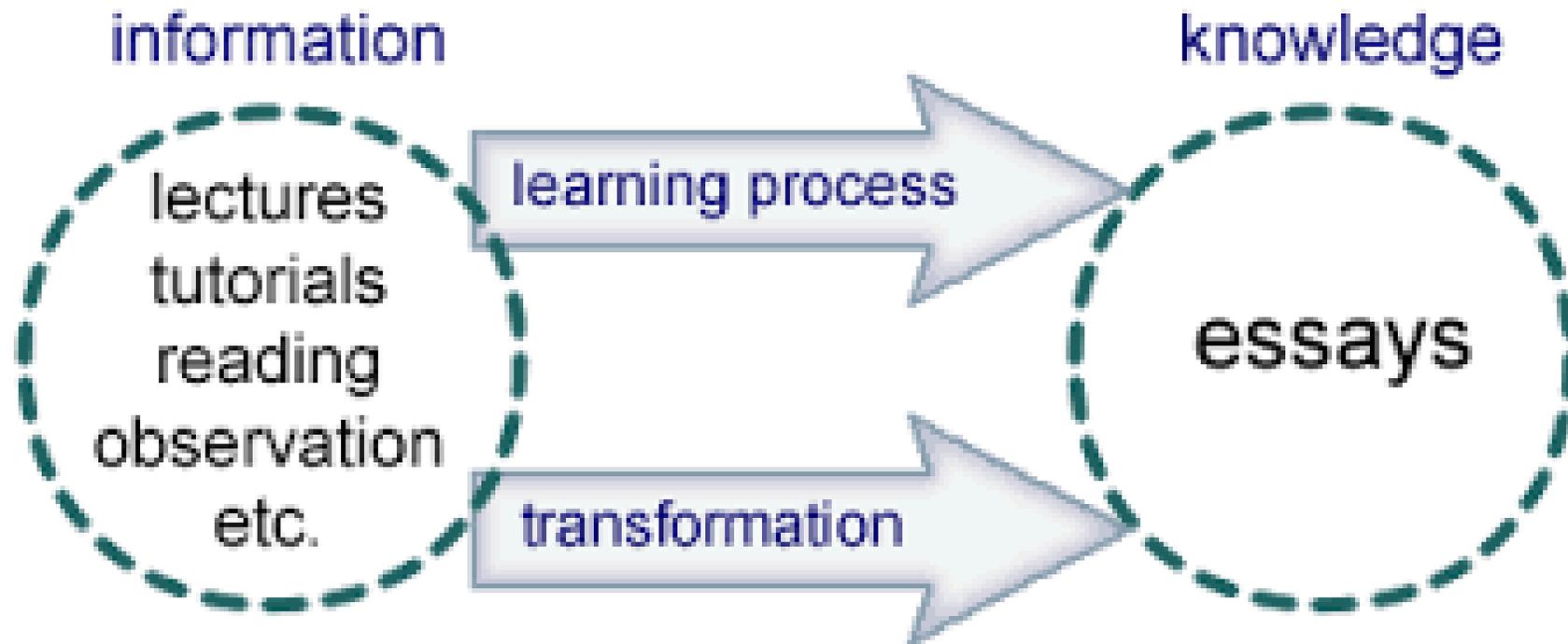


Academic essay

(Lesson 5)

WHY WRITE ESSAYS?



WHY WRITE ESSAYS?

- Essay writing has **important skills** development and **educational** functions.
- It allows you to **practise and develop transferable skills** that are valuable to you not only while you're a student but also when you graduate and have to write in a professional role.
- These transferable skills include
 - reading and note-making,
 - critical thinking and analysis,
 - organising ideas,
 - arguing a case,
 - and communicating effectively with a reader.

WHY WRITE ESSAYS?

- It encourages you to **develop** a formal, **disciplined** approach to writing that communicates clearly and with authority.
- It gives you a focus for **exploring** and **consolidating** what you're learning.
- It allows you to develop and **organise your thinking** about key concepts and issues in the course you're studying.

WHY WRITE ESSAYS?

- Reading your essay allows your lecturer to assess the degree to which you have engaged with learning and transformed information into knowledge.

WHAT IS AN ESSAY?

