

Writing Project -- Expository Essay

What is an expository essay?

Expository essays are simply essays that explain or describe something with facts, as opposed to opinion.

Samples of expository essays include:

- Essays that described how to do something.
- Essays that analyze events, ideas, objects, or written works.
- Essays that describe a process.
- Essays that explain/describe a historical event.



Why practice this style of writing?

Expository essays are often written in response to a prompt that asks the writer to expose or explain a specific topic. Essay questions on tests are normally expository essays, and will look like the following:

- Explain the events leading up to the Revolutionary War.
- Explain how to balance a checkbook.
- Describe the composition and function of a chicken's egg.

What will I do?

Write an essay on a topic you want to be more informed about. Below you will find several topics to choose from. Create your own or select one from the list. The choice is yours. Just start writing to explain or describe something!

An expository essay should have the same basic structure as any typical essay, with an introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, and a summary. The length of your essay can vary, according to context. An average essay will be about 2-handwritten pages.

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Need help thinking of a topic? Check the list below to see if any of these might work for you!

1. Your choice of a topic.....OR
2. Explain why you admire a particular person.
3. Explain why someone you know should be regarded a leader.
4. Explain why parents are sometimes strict.
5. If you had to be an animal, which would you be and why?
6. Explain why you especially enjoyed a particular teacher.
7. Explain why some cities have curfews for teens.
8. Explain how moving from place to place affects teens.
9. Explain why getting a drivers license is an important event in the lives of many teenagers.
10. Describe the major stressors in teens' lives.
11. Explain why you like (or do not like) to work in a team.
12. Describe some nonmaterial things that make you happy.
13. Explain how music affects your life.
14. Explain the impact of different music genres on society.
15. Explain why students listen to a particular type of music.
16. Explain the likely consequences of skipping school/ not doing work.
17. Describe the likely consequences of doing poorly in school.
18. Explain why teens smoke cigarettes and/or do drugs.
19. Explain the likely consequences of brothers and sisters constantly fighting.
20. Explain why teens wear makeup.

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21. Explain the likely consequences of increasing the passing time between classes from five to fifteen minutes.
22. Explain why some teens join gangs.
23. Explain why you should laugh at an embarrassing moments.
24. Explain why it is helpful to organize your materials and activities.
25. Explain why your school work is important.
26. Describe the ways you help out at home.
27. Explain the likely consequences of abolishing capital punishment.
28. Explain the consequences of adopting a pass/fail grading system.
29. Explain the likely consequences of enforcing an 11:00 p.m. curfew.
30. Explain why some schools don't have open lunch policies.
31. Explain why most teenagers are materialistic.
32. Explain why some teens get jobs.
33. Explain the consequences of having a job while in high school.
34. Explain the likely consequences of dropping out of school.
35. Describe some productive ways students can spend their leisure time.
36. Explain why dealing with their parents' divorce can be difficult for many teens.
37. Explain why teens love their parents even when family situations are difficult.
38. Describe the things that bring you greatest happiness.
39. Explain why you prefer living in an apartment (or house).
40. Select three objects that symbolize our culture and explain why you selected them.
41. Explain why you are interested in a particular career.
42. Explain the likely consequences of requiring students to wear uniforms.

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Start your Brain Storm here!