

TEN ESSAY WRITING TIPS

1. Start right away.

You don't have to start writing, but it's important to mull over your topic as soon as you get it. Coming up with ideas is usually a lengthy process so the sooner you start, the easier it will be later on when you start writing.



2. Make sure you understand the topic you are assigned.

There is no point struggling for days over an essay that is not even appropriate. If you are confused about your essay topic, go to see your teacher.

3. Go over the material, making note of important points and quotations.

This will help you gather ideas for your essay. It would also help to have the book or poems read before they are discussed in class so that you can take meaningful notes when the teacher discusses the material.

4. Narrow down your topic.

Try to only talk about points related to your topic. You'll have to read your essay question carefully.

5. Make an outline.

This will help to organize your ideas and will help you to see whether or not your points are coherent. The outline will also ensure that you do not repeat any ideas. It will also be a big help when you start writing.



6. Write down your main or “thesis” sentence.

This first sentence should reflect what you are going to write about. Ask your teacher if you're not sure how to write one.

7. When writing, refer to your topic and outline.

Don't let all the hard work you put into writing an outline go to waste. Your outline will also probably help you if you get writer's block.

8. Avoid clichés and slang. Watch out for repetitious words and phrases.

Use your thesaurus and dictionary!

9. Proof read.

Find those spelling and grammar mistakes before your teacher does! Read your essay out loud - this will help you to find any awkward sentences.

10. Have a friend, parent or sibling check your work.

This will make sure that you catch those mistakes that you could have missed