

Expository Writing

What is expository writing?

What is Expository Writing?

- Expository writing is an essay presenting reasons, examples, and explanations about a topic.
 - Informational writing
- Thesis statement is a MUST!
- An expository essay should follow a logical sequence using transitions.
 - Uses organizational strategies suited for the expository task.
 - Logic and coherence is the main focus of an expository essay.

Example Prompt on STAAR

Read the information in the box below.

The digital audio player, also known as the MP3 player, first became available to the general public in 1996. Unlike the compact disc player, this technology did not require that music be stored on separate discs. MP3 players have now become the dominant medium for listening to music.

Think about the new technologies that people use in everyday life.

Write an essay explaining the effect of one new technology on people's lives.

Be sure to —

- clearly state your thesis
- organize and develop your ideas effectively
- choose your words carefully
- edit your writing for grammar, mechanics, and spelling

How is it different ?

- Expository writing does not tell a story.
- Expository writing does not persuade a reader, but only gives facts and reasons.
- Expository writing can also give the steps of a process

Thesis Statement

- The thesis statement is in the first paragraph (introduction paragraph)
- Example: The world could be changed by improving the poverty situation.

Body Paragraph

- Transition from Intro/Topic Sentence (state the purpose of the paragraph – Provide your reason or example)
- Facts about the topic
- Add your details
- Descriptive details (Further describe and explain the reason or example provided)
- *** Short anecdote or personal experience (examples of how the topic has been experienced by you in your life) – Be careful not to turn your essay into a narrative when using a personal experience!!!

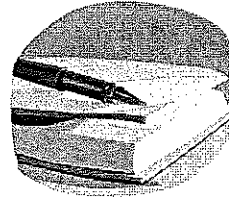
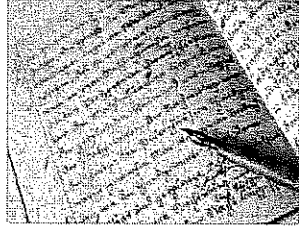
Details

- Can be descriptive
- Can be factual
- Can be from personal experience
- Can be anecdotes



Definition of Terms

- **Thesis Statement:** The main idea of the whole essay.
- **Transition words:** Words such as “first,” “second,” “as a result,” which make transitions easy in the essay.
- **Main Ideas:** Each paragraph should have a main point or idea (these are your reasons and examples)
- **Supporting Details:** Details support the main ideas (these are your descriptive details).



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