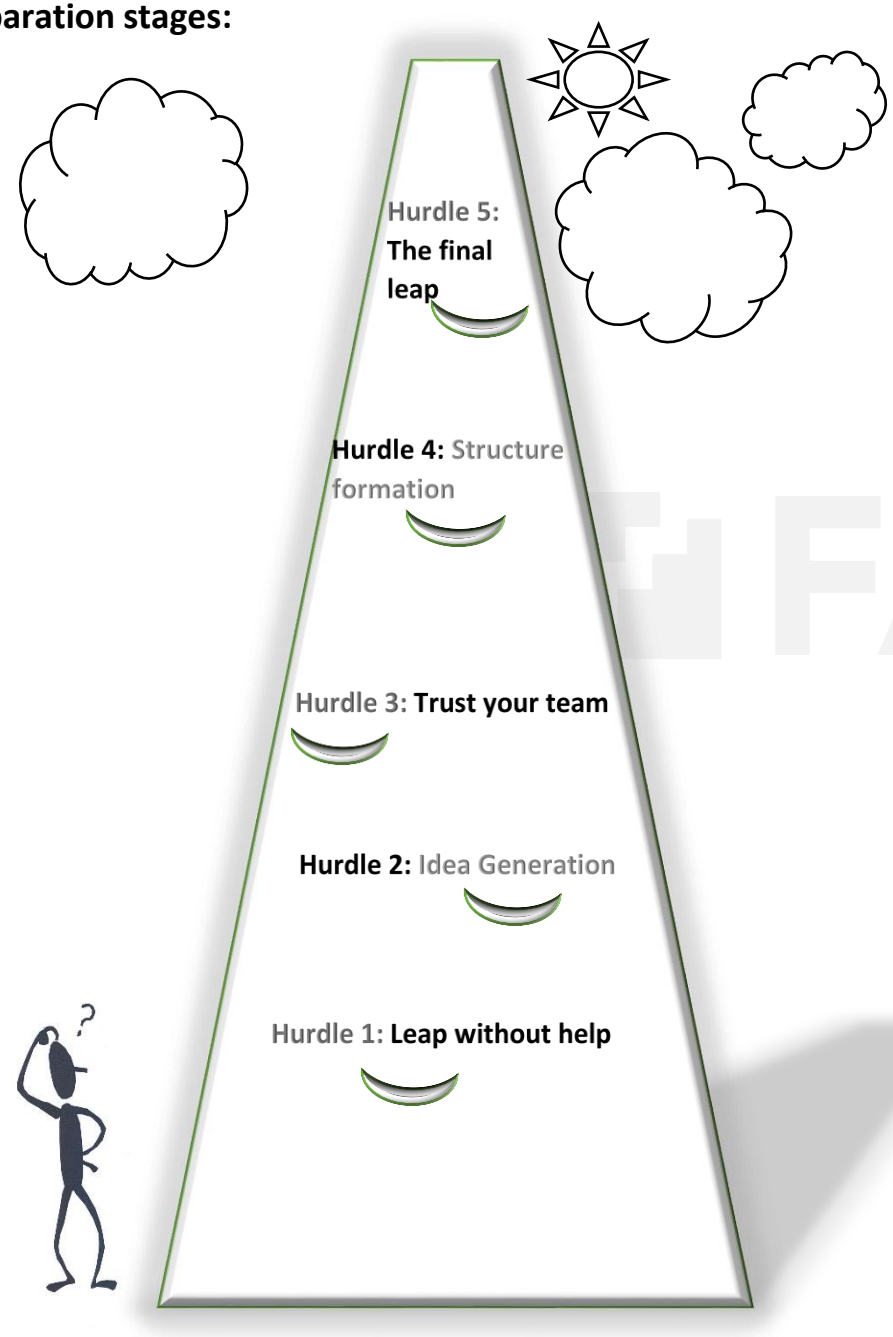
The conclusion moves from specific to general. It should:

- Restate your answer to the question;
- Re-summarise the main points and; possible implications, future directions for research, to quality the conclusion etc).

Note: However, never introduce new information or ideas in the conclusion – its purpose is to round off your essay by summing up.

The same structure is applicable for paragraph writing – but remember to summarize everything in a single paragraph and restrict the number of words used.

Preparation stages:



Hurdle 1: **Leap without help**

Write an essay with minimum of 300 words and maximum of 400 words on the topic "Social media has made it easier to misuse freedom of expression".

