

WELLAND GOULDSMITH SCHOOL

CLASS:V ENGLISH LANGUAGE

TOPIC: ESSAY WRITING

An essay is generally a short piece of writing by which the writer expresses his/her ideas or thoughts. It comes from the French word “essayer” which means to attempt or to try. In an essay the writer writes about a particular theme or topic. Essays can be formal as well as informal. Formal essays are generally academic in nature and talk about serious topics. We will be focusing on informal essays. We will be learning about narrative essays and descriptive essays.

Narrative Essays: This is when the writer is narrating an incident or story through the essay. So these essays are in the first person, that is, you are the person narrating the incident.

Descriptive Essays: Here the writer will describe a place, an object, an event or maybe even a memory.

Format of an essay:

There is a basic structure that is generally followed while writing essays. An essay usually has an introduction, a body and a conclusion.

Introduction

This is the first paragraph of your essay. This is where you introduce your topic for the very first time. You can give a very brief synopsis (summary) of your essay in the introductory paragraph. Generally, it is not very long, about 4-6 lines. There is plenty of scope to get creative in the introduction of essays. You can start with a quote or proverb. Sometimes you can even start with a definition. Another interesting strategy to engage with your reader is to start with a question.

Body

This is the main part of your essay. The most vital and important content of the essay will be here. This need not be limited to one paragraph. It can extend to two or more paragraphs according to the content. We may have a lot of

ideas/points to write here, however, they should be in an organised manner, to avoid confusion in the mind of the person reading your essay.

Conclusion

This is the last paragraph of the essay. A conclusion is a great place to sum up a story or an argument. You can also end your essay by providing some moral or wrapping up (complete or finish off) a story. Make sure you complete your essays with the conclusion, and do not end abruptly (suddenly/unexpectedly).

Hints to help you write a good essay:

Before beginning your essay organize your thoughts/ideas in a rough sheet of paper. This way you can ensure the story will have a smooth flow and you won't miss out on the points you want to write about. Write all the points that come to your mind, later you can omit the ones you feel are not important. Once you are sure of the ones you are going to write about, number the points in the order you are going to write them.

Keep your language simple. Unnecessary complicated and difficult words break the flow of the sentence. The reader may not understand what you have written and lose interest in reading your essay.

Keep a check on your grammar.

Every section of your essay is important, the introduction, the body and the conclusion. Keep this in mind, it will help you make an interesting essay.

Try not to exceed 350 words. If you fall short of points do not repeat what you have written earlier.

Sample essays:

My Visit to a Zoo

Winter vacations are always fun. Our family occasionally likes to explore recreational spots from time to time. Last year at the onset of winter, the weather was pleasant and we had an opportunity to visit the famous Deli zoo.

We packed some snacks, got the camera, and started our journey. Deli zoo covers a vast area and is located in the center of our city. It is about 20 kilometers from our house. It is crowded with people almost every other day. By the time we reached there, it was already 11 a.m.

My father got the tickets from the booking counter and we walked in through the huge entry gate. The pathway was filled with tall trees. Many eye-catching signboards were around the corners. They led us towards the direction of the botanical garden.

I was excited to see the colourful patches of different flowers. There were decorative shrubs that were carved into beautiful shapes. Walking down the lane, we discovered a huge lake which contained swans and ducks. These water-birds were swimming and enjoying their time. It was a delight to watch them.

Suddenly, I got distracted by the frequent chirping of birds. I turned around to find an entire section filled with sparrows, peacocks, pigeons, and parrots. Some of them were fluttering their wings and some were munching on the fruits that the visitors had left behind.

Next, we went on a toy train that covered a full round of the zoo. We could watch the tigers and leopards sleeping in their den. Some of the children started laughing at the sight of a big bear waving its hand. We also saw elephants, deer and monkeys.

After enjoying the joy ride, we visited the aquarium. There were so many strange-looking aquatic creatures. I got amazed by the different kinds of fishes. We also saw an alligator that was placed in a big tank. Moving out of that place, we passed through the cages of reptiles. There were fierce snakes which got me frightened.

The atmosphere in the zoo was close to that of a jungle. It was quiet and serene. We nearly spent four hours in the Deli zoo and it was a thrilling experience. We had taken some time to have our home-brought snacks, my father took some amazing pictures. Now it was time to go back home.

My favourite book

My favourite book is “The Jungle Book”. It is the story about a human child Mowgli brought up in a thick Indian jungle raised by a pack of wolves. The book is one of the classic stories written by Rudyard Kipling.

The story starts when Bagheera, the friendly panther finds a brown baby boy and brings him to the pack of wolves. Mowgli is then raised by the Mother Wolf as her own cub.

This is how the adventure of Mowgli begins in the jungle. Baloo, the big brown bear is Mowgli's friend and teacher. Bagheera, the black panther is also his best friend. Mowgli learns all his jungle ways from the Father Wolf. He learns about the jungle, the sounds of jungle, business and every other thing. He makes friend with everyone in the jungle except Sher Khan.

Sher Khan, the tiger is the terror of the jungle. He is arrogant and thinks himself to be the lord of the jungle. He did not like the presence of a man in the jungle. In fact, looks for every opportunity to kill Mowgli.

Years later, Mowgli has grown up to be a young boy full of energy and strength. He has always obeyed the laws of the jungle. He has numerous friends in the jungle with whom he enjoys and have fun. But he knew, that one day Sher Khan will come to kill him

One such day arrives when Baloo comes to Mowgli to inform him that Sher Khan has planned to kill him. Mowgli then very intelligently plans to defeat Sher Khan with the help of the bulls. Finally, Mowgli was successful in defeating Sher Khan and everyone in the jungle was happy. The story of Mowgli later ends with Mowgli leaving the jungle and his friends with tears in his eyes.

The Jungle Book is a very interesting story. It has been made into movies also. The Jungle Book is very exciting and adventurous. It taught me a lot about the bond of friendship and to help others. Baloo and Bagheera were always there to help Mowgli. It also teaches about the laws of nature and to face our own fear. Mowgli was afraid of Sher Khan, but he faced his fear and so could defeat him. It told us about unconditional love. The Jungle Book is entertaining, and is one of my favourite stories.

Choose **any one** topic given below and write it in not more than 350 words.

It should be written in your English language exercise book.

1. My first day at school.

2. Your favourite toy.

