

Getting Started with Essay Writing

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1 Introduction to Essays

1.1 What is an Essay?

The essay has: Title, Introduction, Body paragraphs, Conclusion

Introduction: Thesis statement

Body paragraphs: support thesis with examples

Put a thesis statement at the end of the introduction

1.2 Introduction paragraph

Using Hooks:

- Attract attention
- Create interest
- Make the reader want to continue

To have a hook, we can use:

- Surprising Statement
- Anecdote: short story that related to thesis
- Question but not often
- statistic but maybe boring for readers

Organizing: Hook -> More specific statements -> Thesis statement (From general to specific idea)

Thesis statement = topic + controlling idea

Topic = subject/ thing Controlling idea = what you want to say about it (for whom/ what purpose?)

Thing to avoid:

- Don't announce your thesis: I will talk/ this essay will talk about ..
- Don't write a fact, must argumentative
- Don't write a popular opinion
- Don't use pronouns

2 Body Paragraph

Structure:

- Topic Sentence
- —Supporting idea 1
- —detail and examples
- —Supporting idea 2
- —detail and examples
- —Supporting idea 3
- —detail and examples
- Conclusion or Sentence Transition: same with topic sentence but different grammar or synonym

Topic sentences = specific topic + controlling idea

— Must support the thesis statement

— Must have keywords/ or transition

— Avoid pronouns

Coherence: Using transition word, join sentences, synonym of keywords

3 Essay Conclusion

How to end the essay

- Summarize the major points
- Restate the thesis

- Leave a final thought
- Don't state new information

Focus on the topic sentences

Other ways to end an Essay

- Predict an outcome
- Make a suggestion
- Call for action

4 Writing Process

Pre-writing: clustering and outline

Writing: rough Draft (it is very messy- write quickly)

Rewriting: revise Rough draft: looking the ideas, add more examples, remove some ideas not working

Edit: looking for mistakes: spelling, grammar