

Essay Writing — Multiple Choice Quiz (60 Questions)

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: Circle or write the letter of the best answer for each question.

■ INTRODUCTION

1. What is the main purpose of an essay introduction?
 - A. Present all the evidence
 - B. Grab the reader's attention and state the thesis
 - C. Summarize the conclusion
 - D. List all arguments
2. Which sentence in the introduction states the writer's main argument?
 - A. Hook
 - B. Background sentence
 - C. Thesis statement
 - D. Topic sentence
3. What is a 'hook' in an essay?
 - A. The closing sentence
 - B. An attention-grabbing opening sentence
 - C. A transition word
 - D. A citation
4. Where is the thesis statement usually placed?
 - A. In the middle of the body
 - B. At the end of the introduction
 - C. In the conclusion
 - D. In every paragraph
5. Which of the following can serve as a hook?
 - A. A bibliography entry
 - B. A surprising statistic or rhetorical question
 - C. A topic sentence
 - D. A transition word
6. What is background information in an introduction?
 - A. The thesis repeated twice
 - B. Context that helps the reader understand the topic
 - C. A list of body arguments
 - D. The essay conclusion

■ STRUCTURE

7. How many main parts does a standard essay have?
 - A. 2

- B. 4
- C. 3
- D. 5

8. What is the correct order of an essay's parts?

- A. Body → Introduction → Conclusion
- B. Conclusion → Body → Introduction
- C. Introduction → Body → Conclusion
- D. Body → Conclusion → Introduction

9. What is the purpose of an essay title?

- A. To confuse the reader
- B. To inform the reader of the essay's topic and focus
- C. To list the arguments
- D. To replace the introduction

10. What is an 'outline' in essay writing?

- A. The final draft
- B. A plan listing main ideas before writing
- C. A bibliography
- D. A type of introduction

■ BODY PARAGRAPHS

11. What is the function of body paragraphs?

- A. Restate the thesis only
- B. Develop and support the main argument with evidence
- C. Introduce the topic
- D. Summarize the essay

12. What does 'PEEL' stand for in paragraph writing?

- A. Point, Evidence, Explain, Link
- B. Prove, Expand, Edit, Link
- C. Plan, Evidence, Evaluate, List
- D. Point, Evaluate, Example, Logic

13. What is a topic sentence?

- A. The last sentence of a paragraph
- B. The first sentence stating the paragraph's main idea
- C. A quote from a source
- D. A transition to the next paragraph

14. How many main ideas should one body paragraph focus on?

- A. As many as possible
- B. Two
- C. Only one
- D. Three or more

15. What is the role of the concluding sentence in a body paragraph?

- A. To introduce new evidence
- B. To link the paragraph back to the thesis
- C. To begin a new argument

D. To add a citation

16. What should a body paragraph include after the topic sentence?

- A. Another thesis statement
- B. Supporting evidence and analysis
- C. A new introduction
- D. The bibliography

■ CONCLUSION

17. What should a concluding paragraph do?

- A. Introduce new arguments
- B. Restate the thesis in fresh words and summarize key points
- C. Copy the introduction verbatim
- D. Provide more new evidence

18. Which phrase is appropriate to begin a conclusion?

- A. For example,
- B. In conclusion / To sum up,
- C. However,
- D. Firstly,

19. What should the final sentence of an essay do?

- A. Introduce a new topic
- B. Leave the reader with a thought-provoking idea or call to action
- C. Repeat the hook word for word
- D. List all sources

20. What should you AVOID in a conclusion?

- A. Restating the thesis
- B. Using transition words
- C. Introducing brand-new arguments
- D. Summarizing key points

■ COHESION

21. What is a transition word used for?

- A. To start the essay
- B. To connect ideas smoothly between sentences or paragraphs
- C. To quote a source
- D. To restate the thesis

22. Which of the following is a CONTRAST transition?

- A. Furthermore
- B. In addition
- C. However
- D. For instance

23. Which linking phrase shows ADDITION?

- A. On the other hand
- B. Nevertheless

- C. Furthermore / In addition
- D. As a result

24. Which linking phrase shows CAUSE AND EFFECT?

- A. However
- B. Therefore / As a result
- C. For instance
- D. In contrast

25. What does 'coherence' mean in essay writing?

- A. Using long words
- B. Ideas flow logically and are clearly connected
- C. Having many paragraphs
- D. Including many citations

26. What does 'unity' mean in an essay?

- A. Every paragraph discusses a different topic
- B. All parts of the essay relate to one central idea
- C. Using many sources
- D. Having equal paragraph lengths

■ EVIDENCE

27. Which of these is valid evidence in an essay?

- A. Personal opinion only
- B. Statistics, examples, and expert quotes
- C. Emotional appeals alone
- D. Repetition of the thesis

28. What does 'paraphrasing' mean?

- A. Copying a quote exactly
- B. Rewriting someone's idea in your own words
- C. Deleting a sentence
- D. Adding a citation without reading the source

29. What does 'in-text citation' mean?

- A. A footnote at the bottom of the page
- B. A brief reference inside the text indicating the source
- C. The bibliography
- D. A quote at the start of the essay

30. What is a 'bibliography' or 'works cited'?

- A. The introduction
- B. A list of all sources used, placed at the end of the essay
- C. A type of paragraph
- D. The essay outline

31. What is 'plagiarism'?

- A. Writing too many paragraphs
- B. Presenting someone else's work as your own
- C. Using long quotes
- D. Writing in a formal style

