

The Academic Essay

Types of Paragraphs	Required content and organizational development of the parts of an academic essay.	Comments
Introductory Paragraph	<p>Hook - Often, but not always, begins with a hook. Literary analysis does not typically use a hook since the title and author of the piece of literature functions as the hook</p> <p>Context - Include background history and context of the subject, or briefly summarize the work for literary analysis.</p> <p>Thesis - Ends with an arguable thesis that reflects the rhetorical mode and the order of body paragraphs. (Thesis ideas = TS1 idea + TS2 idea + ...)</p>	<p>Hooks can be a(n)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anecdote • Question • Quote • Paradox or startling statement • Fact or statistics <p>The historical background and context can be common knowledge or summary of the literature, cited to a source.</p> <p>The thesis should NOT be a fact, an announcement, nor too narrow or too broad.</p>
Body Paragraphs Body Paragraph 1 Body Paragraph 2	<p>In order to meet the definition of an essay, at least two body paragraphs should be developed.</p> <p>Topic Sentence 1 (TS1) – states the topic of the paragraph and an argumentative sub-idea that correspond to the thesis.</p> <p>Evidence – integration of source evidence in the form of direct quote, paraphrase and summary, in addition to detailed experiential exemplification.</p> <p>Analysis – detailed, specific commentary and discussion of the validity, strengths and weaknesses of the evidence and examples in order to support the thesis.</p> <p>Topic Sentence 2 (TS2) – states the topic of the paragraph and an argumentative sub-idea that correspond to the thesis.</p> <p>Evidence – integration of source evidence in the form of direct quote, paraphrase and summary, in addition to detailed experiential exemplification.</p> <p>Analysis – detailed, specific commentary and discussion of the validity, strengths and weaknesses of the evidence and examples in order to support the thesis.</p>	<p>Longer essays may include the transitional paragraph that transitions between one main section of an essay to the next.</p> <p>Topic sentences must reflect the rhetorical pattern.</p> <p>The entire paragraph should be unified and coherent.</p> <p>All source evidence whether quoted, paraphrased, or summarized MUST be attributed to the source using a signal phrase and/or parenthetical citation. <u>Adequate paraphrase of source evidence demonstrates the highest form of composition skills.</u></p> <p>The analysis should present strong logic and thus avoid fallacies in logic.</p>
Concluding Paragraph	<p>Restate Main Idea – Using different vocabulary restate the thesis from the introduction.</p> <p>Frame – recall the hook from the introduction and respond to the question, quote, anecdote, statistic now that you have supported your argument.</p> <p>Importance – discuss the present importance of the subject to the health and progress of society and humanity as a whole.</p> <p>Future – look to the future on the subject and its continuing relevance.</p>	<p>The restatement should not use the same language and phrasing as the thesis. Express the thesis using new vocabulary and sentence structure.</p> <p>Framing an essay demonstrates ‘superior’ composition skills.</p> <p>Building a strong relevance of the topic to humanity as a whole demonstrates critical thinking.</p>