

Expository Essay

An **expository essay** analyzes and interprets supporting evidence the writer gathered on the subject at hand. While this definition applies to other types of papers and essays, the following qualities help distinguish it from the rest: an expository essay describes a process, compares two concepts, or analyzes the cause and effect of an idea. To learn more about these categories, refer to the following handouts.

- Process Essay
- Compare and Contrast Essay
- Cause and Effect Essay

Carefully read the professor's prompt to ensure meeting his/her requirements for the intended expository essay for that specific assignment.

Procedure:

- **Step 1:** Find a topic and familiarize yourself with ideas relevant to it. Narrow that topic down and write about a specific perspective.
- **Sep 2:** Gather information and supporting evidence for that specific perspective. Then, analyze and interpret it in a way that builds the basis to construct a coherent thesis statement.
- **Step 3:** Based on the professor's instructions, organize an outline that is framed by one of the essay categories mentioned above.
- **Step 4:** Make sure that the paper holds all the components of a basic essay such as an introductory paragraph, body, and conclusion. To learn more about the basic essay format, please refer to our <u>Basic Essay</u> handout.