- 32.** What is the purpose of using examples in an essay?
- A. To increase word count
 - B. To make abstract ideas concrete and easier to understand
 - C. To replace the thesis
 - D. To avoid citations
- 33.** Which of the following is a primary source?
- A. A textbook summary
 - B. An original research article or first-hand account
 - C. A Wikipedia article
 - D. A blog post
- 34.** What is a secondary source?
- A. Your own writing
 - B. An analysis or interpretation of a primary source
 - C. A personal diary
 - D. An original experiment

■ ARGUMENT

- 35.** Why should a writer acknowledge counterarguments?
- A. To weaken the essay
 - B. To show critical thinking and strengthen credibility
 - C. To confuse the reader
 - D. To add length
- 36.** What is a 'counterargument'?
- A. A supporting argument
 - B. An opposing viewpoint that the writer addresses and refutes
 - C. A type of conclusion
 - D. A grammar mistake
- 37.** What is a 'refutation'?
- A. Agreeing with the counterargument
 - B. Disproving or weakening the counterargument with evidence
 - C. Ignoring opposing views
 - D. Restating the thesis
- 38.** What makes an argument 'convincing'?
- A. Using emotional language only
 - B. Logical reasoning supported by credible evidence
 - C. Repeating the thesis many times
 - D. Using the most words
- 39.** What does 'developing an argument' mean?
- A. Repeating the thesis
 - B. Expanding a point with reasoning, evidence, and analysis
 - C. Writing longer sentences
 - D. Using more transition words
- 40.** What does 'critical thinking' mean in essay writing?
- A. Writing very long paragraphs

- B. Analyzing, questioning, and evaluating ideas rather than just describing them
- C. Using many sources
- D. Writing quickly

■ LANGUAGE

41. Which tense is most commonly used in academic essays?
- A. Future simple
 - B. Simple past
 - C. Simple present
 - D. Past perfect
42. What should you avoid in a formal essay?
- A. Long sentences
 - B. Contractions (e.g., don't, can't)
 - C. Topic sentences
 - D. Thesis statements
43. What is the difference between formal and informal essay language?
- A. Formal uses slang; informal uses citations
 - B. Formal uses academic language; informal is conversational
 - C. They are the same
 - D. Informal has more paragraphs
44. What does 'objective tone' mean in essay writing?
- A. Writing based on personal feelings
 - B. Presenting ideas without personal bias, based on facts
 - C. Using very simple language
 - D. Writing in first person only
45. Which first-person pronoun is generally avoided in formal essays?
- A. They
 - B. We
 - C. I
 - D. One
46. What is 'register' in writing?
- A. The number of words
 - B. The level of formality appropriate for the audience and purpose
 - C. The citation style
 - D. The paragraph length

■ WRITING PROCESS

47. What is 'brainstorming'?
- A. Proofreading the final draft
 - B. Freely generating ideas before writing
 - C. Choosing a citation style
 - D. Writing the introduction
48. What does 'revising' an essay mean?

- A. Spell-checking only
- B. Improving content, structure, and clarity after the first draft
- C. Deleting the conclusion
- D. Rewriting the title

49. What is 'proofreading'?

- A. Adding more arguments
- B. Checking for grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors
- C. Rewriting the thesis
- D. Choosing a topic

50. What is the correct order of the writing process?

- A. Draft → Brainstorm → Revise → Proofread
- B. Proofread → Draft → Outline → Brainstorm
- C. Brainstorm → Outline → Draft → Revise → Proofread
- D. Outline → Proofread → Draft → Brainstorm

51. What does 'audience' mean in essay writing?

- A. The number of paragraphs
- B. Who will read the essay
- C. The essay's topic
- D. The writing style

52. What is the difference between revising and proofreading?

- A. They are the same thing
- B. Revising improves content; proofreading fixes surface errors
- C. Proofreading comes before revising
- D. Revising only checks spelling

53. What is a 'draft'?

- A. The final, polished version
- B. A preliminary version of the essay to be revised
- C. A type of outline
- D. The bibliography

54. What does 'word count' awareness help a writer do?

- A. Choose a topic
- B. Meet assignment requirements and manage depth of content
- C. Pick a citation style
- D. Write faster

■ ESSAY TYPES

55. Which best describes a 'persuasive essay'?

- A. Describes a place in detail
- B. Tells a personal story
- C. Argues a position and tries to convince the reader
- D. Explains how something works

56. What type of essay explains a process step by step?

- A. Narrative
- B. Expository / Process essay

- C. Persuasive
- D. Comparative

57. What is a 'narrative essay'?

- A. An essay that compares two things
- B. A personal story that conveys a lesson or insight
- C. An argument essay
- D. A scientific report

58. What is the main feature of a 'compare and contrast' essay?

- A. It only lists advantages
- B. It analyzes similarities and differences between two subjects
- C. It argues for one position only
- D. It tells a personal story

59. What is a 'descriptive essay'?

- A. An essay that argues a point
- B. An essay that uses vivid detail to paint a picture for the reader
- C. An essay that explains a process
- D. An essay that compares two things

60. What is an 'argumentative essay'?

- A. A story about personal experience
- B. An essay that takes a clear stance on a controversial issue and defends it
- C. An essay that only describes
- D. A creative writing piece

ANSWER KEY

Q#	Ans	Q#	Ans	Q#	Ans
1	B	21	B	41	C
2	C	22	C	42	B
3	B	23	C	43	B
4	B	24	B	44	B
5	B	25	B	45	C
6	B	26	B	46	B
7	C	27	B	47	B
8	C	28	B	48	B
9	B	29	B	49	B
10	B	30	B	50	C
11	B	31	B	51	B
12	A	32	B	52	B
13	B	33	B	53	B
14	C	34	B	54	B
15	B	35	B	55	C
16	B	36	B	56	B

17	B	37	B	57	B
18	B	38	B	58	B
19	B	39	B	59	B
20	C	40	B	60	B

End of Quiz — Good Luck!