

GAP ACADEMY: WRITING A GOOD ESSAY

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A good essay includes:

- an interesting topic
- a thesis sentence (or specific statement about the topic which is an arguable point)
- structured paragraphs to prove your thesis (or arguable point)
- the structured paragraphs should each include at least one main supporting argument to prove your point
- for a simple essay, there should be at least 5 paragraphs in total:
 - an introduction (introducing your topic and proposing your argument)
 - 3 paragraphs providing at least one reason each to backup your argument
 - a conclusion wrapping it all up

The thesis sentence should:

- be interesting (not boring) - the more dramatic the better
- not be question
- not be a promise
- not be a statement
- not be a topic by itself

A well thought out essay includes:

- 5 paragraphs (at minimum - an introduction, a conclusion, and 3 supporting arguments)
- an interesting thesis
- a dramatic or thought-provoking idea (one that people will remember)
- interwoven sentences - ensuring flow and connectivity
- linking words in the first sentence of each paragraph to the preceding last sentence of the previous paragraph.
- introductions and conclusion sentences within each paragraph
- a recapturing of everything in your final conclusion