



# Expository Writing

# What is Expository Writing?

- Expository writing is defined as presenting **reasons, explanations**, or steps in a process.
- **It is Informational** writing (objective).
- **Logic** and **coherence** is the main focus of an expository essay.

# Expository writing DOES NOT:

- Tell a **story**
- Appeal to **emotions**
- Include your own **biased opinions**.
- **Assume** that your readers already know something about the things you are going to present to them. You should be objective and factual.

# Command Terms

Command terms: words used in essay prompts

- **Describe**

- Give a detailed, factual account of an object, event, or concept.
- Describe the feeling you feel when you listen your favourite song.

- **Evaluate**

- Make judgements based on standards or criteria about the strengths and weaknesses of a particular situation.
- Evaluate the importance of the friendships in your life.
- *You are to list the successes and failures and decide which was greater.*

# Command Terms

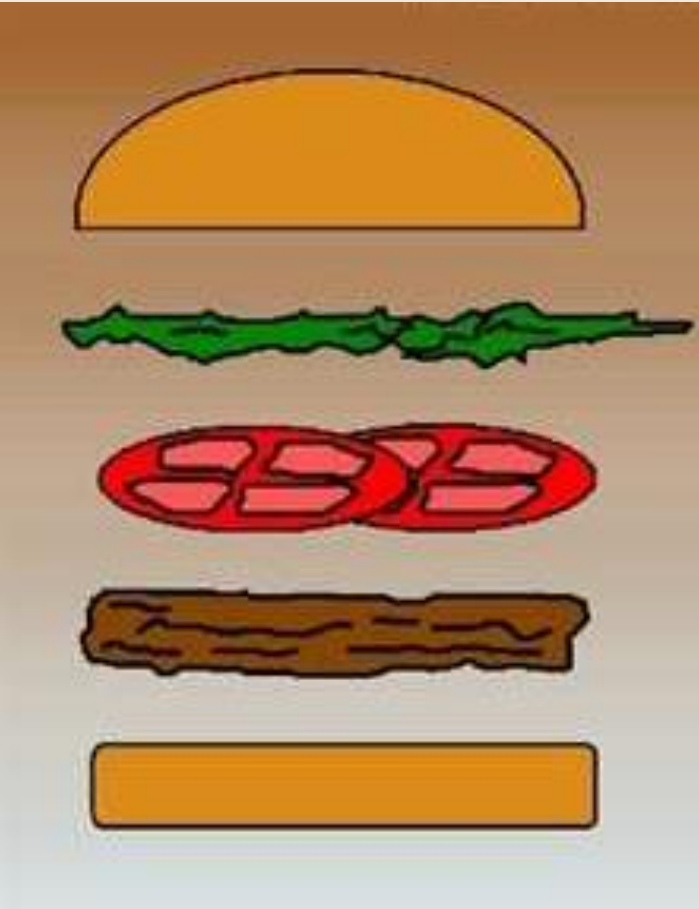
- **Explain**

- Give a fact-filled account of a topic, process, or concept. Provide evidence and reasons.
- Explain the reasons to why students cheat.
- *You are expected to list the reasons and explain why they cause students to cheat.*

- **To what extent**

- Describe the successes and failures of the given topic, with emphasis on one or the other. Be sure to include the opposing point of view.
- To what extent is the media in North America biased?
- *You are expected to consider both sides of the statement (successes and failures) and decide which side has the stronger argument. (To what extent do you agree or disagree?)*

# Structure of Expository Essay



1. Introduction
2. First Body Paragraph
3. Second Body Paragraph
4. Third Body Paragraph
5. Conclusion

TOTAL= 5 PARAGRAPHS

# Introduction (Para. #1)

- Hook

- Capture the reader's attention, e.g. a quote or a strong statement
- Must be related to your topic

- Topic

- Move from general statements (your hook) towards more specific statements (your thesis)

- Thesis statement

- A **single sentence**, which:
  - Answers the essay prompt
  - Introduces your three main supporting ideas/reasons
  - Is the **final sentence** in the introduction

# Introduction (Par. #1)

Prompt: Explain how people can change the world.

It has been said that you should be the change you want to see in the world. The world is not a perfect place but it can be if each person were more responsible to their surroundings. To change the world, global citizens should start by reducing poverty, alleviating crime, and helping the homeless.

- **Is there a hook?**
- **Does the thesis statement answer the prompt?**
- **Does it introduce the three main supporting ideas?**



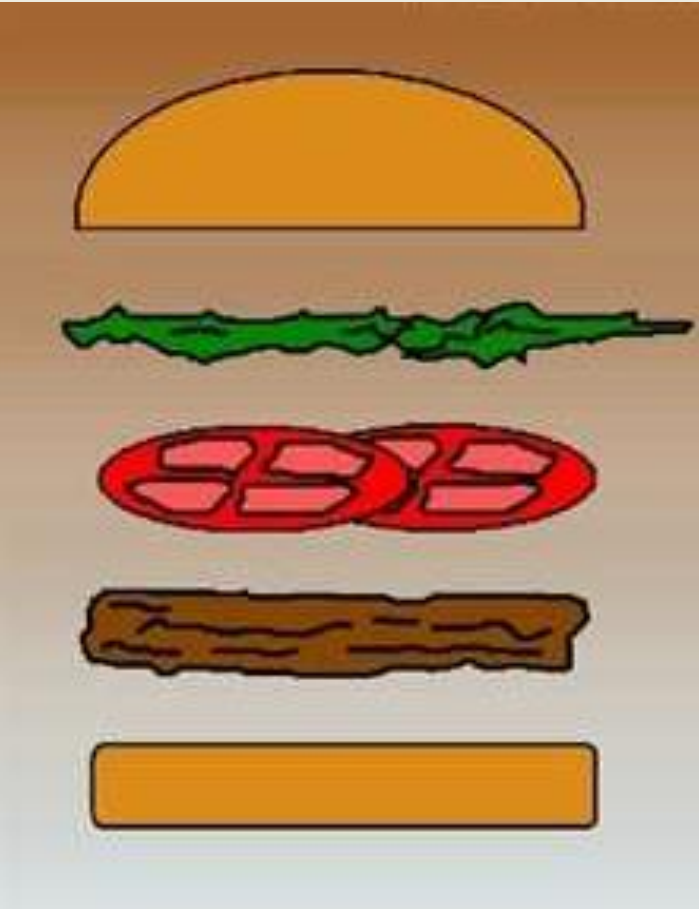
# Three Body Paragraphs (#2-4)

- **Topic sentence (linked to thesis)**: introduces the first main supporting idea.
- **Supporting Details (3)**: examples to help explain the main idea
- **Concluding Statement (with link to thesis)**
- In between paragraphs, you need to include **transition words**, such as first, second, as a result, which make transitions easy in the essay.

# Conclusion (Para. #5)

- **Restate your thesis**: remind readers of your argument, but do not copy word-for-word your thesis statement from the introduction—that would be boring!
- **Summary**: summarize the main points of the 3 supporting paragraphs
- **Concluding Statements**: leave the reader with an insightful thought

# Review



1. Introduction
2. First Body Paragraph
3. Second Body Paragraph
4. Third Body Paragraph
5. Conclusion

TOTAL= 5 PARAGRAPHS

# Expository writing needs:

- One topic
- Reasons supporting that topic (a thesis)
- Details supporting the reasons
- A conclusion re-stating the reasons
- Transition words
- Clear, concise, logical and informative language