



ESL 340: Intro the Essays + Quiz

Week 11, Thur. 4/5/18

Todd Windisch, Spring 2018

Don't forget to sign-in!

Daily Bookkeeping

• ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- *Phrasal Verb Quiz 3 TUE May 1*
 - *“run out of” – “write down”*

▪ TODAY’S AGENDA:

1. Intro to Writing
2. Quiz



• HOMEWORK:

- *Complete Adding Specific Details worksheet (if not completed in class)*
- *Read “At 13, is Jordan Romero too young to climb Mount Everest” from the Writing a Persuasive Essay packet given in class*
 - *Be prepared to discuss on Tuesday*
 - *What is YOUR opinion? Do you agree with Jordan’s parents?*

Remind App



- I use the Remind App to make class announcements
- Follow these instructions to sign-up for class announcements that will be texted to you automatically
 - *You do NOT need to download the Remind App, but you can if you want to SEND messages back to me*

❖ *Answer any questions that follow*

Phone number:

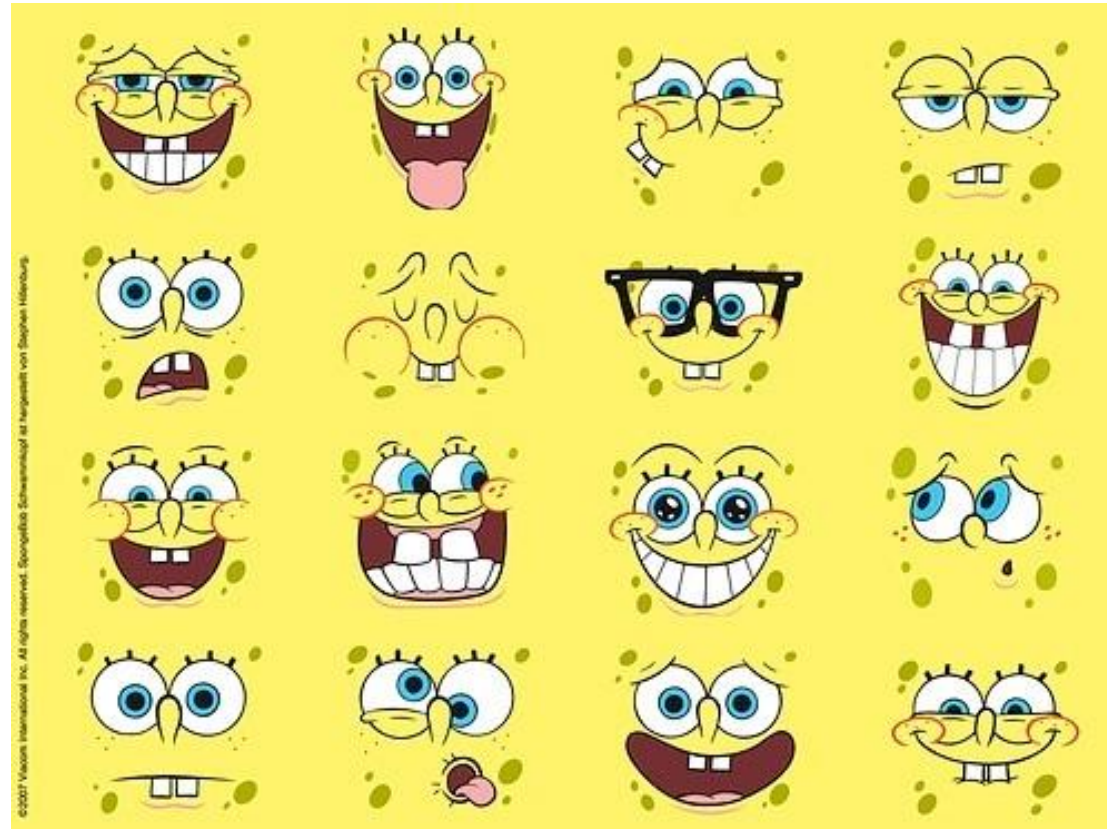
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Message:

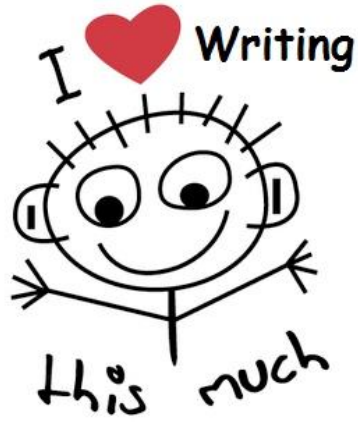
@esl340s

Attitudes Toward Writing

You have accumulated many thoughts and feelings about writing.



