

Text type: Essay

Essays are shorter pieces of writing that often require the student to hone a number of skills such as close reading, analysis, comparison and contrast, persuasion, conciseness, clarity, and exposition. Essays are (by nature) concise and require clarity in purpose and direction.

Types of essay:

Expository - requires the student to investigate an idea, evaluate evidence, expound on the idea, analyse cause and effect, ...

Descriptive - asks the student to describe an object, person, place, experience, emotion, situation, etc. This genre encourages the student's ability to create a written account of a particular experience.

Compare and/or contrast - requires students to define the things they are comparing, highlight similarities and/or differences and come to a conclusion

Argumentative - requires students to present an argument by giving pros and cons, making his/her own attitude clear, trying to convince or persuade the reader of student's opinion

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STRUCTURE	LANGUAGE	TO BE AVOIDED
<p>A clear structure comprising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction (usually a general statement or orientation to topic; a thesis statement and a brief summary of the main topics/arguments/points made in the essay) – normally one solid paragraph • (3) clear (body) paragraphs (topic sentences + supporting sentences supporting, explaining, expanding on the point made in the topic sentences) • conclusion may refer to the introduction and summarize the points made in the paragraphs and a final comment (if appropriate) – normally one solid paragraph • The text may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • descriptions, examples, anecdotes etc. • quotes, figures, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compound sentences including infinite forms, defining and non-defining relative clauses, apposition, conditional clauses etc. • Structures and connectors such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>First of all,...</i> • <i>As a result,...</i> • <i>..., which means that ...</i> • <i>The issue to be considered is...</i> • <i>While ...</i> • <i>On the other hand...</i> • The thesis may include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a provocative statement • a rhetorical question <p>Register: neutral or formal, depending on the target audience</p>	<p>Do not</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include excessive detail on the source and publication of the input text • copy from the input text or include lengthy and unnecessary quotes • add new ideas in the conclusion