

WRITING AN ESSAY

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Choose your topic.
- Decide which type of essay you will write.
- Write your thesis.
- Organize the ideas for each paragraph.
- Choose interesting vocabulary words to use in each paragraph.

Narrative	Process	Cause & Effect	Description	Illustration	Compare/Contrast	Argument
<i>Grab your readers' attention with the first sentence!</i>						
Situation	Introduction	Introduction	Introduction	Introduction	Introduction	Introduction
Problem	The first step or group of steps	Three causes, three effects, or a chain reaction (choose one)	Details about one aspect of your topic	One example that supports your thesis	Three similarities or three differences (not both!) [Be sure to mention the same aspects of each item being compared or contrasted.]	One point that supports your thesis
Struggle	The next step or group of steps		Details about another aspect of your topic	Another example that supports your thesis		Another point that supports your thesis
Resolution	The last step or group of steps		Details about a final aspect of your topic	A final example that supports your thesis		Refute opposing views
Meaning	Conclusion	Conclusion	Conclusion	Conclusion	Conclusion	Conclusion
<i>Leave readers with something to think about, but don't introduce new material in your conclusion.</i>						

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Don't forget: students can always ask tutors or their teachers for an explanation of anything that's not clear.

Texts available to use in the SLC English Writing Lab:

<i>Grassroots</i> , Ninth Edition Susan Fawcett Chapter 5	<i>Evergreen</i> , Ninth Edition Susan Fawcett Units 1, 3, and 4	<i>The Bedford Handbook</i> , Eighth Edition Diana Hacker Nancy Sommers Pages 25 - 39
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[Guide to Writing a Basic Essay](#)

[Ten Steps to Writing an Essay](#)

[Essays](#)

[Essay Writing Help](#)

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