

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
EXPOSITORY WRITING
INTRODUCTORY CLASS

Understanding Expository Writing

What is an Expository Essay?

An expository essay is an essay that communicates factual information. This is normally referred to as expository writing. Expository essays rely on different structures to communicate their positions, like compare and contrast, process essays, and analyzing cause and effect. It is one of two pieces of factual writing in academia.

Expository writing isn't the place to be cute, clever, or edgy; it's the kind of writing where you position facts and observations to let them speak for themselves in the most effective way possible. It's the kind of writing you do when you're analyzing information you've been assigned to study, thinking critically about concepts covered in class, and explaining the processes and reasons behind the conclusions you've reached.

What is the Purpose of Expository Writing?

Expository writing has a clear purpose: to educate the reader. While it may also entertain or persuade the reader, these are secondary benefits and not the author's goal. Well-crafted expository writing demonstrates the author's knowledge of a particular subject.

Types of Expository Essays

There are six main types of expository essays, these are:

Classification Essay

In a classification essay, you write about various subjects within one category, discussing each subject's unique characteristics alongside the characteristics that connect it with others in its category.

Definition Essay

A definition essay defines its subject by presenting clear facts about it. Your definition essay might challenge commonly repeated myths about a historical event by presenting firsthand

accounts of the event from primary sources and discussing relevant social, political, and economic trends that impacted the event and influenced perceptions of it.

Process Essay

A process essay walks the reader through the steps involved in completing a task. A recipe has a lot in common with a process essay. A process essay's opening paragraph explains the process that will be covered and the result of following the directions. Each body paragraph is a step in the process, then the conclusion explains what the reader should have achieved by completing each step.

Compare-and-Contrast Essay

In a compare-and-contrast essay, you support your thesis statement by examining the differences and similarities between the sources cited. For example, you might write an essay comparing and contrasting the dress code at your school with the dress codes at two neighboring schools.

Cause-and-Effect Essay

As the name implies, a cause-and-effect essay gets into how specific events and/or actions caused others to occur. They sometimes trace chains of events to explore why we find ourselves facing certain circumstances today. An example of a cause-and-effect essay might be one tracking how shifting market trends over the past few decades impacted the industries in your region, creating the current local economy.

Problem and Solution Essay

Problem and Solution is a pattern of organization where information in a passage is expressed as a dilemma or concerning issue (a problem) and something that was, can be, or should be done to remedy this issue (solution or attempted solution).

CLASS ACTIVITY

INSTRUCTION:

Read the following short passage and respond to the questions that follow.

It’s no secret that vaping (juuling) is growing in popularity across the nation and world. Kids and teenagers are exposed to these dangerous e-cigarettes at a young age, and an alarming percentage of students have vaped. Young persons quickly become addicted to the chemicals in the liquids used in vaping, and in some unfortunate cases, some adolescents have died as a direct result of vaping.

To solve this growing issue, students and parents must first be educated on the negative health effects. One answer is for schools to hold assemblies or prevention programs that discuss the short-term and long-term risks of vaping and e-cigarettes. It would also be good idea to invite parents to this school-wide assembly so that they are also aware of the risks. Students need to understand the reality and seriousness of these health concerns so that they can make the smart decision not to vape.

Answer the following with an appropriate response:

1. What type of expository piece is this?
2. Give the passage an appropriate title.
3. Who is the target audience of the passage?
4. What problem does the passage outline?
5. What solution/s do (es) the passage provide?
6. Give examples of signal words from the passage that help you to recognize its problem and solution format.

7. Find antonyms and synonyms for the following words as used in the passage:

Word	Antonym	Synonym
1. Dangerous		
2. Adolescents		
3. Expose		

8. Give two other solutions for the subject of the passage, and explain why any ONE will work.
