

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Lecture 5

Verbs & Adverbs

Paragraph and Essay writing (descriptive, narrative, persuasive, expository, analytical)

Verbs and Adverbs - recall

- ❖ A **verb** talks about an action or a state.
- ❖ It is the main part of a sentence: every sentence has a **verb**.
- ❖ In **English**, **verbs** are the only kind of word that changes to show past or present tense.
- ❖ There are sixteen **verbs** used in Basic **English**.

E.g. Come, comes, came
want, wants, wanted
say, says, said



Adverbs - video



<https://youtu.be/L0USJe44yS4>

Learn All About English Adverbs



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXtHCBgbks0>

Verbs & adverbs (Cont'd ...)

Practice activities on verbs and activities will be done in Tutorial 5.

Verbs	Adverbs
Apply	Just
Contact	Now
Develop	Quickly
Find	Reach out
Learn	Today
Send	Urgently
Tell	

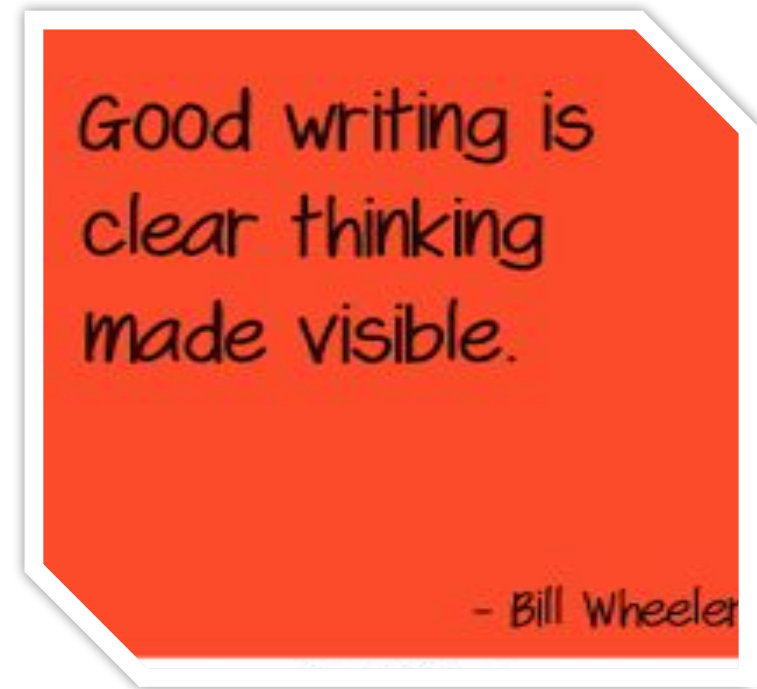
Questions?