For some of you, these thoughts are positive.



For others, these thoughts are negative.



It is important for you to take an honest look about how you feel about writing because **how you feel** about writing ***affects*** your writing.



I like to write. I believe that writing is helpful to me both in school and for the rest of my life. Writing for me is fun. My habit is to write poems, and when I start writing, it's hard for me to stop. Writing makes me think, and it helps me develop my ideas and put them into words.

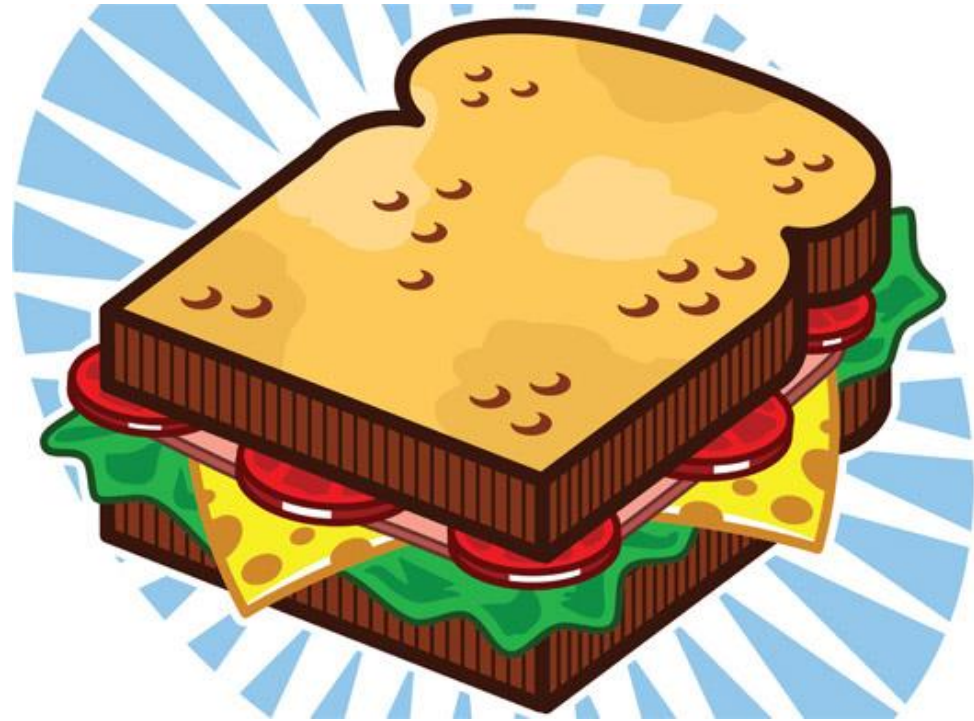
I have mixed feelings about writing. Sometimes I like to write to my friends. It seems like I have a million things to write about. But sometimes I hate to write, and those times are usually when I'm writing an essay or something for work. When I want to write something, I have trouble getting my thoughts together and putting them down on paper. When I write, I have to think about so many things, it makes me feel like giving up halfway through.

Discussion

- Discuss with a partner your feelings about writing; use the questions below
 1. How do you feel about writing in English? What about in your native language? Why do you feel that way?
 2. What do you think makes good writing?
 3. Do you like to read? What do you like to read?
 4. What do you think are your best and worst skills in English (speaking, listening, reading, or writing)?