(*CAPGEMINI – 2017 question)

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Hurdle 2: Idea Generation

Topic 1: Effects of drinking (CAPGEMINI – 2016)

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Topic 2: Education system in India (CAPGEMINI – 2015)

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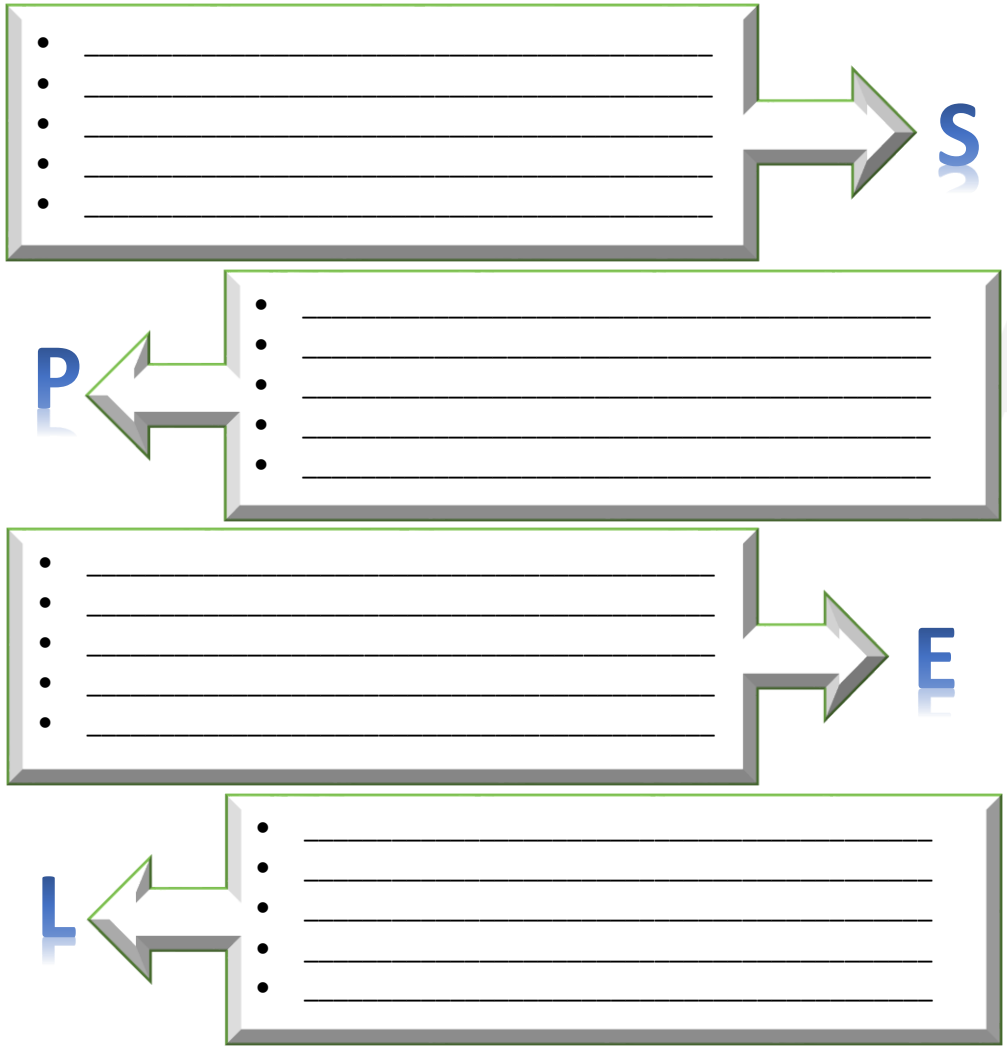
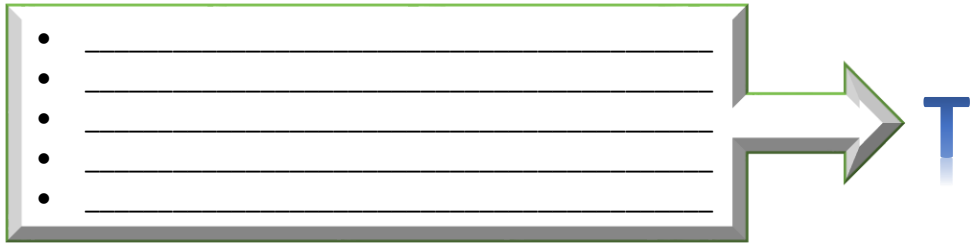
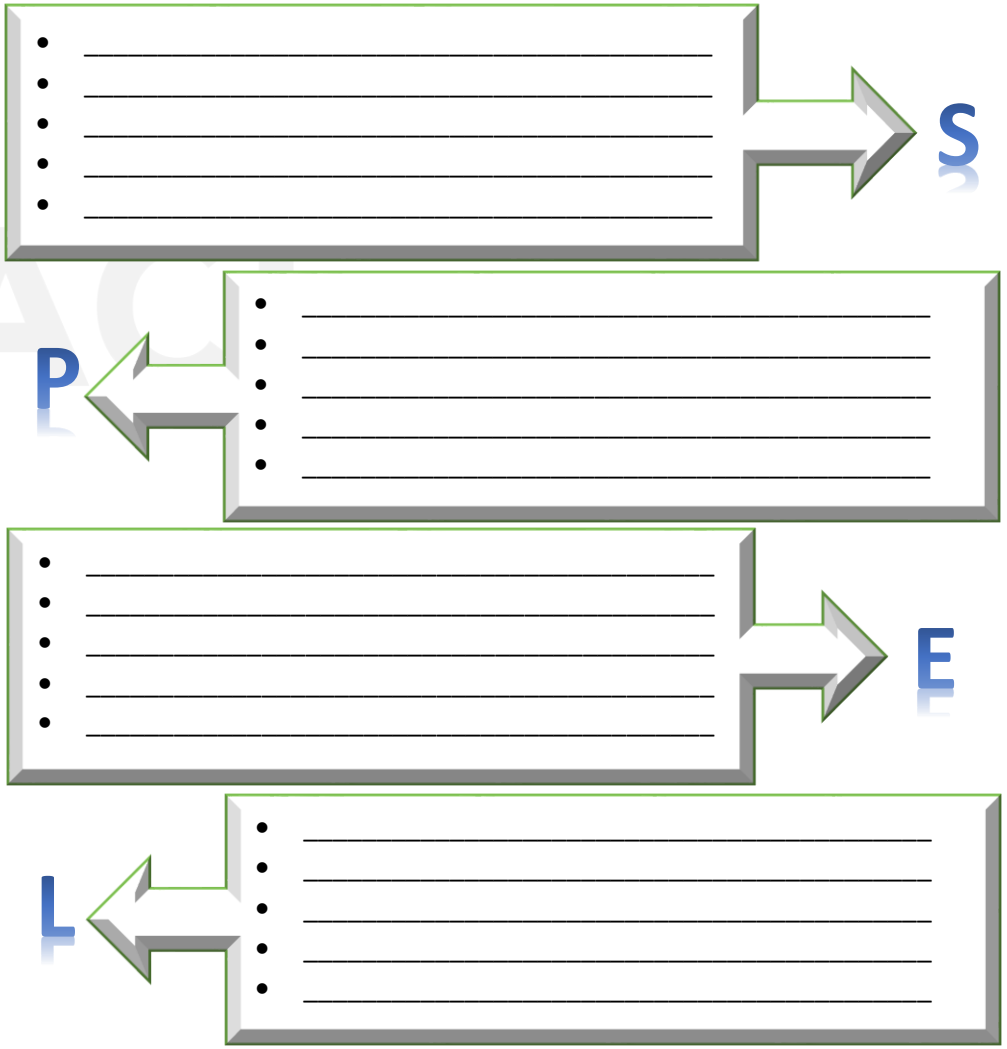
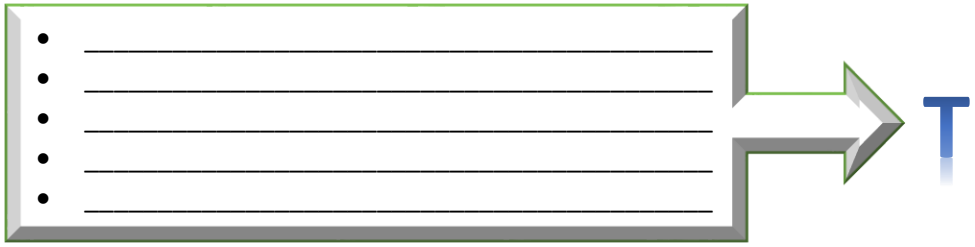
Topic 3: To be successful, one has to compromise moral and ethics (*CG-2017)