Paragraph and Essay Writing

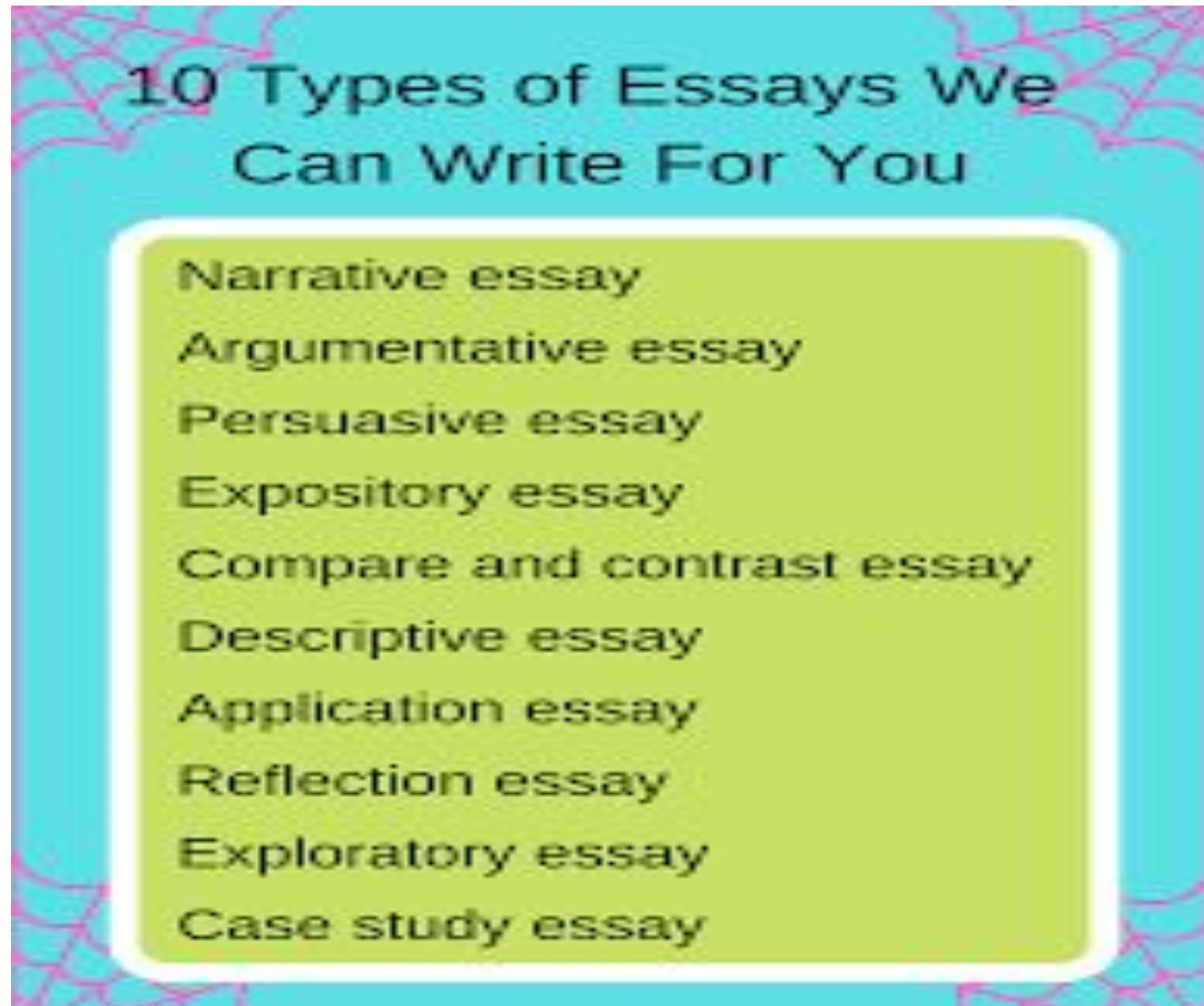
Time to move on to Essay writing.

Very quickly tell the class what are the types of essays you have written or heard about.

Let's check some answers.



Essay Writing



Types of essays

1. **Expository essay:** An expository essay, also known as a definition essay, is the most basic type of essay. Expository essays aim only to explain an idea or define a concept, without making an argument. In general, expository essays are shorter pieces that answer a question (for example, “How is paper made?”) as directly as possible.
2. **Analytical essay:** An analytical essay is similar to an expository essay in that it describes a concept, but the analytical essay takes the topic one step further by presenting the advantages and disadvantages of the subject to provide an objective analysis. For instance, an expository essay would describe how the president is elected, while an analytical essay would describe how the president is elected and dive into the possible benefits and pitfalls of the electoral process.

Types of essays

3. **Persuasive essay:** A persuasive essay, also known as an argumentative essay, is a type of essay that takes a stance on an issue. In a good argumentative essay, a writer attempts to persuade readers to understand and support their specific point of view about a topic by stating their reasoning and providing evidence to back it up. A persuasive essay usually includes an introduction, a thesis statement, body paragraphs that feature a counterargument and data to back up your central thesis, and a conclusion.

4. **Narrative essay:** A narrative essay, also called a personal essay or reflective essay, combines personal storytelling with an academic argument. This essay type allows the writer to make an argument or impart a lesson through personal experience. Narrative essays are always nonfiction and are usually autobiographical, often written from the first-person point of view. They are written with a more creative style versus the strictly objective, fact-based language of academic writing or journalism. Narrative essays can be organized in any way the writers chooses to illustrate its main point. Many personal statements, college application essays, and scholarship essays can also be classified as narrative essays.

Types of essays

5. Descriptive essay: A descriptive essay aims to describe a certain event or object with vivid sensory details (sight, smell, taste, touch, and sound). Similar to a narrative essay, a descriptive essay is often written in a more creative style—but unlike a narrative essay, a descriptive essay usually doesn't tell a full story or try to make an argument. Many writers choose to write descriptive essays as a writing exercise before they start writing a narrative essay.

