Al-Mustaqbal Uni.

Department of English Language

*3r year /essay writing, notes*

**Steps for essay writing**

An academic essay is a focused piece of writing that develops an idea or argument using evidence, analysis, and interpretation.

The essay writing process consists of three main stages:

1. **Preparation:**

You first need to understand the assignment and choose a topic. To come up with the main point you want to make in the essay or the position you are going to argue for. At this stage it does not have to be perfectly phrased, but it is important to start with a clear idea of what you want to say. Then you can start creating an outline and planning your essay’s structure. This will kick start you writing and keep you on track.

Every essay starts off with an introduction. It is important to grab the reader’s interest and inform them of what will be covered in the essay. Hook the reader in the first sentence, and then give context that will help your reader understand your argument. This might involve providing brief background information, giving an overview of important academic work or debates on the topic, and explain difficult terms.

Present the topic statement here and tell the reader the central argument you are going to make. The topic statement is one or two sentences long and drives the whole essay.

1. **Writing:**

It is the longest part of the essay, usually it is around 80-60 percent. Here where you make argument supporting your topic, provide evidence, and develop your ideas.

To give your essay a clear structure, it is important to make use of paragraphs. Each paragraph should be centered on just one argument or idea. Introduce the purpose of each paragraph using *topic sentences*. A good topic sentence makes a transition from the previous paragraph and introduces the argument to be made in the paragraph. After the topic sentence present evidence by providing the reader with data, examples, or quotes.

Be sure to interpret and explain the evidence and show how it helps develop your overall argument.

1. **Revision:** Here we have three things we should do;
   1. Summarize and tie together the ideas you made in the essay body.
   2. Show the outcome of your argument, what new insights have you provided?
   3. Emphasize why your argument is important.
      1. Before submitting your writing, it is important to revise and polish your writing.
      2. Double check your argument, have you said everything you meant to say?
      3. Do some points need restructuring
      4. Make sure to check your grammar, spelling, and formatting.

# Source: How to Write an Essay: 4 Minute Step-by-step Guide | Scribbr

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