

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Guide to Writing Academic Essays

Instructor: Lindsay Dawkins

Learning Objectives-Week 1

- Review 12 verb tenses in English and when to use them
- Identify common conjunctions in English
- Learn how to correctly punctuate sentences with conjunctions
- Understand the importance of parallel structure
- Define sentence variety and identify ways to create sentence variety

Learning Objectives-Week 2

- Identify parts of an academic essay: introduction, body, conclusion
- Understand the structure for each part of an academic essay

Learning Objectives-Week 3

- Understand characteristics of compare/contrast essays
- Understand characteristics of cause/effect essays
- Understand characteristics of argument essays

Question 1

Choose the correct verb to fill in the blanks.

She moved into her house and then _____ that it needed a lot of repairs.

- a) discover
- b) discovered
- c) discovering
- d) was discovering

Question 2

Choose the correct verb to fill in the blanks.

My grandmother loves to watch TV. She _____ asleep watching TV every night.

- a) fall
- b) falls
- c) fell
- d) is falling

Question 3

Choose the correct verb to fill in the blanks.

He didn't come to my party. He said he _____ an invitation.

- a) isn't receive
- b) hasn't received
- c) hadn't received
- d) not receiving

Question 4

Choose the correct verb to fill in the blanks.

Bill has seen Star Wars five times. He says it's his favorite, so I was not surprised to see that he _____ the movie again last night.

- a) watch
- b) have watched
- c) is watching
- d) was watching

Question 5

Which sentence is a compound sentence?

- a) Lions are kings of the jungle, and everyone respects them.
- b) Monkeys are funny but intelligent animals.

Question 6

Does this sentence need a comma?

The mailman came to our door but he didn't bring any mail for me.

Yes

No

Question 7

Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

- a) Mom asked my sister and me to help her cook dinner, but we weren't much help.
- b) My aunt is going on a business trip so she bought a new suitcase.
- c) This restaurant is really good but Jim didn't like it.
- d) Maria lost her phone at the beach, and spent all afternoon looking for it.

Question 8

The sentence below contains faulty parallelism with coordinate conjunctions. Revise it so that the elements joined by the coordinate conjunction are parallel to one another.

It is harder to tie a slip knot than tying a square knot.

Question 9

The sentence below contains faulty parallelism with coordinate conjunctions. Revise it so that the elements joined by the coordinate conjunction are parallel to one another.

We enjoyed water skiing much more than when we swam in the lake.

Question 10

The sentence below contains faulty parallelism with coordinate conjunctions. Revise it so that the elements joined by the coordinate conjunction are parallel to one another.

A big car is not necessarily better than one that is small.

Question 11

Drag and drop the terms in bold used for sentence variety to match the examples given.

Adverbs

Transition Words

Prepositional Phrases

- a. Slowly, she turned the corner and looked down the dark street.
- b. By noon, all my final exams should be finished.
- c. First, I will explain my research findings.

Question 12

How many sentences is an introduction paragraph expected to have?

- a) 1-2
- b) 2-4
- c) 3-5
- d) 4-6

Question 13

What is another name for the introduction sentence of an introduction paragraph called?

Question 14

Drag and drop the parts of an introduction paragraph into the correct order.

supporting sentence(s)

thesis statement

hook

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Question 15

A basic academic essay expected to have is expected to have one body paragraph.

True

False

Question 16

What is the purpose of the topic sentence (intro sentence) in each body paragraph?

- a) To tell what the essay is about
- b) To tell what the paragraph is about
- c) To ask important questions of the reader
- d) To make the author sound smart

Question 17

Which two of the following choices are expected in each body paragraph of an academic essay?

- a) rephrased thesis
- b) evidence
- c) a concluding sentence
- d) first person pronouns

Question 18

What are the two paragraphs where you should put your thesis?

- a) Introduction and Body Paragraph #1
- b) Body Paragraph #1 & #2
- c) Introduction and Conclusion
- d) You only need to state it once.

Question 19

What should you do in your conclusion after you restate the thesis?

- a) Summarize every detail of your whole essay
- b) Summarize your major points
- c) Demand the reader agree with you
- d) Leave your reader thinking

Question 20

What is the purpose of a compare/contrast essay?

- a) To tell a story
- b) To inform or explain a subject to the reader
- c) To talk about the similarities and differences of two subjects

Question 21

A point by point comparison=

- a) has one paragraph that focuses on the similarities while the following focuses on the differences.
- b) the first paragraph focuses on one subject while the following focuses on another.
- c) each paragraph focuses on one point of comparison (similarities or differences).

Question 22

Which of the following statements is true?

- a) Cause = the specific reason that leads to an occurrence.
- b) Effect = the specific event that leads to an occurrence.
- c) Effect comes before cause.
- d) Cause comes after effect.

Question 23

What should you present in the body paragraphs of a cause & effect essay?

- a) background information
- b) supporting details and examples
- c) predictions

Question 24

An argument essay is:

- a) an essay where you agree or disagree with an issue and give reasons to support your opinion.
- b) a 3 paragraph essay.
- c) an essay where you disagree with everything.

Question 25

In an argument essay, you only give reasons to support your own point of view.

True

False