

The Five Paragraph Essay

There are many important factors in writing an excellent essay. The ability to express ideas professionally in writing is essential to success as a leader. Spelling, grammar, punctuation, and consistent reasoning are all necessary. However, the most basic building blocks of a five paragraph essay are **sentences and paragraphs in a specific structure.**

[M]Individual sentences are composed of one subject and one predicate. [1]The predicate contains the action word, or verb. [2]The predicate also contains information about how, where, or to whom, the action is being done. [3]The subject is the person place or thing that is doing the action described by the verb. [4]Run-on sentences (sentences with multiple subjects and predicates) should be avoided. [5]Run-on sentences should be broken up into smaller individual sentences. [T]Multiple sentences are combined to form paragraphs.

[M]Each paragraph must contain one main idea reinforced by three or more supporting statements. [1]The main idea is a sentence that states the most important point in the paragraph. [2]The main idea should be clear and easy for the reader to identify. [3]Supporting statements are sentences that provide evidence to reinforce the main idea. [4]Supporting statements that are not related to the main idea should be discarded. [5]Another type of sentence that may be found in a paragraph is a transition. [6]Transitions are sentences that lead the reader from the current main idea to the next one. [T]Multiple paragraphs, tied together by transitions, form the whole essay.

[M]A five paragraph essay should follow a specific structure. [1]The first paragraph should be an introduction. [2]The introduction should state the purpose of the essay and the three main ideas. [3]The five paragraph essay should contain three main ideas. [4]Each main idea should be a single paragraph. [5]The fifth paragraph should be the conclusion. [T]The conclusion should summarize the essay and emphasize the most important point.

[T]In conclusion, [M]authors must take great care in writing a well-formatted essay. [1]The most important aspect is composing proper paragraphs. [2]Paragraphs are the primary structures for communicating the most important ideas to the reader. [3]The paragraph is made up of sentences and fits into the larger essay. [4]The author must carefully compose all of these parts to present a smooth, unified, professional group of ideas to the reader.

Main Ideas are Red

Supporting Sentences are Blue (and numbered 1,2,3,etc)

Transitions are Green

This essay has 373 words