Topic 4: Should everyone become a vegetarian? (CG-15)





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Hurdle 3: **Trust your team**

Topic 1: "Only people who earn a lot of money are successful" – Agree or disagree? (Wipro WriteX – 2016)

M1:_____

M2:_____

M3:_____

M4:_____

M5:_____

Topic 2: "Better be a member of the group, rather than being a leader" – Agree or disagree? (Wipro WriteX – 2016)

M1:_____

M2:_____

M3:_____

M4:_____

M5:_____

Topic 2: "Better be a member of the group, rather than being a leader" – Agree or disagree? (Wipro WriteX – 2016)

M1:_____

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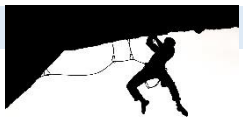
Hurdle 4: **Structure Formation**



You are required to write a story for the following scenarios. For the story imagine a start, middle and a climax.

Expectations:

Title for the story	Appropriate punctuation	Phrase and idioms usage
No spelling mistakes	No repetition of words	Paragraph alignment
Grammatical correctness	Meaningful storyline	

1. Write a story on "Your favourite childhood memory" (Level: EASY; Word Lt.:100)

Opening

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Middle

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Climax

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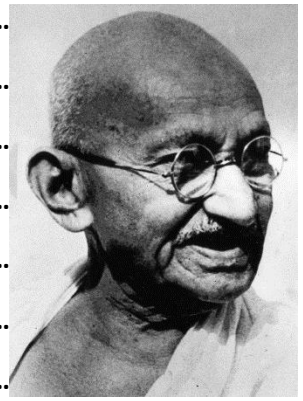
2. Write a story about the picture you see below (Approx 15 mins). Your story should relate to above scene to depict who the people might be or what the scene could be related to, what they feel, think and wish or the scene tries to convey to you as per your perception. (Tech M - 2016) (Level: EASY; Word Lt.:200)

NOTE: Random stories of students will be read aloud in front of all students.



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3. Write a story about the picture you see below (Approx 15 mins). Your story should relate to above scene to depict who the people might be or what the scene could be related to, what they feel, think and wish or the scene tries to convey to you as per your perception. (Tech M - 2016) (Level: HARD; Word Limit: 200)

NOTE: Random stories of students will be read aloud in front of all students.

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4. For a student to be a topper in a class, two or three unique characteristics are needed. What do you think must be these characteristics? Duration: 25 mins (Wipro Write-X: 2016)

5. "One should express their emotions strongly like crying when sad, jumping when joy, etc." What do you think about this? ((Wipro Write-X: 2016)

Hurdle 4: The Final leap

TEST DURATION: (70 mins – 30 mins, 15 mins & 25 mins respectively)

CAPGEMINI: Importance of Maths & Science compared to History & Literature.

TECH M: Picture based story writing

Wipro WriteX: There are a lot of natural resources depleting day to day. In your view which is the most precious among them and what would you do to save them?

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Questions for practice:

Wipro:

1. We have stepped into the 21st century. What do you think is going to be very vital/important that may happen in this century?

2. You are going on a trip for a year. Other than clothing and your daily essentials, what one thing will you carry? Describe it.

3. “Young people have nothing to teach to the older ones.” – Give your opinion on the statement.

4. “Playing is always towards the motive to win every time.” Give your comments on it.

5. “The Government should invest more on latest technologies and modern computers” This creates a mixed response with the people. Give your view on this.

6. If you are given a chance, what is the thing which you would change in the school you studied? Elaborate.

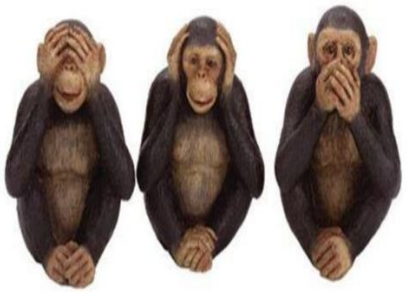
7. “Learning is done always by making mistakes”. Give your views on this.

8. “Some like classes when held in an entertaining way some like it in serious way.” – Which is better according to you?

Capgemini:

1. The effects of FACEBOOK on society
2. The effects of WhatsApp on society
3. Human Beings Vs Technology
4. Illiteracy as a social issue in India
5. Effects of drinking
6. Causes, Effects, Impact and Prevention of Global Warming
7. Education system in India
8. Should everyone become a vegetarian?
9. Online shopping Vs normal shopping

Tech M:



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-: GENERAL TIPS :-

Linking words and Phrases:

List/Sequence words:	Effect/Result:	Emphasis:	Addition:	Cause/reason:	Elaboration/ qualification:	Comparison:	Contrast:
to orders the information in a sequence. First, firstly, the first.... Second, secondly, the second.. Third, etc, Next, last, the next, the last, Finally, in addition Moreover Furthermore Also	Something brought about by a cause So As a result As a consequence Therefore Thus Consequently Hence Due to As a result of As a consequence of	special importance or significance Undoubtedly Indeed obviously Generally Admittedly In theory In fact Particularly Especially Clearly	adds to what was previously stated In addition Furthermore Also And As well as	responsible for an action or result For Because Since As Because of To cause The cause of The reason for	Frequently Occasionally Usually Generally Typically In fact In particular Actually Specifically	Similarly Likewise Also Too As And Just like Similar to The same as Not only..... ……but also Compared to/with	However Nevertheless Although Even though Though Yet But In contrast Whereas On the other hand On the contrary Despite

Example:	**Conclusion/summary:** Generalising or summing up	**Restatement/explanation:**	**Alternative:**	**Time – Moving forward:**	**Time – Moving backward:**	**Time – simultaneous:**
For example For instance That is Including To illustrate Namely	In conclusion To summarise In brief In short In general Ultimately All things considered	Indeed That is In other words	Otherwise Or Alternatively Other option	Then Later Next After that Finally At long last In time Eventually Subsequently	Previously Earlier Before that Prior to that Formerly Initially...but now	Meanwhile In the meantime Simultaneously At the same time At the moment

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