- An essay is an extended piece of writing that presents and supports a thesis or proposition. The word 'essay' derives from the Latin word 'exagium', meaning the presentation of a case.
- When you write an essay you are making a case for the validity of a particular point of view, analysis, interpretation, or set of facts or procedures.

There are many types of essays...

- argumentative,
- descriptive,
- synoptic,
- analytical,
- exploratory,
- review,
- and so on

... but they all have the common objective of presenting and defending a topic and a stance to the reader.

An essay model

is a theoretical framework that can be used as the structural basis of all essay types

The model has **three structural components**:

1. an introductory paragraph that introduces the essay's thesis or 'big idea',
2. middle paragraphs that support this thesis and convince the reader of its validity,
3. a concluding paragraph that restates the thesis and draws together the threads of the argument presented in the essay.

Seven-step Plan

1. Analyse the brief
2. Formulate a provisional thesis statement
3. Gather data(read, make notes)
4. Organise data and ideas and reformulate thesis statement
5. Write middle paragraphs
6. Write introduction and conclusion
7. Edit and proofread

Argumentative Essays

	Expressing opinions	Advantages/ Disadvantages	Providing Solutions	Discursive essays
Introduction (Paragraph 1)	State opinion	State topic	State the problem	State topic
Main Body (Paragraph 2)	Argument 1 & reason	Advantages/ arguments for	Suggestion 1 & reason	One point of view (eg.political)
	(Paragraph 3) Argument 2 & reason	Disadvantages/ arguments against	Suggestion 2 & reason	Another point of view (eg.economic)
Conclusion (Final Paragraph)	Restating opinion using different words	Balanced consideration or Your opinion without Personal words	Summary or best suggestion and reason	Your own opinion based on the points already mentioned

Discursive essays

Opinion
essay

'For' and
'against' essay

+ Критерии оценивания

MORE INFO



Opinion Essay



The structure of an opinion essay.

I. Introduction .

- The topic/ problem
- Your opinion

II. The body of an essay (2 paragraphs).

- Your viewpoint + reasons/examples (2-3)
- The opposing viewpoint + reasons/examples (2-3)

III. Conclusion.

- Your opinion



I. Introduction

- State the topic/ problem
- **State your opinion**
- you may start with a question

1.To state the topic/problem

- There is no doubt that...
- Nowadays we are often told ...
- Every day ...
- There are various facts that support this opinion.

2.To express opinion

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| •In my opinion ... | •I think ... |
| •I believe ... | •I feel that ... |
| •It seems to me that ... | •In my view ... |
| •The way I see it ... | •The way I see it ... |



II. Main body

➤ Each paragraph should present a separate viewpoint

1. To list points

- First of all ...
- In the first place ...
- To start/ begin with ...
- Secondly .../ Thirdly ...
- Finally ...

2. To add more points to the same topic

- What is more ...
- Moreover/ Further more ...
- In addition to this ...
- Besides ...
- Not only ... but also ...



II. Main body

- Each paragraph should present a separate viewpoint

3. To introduce contrasting viewpoints

- As opposed to the above ideas ...
- People argue that ...
- There are people who oppose ...
- Opponents to this view say ...

4. To introduce examples

- For example ...
- For instance ...
- Such as ...
- In particular ...



- Summarise what you've said
- Restate **your opinion** using different words

III. Conclusion

- To sum up ...
- On the whole ...
- In conclusion ...
- All in all, I still feel that ...
- Taking everything into account ...



Which is an opinion essay?

Computers: A blessing or a curse?

Almost every home, office or school has a computer of some kind these days. Many people feel that these machines are now an essential part of our lives, but how necessary are they really?

One of the main advantages is the time that can be saved by using a computer. This is especially beneficial in the workplace, where employees can do their work far faster than they could in the past. In addition to this, computers can be educational and fun. From a very young age, children can gain basic computer skills through programmes that allow them to learn, draw, paint and play. In today's technological world, this knowledge can only help them in the future.

However, there are various negative aspects to using computers. Many jobs have been lost due to the fact that computers can do a lot of tasks more efficiently than humans. This has led to high unemployment in many countries. What is more, computers can actually cause health problems. Endless hours in front of a screen can cause eye strain and headaches, which are serious side-effects.

To sum up, it seems that computers are a useful addition to our fast-moving world of high technology. However, it must be remembered that they are here to serve us - not to replace us.

