

Fall Expository Essay

12/7-11/2015

Instructions:

What do you need in your essay?

- I. Introduction
- II. Body Paragraph
- III. Body Paragraph
- IV. Conclusion

So, how do we get started? Glad you asked!



But before we get started, stay away from these...

- you or your! You don't want to sound "preachy"!
- me, my, and I
- like, so, very, many, and a lot
- contractions, for example: don't, can't, won't, wouldn't, didn't—write out the words instead!
- Slang ("gonna", "ain't", etc.)
- Texting shortcuts—write out words like "and"
- Write out numbers under 100



stay away from these...



- I believe...
- I think...
- This essay is going to explain...
- I'm going to write about...
- This essay has explained...

You get the idea.

Now let's get on with what you CAN do!



Where to start--

- When you get your prompt, read the "Read" section and then mark out the boxed statement (it may be a quote).
- Read the "Think" section and then mark out the "think about" statement.
- Circle the prompt! This is the part that actually tells you what to write about!
- Underline the key words in your prompt, boxing words that really stand out as well.

Write an expository essay explaining how fear can affect the decisions you make.

Controlling Idea

- Once you have your key words from your essay prompt underlined, convert the prompt into a question.
- Example: *How can fear affect the decisions you make?*
- Now, answer the question.
Example: **Fear of the unknown can lead to suspicion and destructive behavior.**
- The answer to the question, is your controlling idea!

Next, Add 3 reasons. Use R.O.S.E.

The more you really know about the reasons you choose, the better your essay will be, so select something you really know!



R.O.S.E.

Read—think about what you've read **O**bservations—what have you observed in history, etc. **S**een—what have you seen (live, in movies) **E**xperiences—personal experiences

Brainstorm using R.O.S.E.



R.O.S.E. Examples

Read— I have read "Monsters are Due on Maple Street"

So, based on that, I can say "Fear can make people turn into dangerous weapons."

Observations— In History I observed Santa Anna's decision to declare war against Texas

So, based on his actions I can say "Fear can cause people to make rash decisions."

Seen— I have seen "The Hunger Games"

So, based on that I can say "Fear leads people to put themselves through unbearable pain."

Experiences— I once kept something I did from my mother out of fear of being scolded.

So, based on that I can say "Fear can make an honest person a liar."

Restate your controlling idea – you'll use this to write your conclusion

- Now that you have your controlling idea, rewrite it using different words. It just has to get the same message across.
- Example:
 - The best pet to own is a dog.
 - Dogs are the best!

Now you're ready to write your Hook Sentence: 3 options



1. Rhetorical question

Example: Can fear be the reason behind unusual behavior?

2. General statement

Example: Sometimes fear leads people to act in negative ways.

3. Interesting fact

Example: Most people have done something they regret out of fear.

Connecting Sentences

- Connect your hook to the controlling idea.

Example:

Sometimes fear leads people to act in negative ways. **Fear of the unknown can lead to suspicion and destructive behavior.**

F.E.E.D

Now it's time to feed your body paragraphs! You have to provide examples, facts, and details. Use F.E.E.D. to help you brainstorm!

Facts

Examples

Experiences

Details



Body Paragraphs

Body Paragraph 1

1. Transition + Topic Sentence (Reason 1 for controlling idea)

2. Support for topic sentence

This can be seen...

For example... “ _____ ” (pg.)

3. More Support for topic sentence

This quote explains...

I can infer that this quote means _____ because

as a rule _____.

Example

To begin, fear makes people become suspicious of each other. This can be seen in “The Monsters are Due on Maple Street” when the neighbors start to question Les Goodman after his car starts automatically. For example, “Why did his car up and start like that?” (pg. 421). This shows that the neighbors questioned each other during the event, even though they knew and trusted each other. This means they must have been fearful because people do not normally become suspicious of others they know unless given a good reason.

Body Paragraph 2

1. Transition + Topic Sentence (Reason 2 for controlling idea)

2. Support for topic sentence

This can be seen...

For example...

3. More support for topic sentence

This quote explains...

I can infer that this quote means _____ because as a rule _____

Example of Body Paragraph 2

Likewise, fear turns people into dangerous weapons.

This can be seen when an innocent man dies in “The Monsters are Due on Maple Street”. Charlie panics and shoots Pete Van Horn. This shows that Charlie accidentally shot Pete Van Horn because he mistook him for a monster. Charlie must have been extremely scared in order to confuse a man with a monster, because during times of fear, people don’t think as clearly and make mistakes.

Conclusion

1. Restate claim (but not word for word)

2. Summarize main points of essay

3. Include the “so what?” factor

The theme is important to learn because...

Example

The characters in “Monsters are Due on Maple Street” react in several ways to show how the fear of unexplainable events can lead to destruction and suspicion. The neighbors feel that they have to question each other out of fear. A quick, unthinking reaction leads to the death of one innocent man. Finally, the alien enemy triumphs. In conclusion, the reader learns that these reactions to fear are a natural human instinct that should be fought in order to preserve survival.