

IDHAYA COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, KUMBAKONAM



SEMESTER	:	VI
SUBJECT	:	ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION
SUBJECT CODE	:	16AMBEEN3
CLASS	:	III BA ENGLISH
TITLE OF THE PAPER	:	ESSAYS & PROVERB WRITING
NAME OF THE FACULTY	:	MRS. J. THILAGAVATHI

TOPIC : I

WRITING ESSAYS

•An ‘essay’ is derived from a Latin word ‘exagium’, which roughly translates to presenting one’s case? So essays are a short piece of writing representing one’s side of the argument or one’s experiences, stories, etc. Let us learn about types of essays, format, and tips for essay-writing.

TYPES OF ESSAY

- Narrative Essays:** This is when the writer is narrating an incident or story through the essay. So these are in the first person. The aim when writing narrative essays is to involve the reader in them as if they were right there when it was happening.
- So make them as vivid and real as possible. One way to make this possible is to follow the principle of ‘show, don’t tell’. So you must involve the reader in the story.

✓ **Descriptive Essays:** Here the writer will describe a place, an object, an event or maybe even a memory. But it is not just plainly describing things.

✓ The writer must paint a picture through his words. One clever way to do that is to evoke the senses of the reader.

✓ Do not only rely on sight but also involve the other senses of smell, touch, sound etc. A descriptive essay when done well will make the reader feel the emotions the writer was feeling at the moment.

✓ **Expository Essays:** In such an essay a writer presents a balanced study of a topic. To write such an essay, the writer must have real and extensive knowledge about the subject.

✓ There is no scope for the writer's feelings or emotions in an expository essay. It is completely based on facts, statistics, examples etc. There are sub-types here like contrast essays, cause and effect essays etc.

Format of an Essay:

- ✓ **Persuasive Essays:** Here the purpose of the essay is to get the reader to your side of the argument. A persuasive essay is not just a presentation of facts but an attempt to convince the reader of the writer's point of view.
- Both sides of the argument have to present in these essays. But the ultimate aim is to persuade the readers that the writer's argument carries more weight. Now there is no rigid format of an essay. It is a creative process so it should not be confined within boundaries.
- However, there is a basic structure that is generally followed while writing essays. So let us take a look at the general structure of an essay.

INTRODUCTION

- This is the first paragraph of your essay. This is where the writer introduces his topic for the very first time.
- You can give a very brief synopsis of your essay in the introductory paragraph. Some paragraph writing skills can be a help here.
- Generally, it is not very long, about 4-6 lines.
- There is plenty of scopes to get creative in the introduction of essays. This will ensure that you hook the reader, i.e. draw and keep his attention.
- So to do so you can start with a quote or a proverb. Sometimes you can even start with a definition.
- Another interesting strategy to engage with your reader is to start with a question.

BODY

- This is the main crux of your essays. The body is the meat of your essay sandwiched between the introduction and the conclusion.
- So the most vital and important content of the essay will be here. This need not be confined to one paragraph. It can extend to two or more paragraphs according to the content.
- Usually, we have a lot of information to provide in the body. And the mistakes writers generally make is to go about it in a haphazard manner which leaves the reader confused.
- So it is important to organize your thoughts and content. Write the information in a systematic flow so that the reader can comprehend. So, for example, you were narrating an incident. The best manner to do this would be to go in a chronological order.

CONCLUSION

- This is the last paragraph of the essay. Sometimes a conclusion will just mirror the introductory paragraph but make sure the words and syntax are different.
- A conclusion is also a great place to sum up a story or an argument. You can round up your essay by providing some moral or wrapping up a story. Make sure you complete your essays with the conclusion, leave no hanging threads.

TIPS FOR ESSAY WRITING

- Give your essays an interesting and appropriate title. It will help draw the attention of the reader and pique their curiosity
 - Keep it between 300-500 words. This is the ideal length, you can take creative license to increase or decrease it
 - Keep your language simple and crisp. Unnecessary complicated and difficult words break the flow of the sentence. Do not make grammar mistakes, use correct punctuation and spellings. If this is not done it will distract the reader from the content
- Before beginning the essay organize your thought and plot a rough draft. This way you can ensure the story will flow and not be an unorganized mess.

Topic : II

Expansion of proverbs

•Expansion of an idea or expansion of a proverb is simple and straightforward. It involves 5 easy steps. They are

Step 1:

“Understand the symbol of the words in the proverb”.

❑ For example take the proverb, ‘Rome was not built in a day’. Here the noun ‘Rome’ is the name of a place.

❑ We also (should) know that Rome was a great city. So what does Rome stand for? It stands for greatness or success.(Remember it was a great city).

Step 2:

“Substitute the meaning in the idea or the proverb”.

❑ Take the previous example ‘Rome was not built in a day’. Now substitute the symbols we found out earlier in the sentences. What do we have?

‘Greatness or Success was not built in a day’

❑ The proverb is now decoded and ready for understanding.

Step 3:

“Look for a story or anecdote or example or illustration”.

○ Now that you have understood what the proverbs stand for or what the proverb means, we should look for a suitable example to illustrate it. Where do we get these stories? There are plenty of them. Aesop’s fables are ideal. So are the tales of India, the Panchatantra.

○ We can also look for example from today’s world. We could, for example, for the proverb ‘Rome was not built in a day’, talk about the effort put in by Barack Obama to achieve greatness, and that it took many years to built it, that it did not happen overnight.

Step 4:

“Look for similar proverbs or ideas”.

○ ‘patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success’ by Napoleon Hill is similar to ‘Rome was not built in a day’, so is the proverb ‘Do not judge the book by its cover’ similar to ‘All that glitters is not precious’.

Step 5:

“Sum up the paragraph”.

- Use summing up words or phrases to indicate that you have finished the expansion and intend to sum it up. You could use ‘Thus’ or ‘in fine’ or ‘so’ or ‘The proverb advises that’. Let the reader know that you are finishing off.



Thank
You

The image displays the words "Thank You" in a highly decorative, multi-colored font. Each letter is filled with a different pattern or texture, such as floral prints, polka dots, or a globe. The letters are arranged in two lines: "Thank" on the top line and "You" on the bottom line. The background is white, and the text is framed by two horizontal grey bars, one above and one below.