Are computers a necessity?

Computers play an important role in the lives of most of us today, whether we realise it or not. Some people, however, are beginning to ask if we really need them. In my opinion, computers have become a necessary part of modern life.

In the first place, computers can save a lot of storage space. Storing information on computer disks is one of the most efficient ways of keeping data. One computer disk can hold the same amount of information as several books.

Furthermore, computers save everyone a lot of valuable time. Stored information can be found at the touch of a button, whereas searching for it manually takes much longer. Therefore, our everyday lives are made easier - from going to the bank to doing the shopping.

Nevertheless, there are those who claim that computers are unnecessary and make our lives more complicated. They argue that in the past we managed very well using other methods and that we have become too dependent on computers. However, they fail to consider that the time saved by using computers for repetitive tasks enables us to use our own time more creatively and productively.

All in all, I strongly believe that computers are a useful tool. They have changed our lives for the better and there is no reason why we should not make them work to our advantage.



The structure of a for/against essay.

I. Introduction (without giving your opinion) .

- The topic/ problem
- 2. General view

II. The body of an essay (2 or 3 paragraphs).

- 1. Point **for** + reasons/examples (2-3)
- 2. Points **against** + reasons/examples (2-3)

III. Conclusion.

- A balanced consideration of the topic
- Your opinion



I. Introduction

- State the topic/ problem
- you may start with a question
- you may start with a quotation

- A lot of people think that...
- We all know that...
- As a general rule...
- It is popularly believed that...
- Many people are in favour of...
- Can you imagine... ?
- Have you ever thought of... ?
- There are both advantages and disadvantages...



II. Main body

➤ Points for and against appear in two separate paragraphs

1. To introduce points

- The main/most important advantage of ... is (that) ...
- Another advantage/ disadvantage of ...
- The best/worst thing about ... is ...

2. To list points

- First of all ...
- To start/ begin with ...
- Secondly .../ Thirdly ...
- Finally ...



3. To add more points to the same topic

- What is more ...
- Moreover ...
- In addition to this ...
- Besides ...

4. To make contrasting points

- On the other hand ...
- However ...
- In spite of the fact that ...
- Nevertheless ...
- Although/ though
- In contrast to this ...

5. To introduce examples

- For example ...
- For instance ...
- Such as ...
- In particular ...



III. Conclusion

- To sum up ...
- On the whole ...
- In conclusion ...
- Taking everything into account ...
- All in all, I believe that there are more advantages than disadvantages ...



Which is a 'for' and 'against' essay?

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Compare

essays	Introduction	Main body	Conclusion
'For' and 'against'	-No personal opinion	-Arguments 'for' -arguments 'against'	-Sum up the arguments -(your opinion)
Opinion	-personal opinion	-your viewpoints -the opposing viewpoint	- Sum up your viewpoint -Restate your opinion



DON'T DO 

DO 

<p>Use contractions: → <i>they weren't, I don't.</i></p>	<p>Use full forms: <i>they were not, I do not.</i></p>
<p>Use colloquial/informal/slang vocabulary: → <i>a kid, youngsters, loaded.</i></p>	<p>Use a more formal substitute: <i>a child, young people, very rich.</i></p>
<p>Use I, I, I !!! too often → <i>I think that, I am sure that, I agree that.</i></p>	<p>Use impersonal phrases: <i>It is generally accepted that, It is often assumed that, It is no doubt true that, It is undeniable that.</i></p>
<p>Start a new sentence with BUT. →</p>	<p>Use <i>On the other hand, However, By contrast.</i></p>
<p>Start a new sentence with AND. →</p>	<p>Use <i>Moreover, Furthermore, In addition, Besides this, As well as this, What is more.</i></p>
<p>Start a new sentence with SO. →</p>	<p>Use <i>therefore, as a result, consequently.</i></p>
<p>Give too personal examples: → <i>My cousins Serik, Yermek and Berik went to study English abroad and...</i></p>	<p>Use some more general examples: <i>Many young people go to study English abroad and...</i></p>

Task#1

write an essay (250-300 words)

on the selected dissertation topic (to chose):

- **Bringing topicality to a research.**
- **the research aim**
- **the Objective**

Task#2

Make the Glossary (20 scientific idioms) in three languages

Safe deadline, please!