

Writing guidelines

Writing task: "My family, my heritage"

Introduction:

- Content: Give a brief overview of your family's cultural background and what you will talk about in the essay.
- Tips:
 - Briefly introduce your family's cultural background.
 - Mention the main themes you will discuss.

My family's roots and cultural heritage have shaped who I am today. From our lively traditions to the values passed down through generations, my family's story is full of history and culture. In this essay, I will share my experiences and reflections on my family's heritage, roots, and traditions.

Paragraph 1: Family Heritage and Roots

- Objective: Describe your family's historical background and where they come from.
- Content: Explain where your family is from and any important family history.
- Tips:
 - Include information about the region or country your family is from.
 - Mention any important family history or stories.

My family's roots are in Antioquia, where my great-grandparents were farmers. They worked the land, and they loved nature, which is a value that has been passed down through the generations. Our heritage is connected to the land, showing the hardworking spirit of our ancestors. My grandpa always shared with his grandchildren stories about the time he met my grandma, and all the festivities they had the day of their wedding. At that time, the celebrations lasted almost 4 days.

Paragraph 2: Cultural Identity and Language

- Discuss the languages spoken in your family and their significance.
- Objective: Discuss the role of language and cultural identity in your family.
- Content: Describe the languages spoken in your family and any unique expressions. Explain how language helps keep your culture alive.
- Tips:
 - Share examples of how language is used in your family.
 - Explain why language is important to your cultural identity.

Language is a big part of our cultural identity. In our family, our last name is Morales, and it comes from a regional dialects from Antioquia, and from the fruits that were cultivated in the family's land some generations ago. My grandparents tell stories using some dialectic words, which not only keep our language alive but also teach us about our family's past. Some of my favorite words were "Stren" that means that you have new clothing; amarrao that is miserly, and aporriar that refers to stumble.

Paragraph 3: Family Traditions

Family Traditions:

- Highlight specific family traditions and explain their importance.
- Objective: Highlight specific family traditions.
- Content: Describe one or more family traditions and explain their importance.
- Tips:
 - Include details about how these traditions are practiced.
 - Explain why these traditions are meaningful to your family.

One of our special family traditions is celebrating Christmas with Colombian customs. Every year, we make natilla and buñuelos, traditional holiday foods. We also follow the tradition of the "Noche de las Velitas" on December 7th, where we light candles to honor the Virgin Mary, and we welcome the holiday season.

Paragraph 4: Festivals and Celebrations

Describe a cultural festival your family participates in and its significance.

- Objective: Discuss cultural festivals or celebrations your family participates in.
- Content: Describe a cultural festival or celebration that your family enjoys. Explain how it connects to your heritage.
- Tips:
 - Provide details about the festival or celebration.
 - Explain the significance of these events in keeping your cultural identity.

We also celebrate other important festivals like the Feria de las Flores in Medellín. This festival shows our cultural heritage with parades, music, and beautiful flower arrangements. Celebrating these festivals strengthens our connection to our culture.

Paragraph 5: Values and Lessons Passed Down

- Explain the core values and lessons passed down through your family.
- Objective: Describe the values and lessons passed down in your family.
- Content: Discuss the core values your family holds and how they have been passed down. Explain how these values influence your life.
- Tips:
 - Include specific examples of values or lessons taught by family members.
 - Reflect on how these values have shaped your behavior and decisions.

Hard work, respect, and family unity are central to our family culture. My parents always emphasize the importance of education and perseverance, qualities that have been passed down from our ancestors. These values guide our daily lives and interactions with others.

Conclusion:

- Objective: Summarize the main points and reflect on the importance of your family's heritage and traditions.
- Content: Reinforce the significance of your family's heritage, roots, and traditions. Provide a closing thought.
- Tips:
 - Summarize the key points discussed in the essay.
 - End with a reflective statement about the importance of preserving your cultural heritage.
- Summarize the main points and reflect on the importance of your family's heritage and traditions.

Reflecting on my family's heritage, roots, and traditions, I feel proud and grateful. These parts of our culture define who we are and give us a sense of belonging. As I continue these traditions and values, I remember the strength of my ancestors and the rich cultural legacy I am part of.

Writing Tips:

- Be Personal: Use first-person pronouns (I, we) to make the essay personal.
- Be Descriptive: Use descriptive language to paint a picture of your family's heritage and traditions.
- Be Coherent: Ensure each paragraph is logically connected to the next. Use proper transitions expressions and connectors.
- Proofread: Check for grammar, spelling, and punctuation before submitting your essay.

