

WRITING AN ESSAY

- Think about the topic of the essay for a few minutes.
- Write down your ideas concerning the topic: use shorthand or abbreviated spellings so that you can write down the ideas quickly.
- Write a sketchy outline, arranging the ideas you want to include into a logical sequence.
- Write an introduction:
 - Formulate a sentence that contains the main idea of your essay and the method of development you plan to use (thesis).
 - Begin with general lead-in statements that will lead your reader up to the main point (thesis) of your essay.
- Beginning with your first main idea, formulate a topic sentence for the body paragraph.
- Support that topic sentence with support statements, concrete illustrations, details, examples, etc.
- Repeat the above process for each of the remaining points of the essay.
- For the conclusion, you may wish to summarize your main points, emphasize one of the points, or encourage your reader to take action regarding your topic; use whichever method is most effective for your topic and essay development. Just be sure not to introduce any new material into the conclusion.