

**Directions:** For this assignment, you will write a 5-paragraph explanatory essay on a topic of your choice. This essay will include an introduction, conclusion, and three body paragraphs.

**You can start working on your draft immediately.** After meeting to review your draft with me during your CBA, continue with the lessons in Unit 5. You will use what you have learned in this unit regarding introducing a topic, organizing ideas, providing graphics, using relevant details, transitions, precise language, and conclusions to edit your essay.

When writing informative or explanatory material, purposes might include:

- To inform readers about a topic
- To explain a process or issue
- To persuade readers to agree with an opinion
- To motivate readers to do something
- To describe a person, place, or thing
- To reflect on an experience or feeling

**The final essay should be 500 to 1000 words, double-spaced. The essay should be submitted as a .doc or .pdf file; please no image files! In addition, you will need to create a separate bibliography (this does not count towards your word count total).** This bibliography should include at least three sources you used to research your topic (refer to Unit 5, lesson 12 for information on creating a bibliography).

Make sure to follow the Revising Checklist before submitting your final draft:

- Does the introduction present the topic clearly while engaging the reader?
- Are my ideas organized in a logical way?
- Do I include sufficient facts, details, and examples to explain each detail?
- Do I use transitions appropriately to show the relationship between ideas?
- Does the tone of my writing serve my purpose and connect to my audience?
- Are there things I can delete to make my writing clearer and more concise?
- Did I use the most precise language to express my ideas?
- Are my sentences interesting and varied?
- Should I add or revise any headings to make things clearer?
- Should I add any graphics or multimedia?
- Does my conclusion support and strengthen my ideas?

[Portfolio Rubric](#)