Essays

IN A SENTENCE An essay is an argument on paper.

LAYOUT TEMPLATE

Essays

Use this skeleton to plan your essay. The numbers follow the order of the argument.

1 Title

the question, or a clear statement

2 Introduction

· hook + context
· define key terms
· thesis: your answer

3 Body paragraph 1

point · evidence · explain · link

4 Body paragraph 2

point · evidence · explain · link

5 Counterargument + rebuttal

the other side, taken seriously + your response

6 Conclusion

· restate thesis in new words
· sum up main points
· final thought

My plan

BEFORE YOU WRITE

Who is reading?

Where will it appear?

Why are you writing?

HOW TO USE IT

The numbers show the order your reader meets each part.

Use the template to plan, not to copy. Adapt it to your reader, context and purpose.

Want more?

The full chapter in It's Alwrite! has the conventions, useful language, an annotated model and a checklist.