

Expository Essay Components

Sentence 1 (Attention Getter): catch the reader’s attention with a relevant quote, question, anecdote, fascinating fact, analogy, the position opposing one you will take, or a dilemma that needs a solution

Sentence 2 (Bridge Sentence): build a bridge from the conclusion to the thesis by providing context, relevant information the reader will need to know to understand the essay

Sentence 3 (Thesis): a specific and accurate sentence that explains the subject of your paper and the ideas on which you will focus

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INTRODUCTION

Sentence 1 (Topic Sentence):

- should be a personal example
- should identify the main idea and point of the paragraph
- should **NOT** be too general or too specific

Following Sentences (Support):

- include specific evidence that supports your thesis
- provide vivid, concrete, and relevant details

Last Sentence (Analysis): explain to the reader the significance of the evidence you have provided. Think about why you chose to include it. How does the piece of evidence support your thesis?

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PERSONAL EXAMPLE

Sentence 1 (Topic Sentence):

- Should start with a transition word that leads the reader from the last paragraph into the current paragraph
- should be a real world example (i.e. examples from current events, history, or society)
- should identify the main idea and point of the paragraph
- should **NOT** be too general or too specific

Following Sentences (Support):

- Include specific evidence that supports your thesis
- Provide vivid, concrete, and relevant details

Last Sentence (Analysis): explain to the reader the significance of the evidence you have provided. Think about why you chose to include it

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REAL WORLD EXAMPLE

Sentence 1: provide the reader an overview of the main ideas you discussed

Sentence 2: don’t only restate your thesis but show the significance of your synthesis of the information

Sentence 3: attempt to end you paper with a universal truth if applicable

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CONCLUSION