

Informative Essay Assignment

Word Count: ≥800 words (≥1000 words ADV)

Required Sources: Four sources minimum. Outside sources must meet criteria for academically appropriate and authoritative research. One source needs to be from scholar.google.com.

Evaluation: You can view the rubric to understand how your essay will be assessed.

Sample Assignment:

(Note: Samples are offered to give a model of the assignment; they are good models, but not necessarily flawless.)

What Is an Informative Essay?

An Informative Essay is a piece of writing that aims to educate the audience on a specific topic. The goal is to provide clear, concise, and accurate information without presenting an argument or persuading the reader. To achieve this, you will need to conduct thorough research and present the information in a structured and coherent manner.

To write this essay, you will need to ask a research question, conduct additional research on the issue you've identified, create a thesis that encapsulates the essence of the information, and develop that thesis with your research and reasoning. In addition to an introduction and conclusion, your essay should have multiple body paragraphs each focusing on a specific aspect of the topic.

Basic Requirements

Your essay should at minimum include the following:

Introduction

Context and Background Information: Provide sufficient context and set-up for the essay and thesis. Include relevant background information to help the reader understand the significance of the topic. *Thesis Statement*: State the gist of the message and the essence of the research. The thesis should serve as the backbone of the research project, guiding its direction and ensuring its coherence.

Body (multiple paragraphs)

Each body paragraph should focus on a single main idea related to your thesis and include the following elements:

- **Topic Sentences and Paragraph Focus:** Each paragraph should begin with a topic sentence that introduces the main idea of the paragraph. This sentence should clearly relate to the thesis and ensure coherence by making sure all information in the paragraph focuses on one key topic, idea, or argument.
- **Detailed Discussion and Evidence:** Discuss each major idea in enough detail to be clear and accurate. Provide evidence to support each point made. Evidence can include quotations and paraphrases from credible sources, as well as logical reasoning and explanations. Ensure that the evidence is relevant and effectively supports the topic sentence.
- **Analysis and Explanation:** After presenting evidence, explain its significance and how it relates to the main idea of the paragraph and the thesis statement. This helps to develop paragraphs beyond generalities and provides depth to your discussion.
- **Source Integration ("Quote Sandwiches"):** Introduce all quotations, paraphrases, etc., accurately, phrased, and explained. A "quote sandwich" includes an introduction to the quote, the quote itself, and an explanation of its relevance.
- **Transitions:** Use transition words and other connecting language to make logical connections between ideas and sentences explicit. This helps ensure that the essay flows smoothly from one idea to the next.

Conclusion

Restate or revisit the thesis in light of the preceding paragraphs. Recap main points and highlights from body paragraphs. Emphasize the significance,

relevance, and implications of the essay's findings. Be sure to include two conclusion strategies.

Purpose of Assignment

This assignment is designed to help you practice the following skills:
Identify both a focused issue/topic and a contribution you can make to the conversation about that issue/topic. Locate and integrate credible research about that issue. Craft an informative piece that educates the reader on the topic.