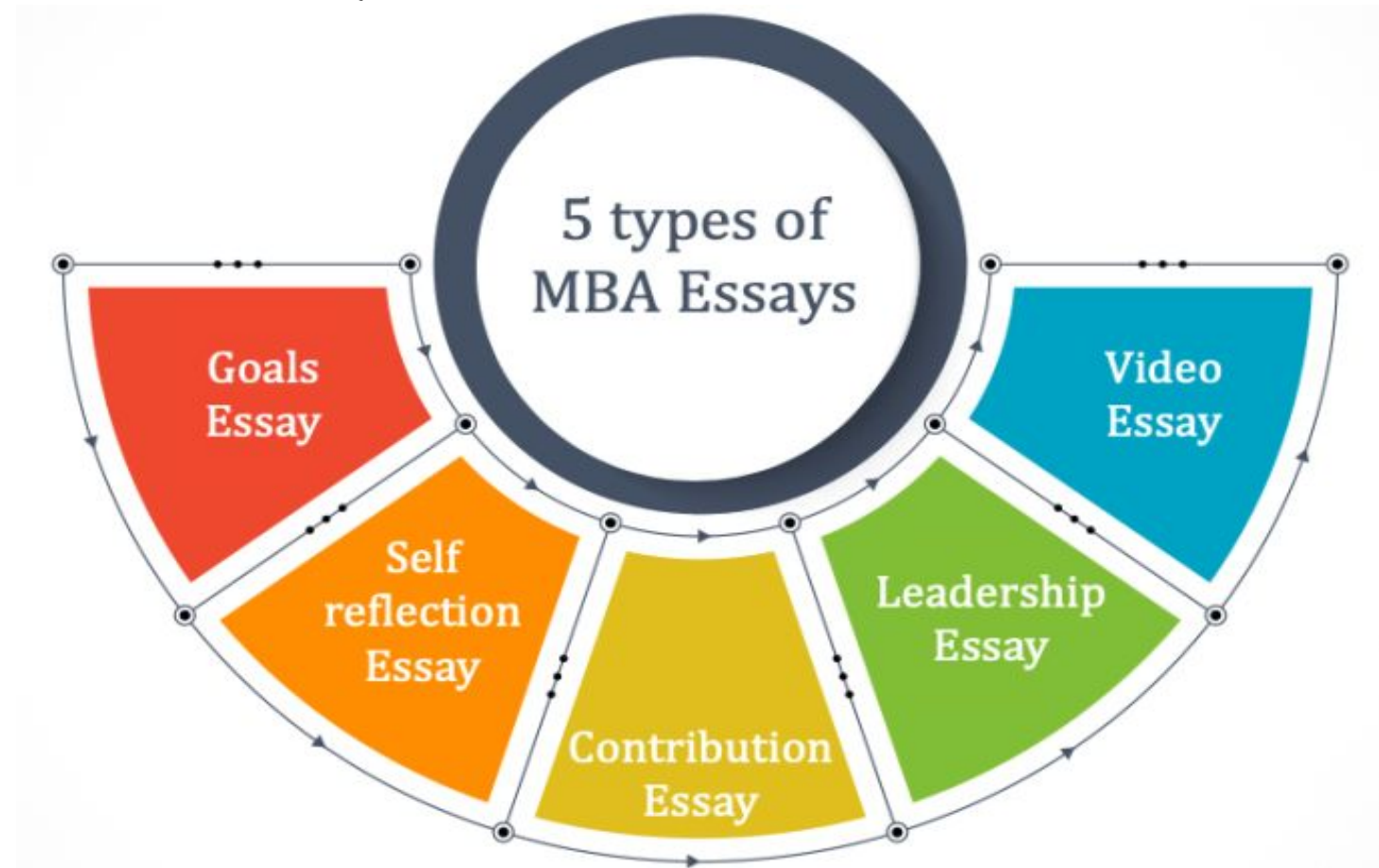
6. Compare and contrast essay: A compare and contrast essay places two things side-by-side and points out the similarities and differences between them, usually to illustrate a larger point. In general, compare and contrast essays have body paragraphs that are organized in two main sections: a comparison section, and a contrast section.

7. Cause and effect essay: Similar to a compare and contrast essay, a cause and effect essay (often written as “cause & effect”) aims to show the relationship between things—in particular, how something was influenced by something else (e.g., how an unfair law caused a riot). Cause and effect essays are often organized chronologically, first explaining the cause and then showing its effect.

Types of essays

8. **Critical analysis essay:** A critical analysis (also called a critical essay) is a literature-based essay, in which the writer breaks down a short piece of literature (often as small as a single sentence) in order to make an argument about what the author is trying to say. Similar to persuasive essays, critical essays usually follow a traditional argument format—introduction, thesis, body, and conclusion—that uses textual evidence and other critics' writing to back up its ideas.

Look at some MBA essay topics:



Now, let's look at handout 2 for more details about MBA essays

Write an essay – 500 words

1. Describe the biggest commitment you've ever made.
2. What values are important to you and how have they influenced you?
3. Tell us who you are.

Thank you!

praveeni.s@iit.ac.lk



Praveeni Senanayake

(<https://www.linkedin.com/in/praveeni-senanayake/>)