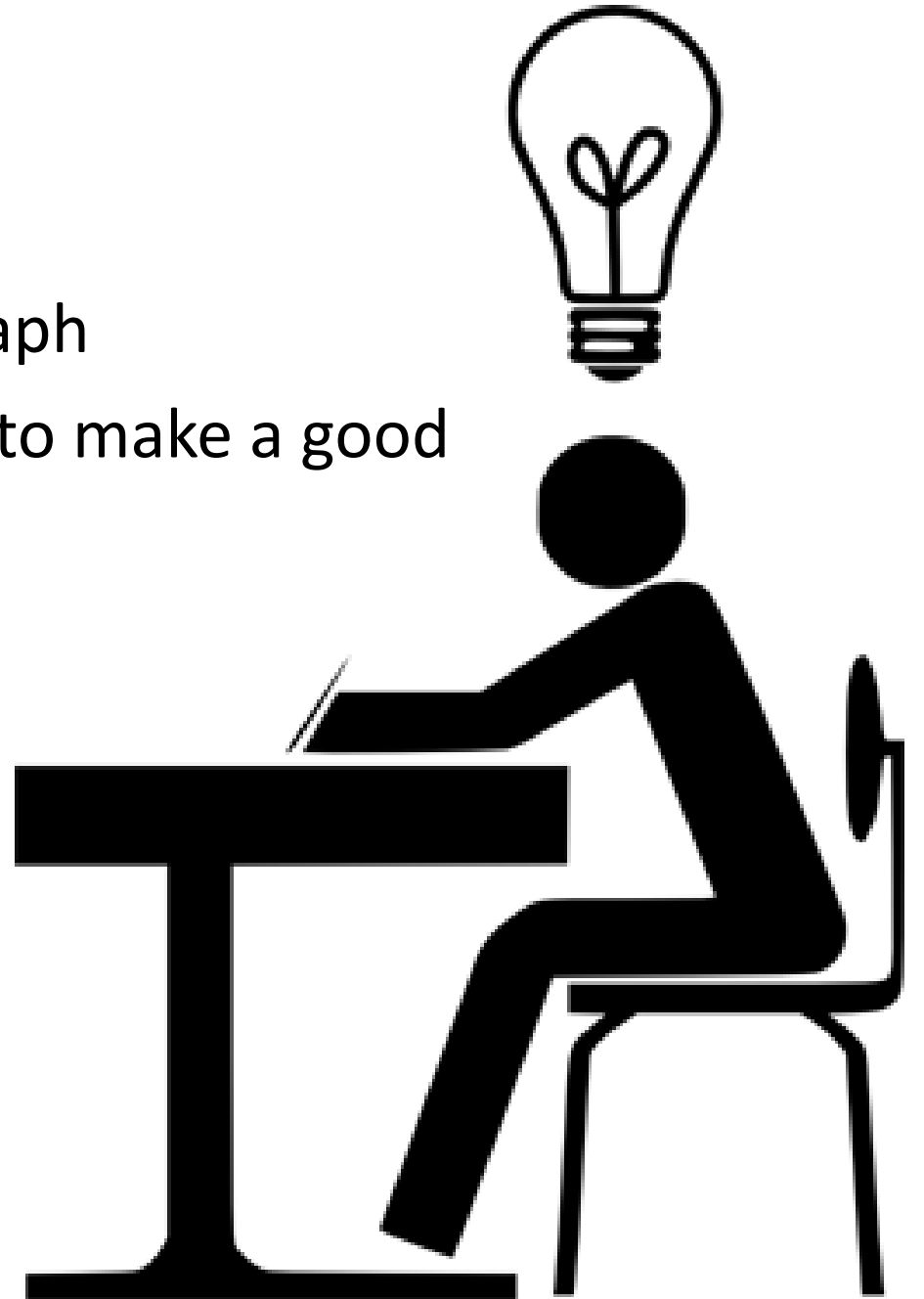
Reviewing Paragraph Structure

- What are the three parts of a paragraph?
- **Topic Sentence**
- **Supporting Details**
- **Conclusion**



Worksheet

- Let's look at an example of a good paragraph
- Then, can you put the sentences in order to make a good paragraph?



My Name

My name is Todd Windisch, and I really like my name. My mom and dad chose this name because it was the only one that they could agree on. I was almost named Preston, and I'm glad my dad didn't like that name because I prefer Todd. Todd means "fox" in old English, and I like that it's simple to pronounce and write. I wouldn't want any other name.

Topic/Controlling Idea

- The **topic** is the general idea the writer is presenting
- The **controlling idea** is the writer's opinion, emotion, or specific idea about the topic
 - My flight on Breeze Airlines was very enjoyable.
 - *What's the topic? What's the comment?*
 - I love traveling throughout California.
 - *What's the topic? What's the comment?*

More Topic Sentences

- What's the topic? What's the comment?
 1. Smoking is dangerous for several reasons.
 2. I have three favorite pastimes on weekends.
 3. Ms. Jenkins, my writing instructor last semester, was a great teacher.
 4. It is not easy to be a good parent.
 5. Small cars offer many benefits.
 6. When a person gets married, he or she needs to accept new responsibilities.

Better Topic Sentences

- A topic sentence should be specific, but it should not include a lot of detail (**save the detail for the support!**)
- Is this a good topic sentence?
 - Pollution is a problem.
 - *How can we make it better?*



Practice

- Study the following pairs of topic sentences. Which one is better? Why?
 - Divorce creates problems for parents and children.
 - When their parents divorce, children often feel insecure.
- New Orleans is an interesting place to visit.
 - The French Quarter in New Orleans has a quaint European charm.
- Walking is good for your heart.
 - Exercise is good for you.

Practice

- Study the following pairs of topic sentences. Which one is better? Why?
 - Computers are more important now than ever before.
 - Computers make revising an essay easy.

 - My parents have taught me to be persistent.
 - My parents have had a great influence on me.

Supporting Details

- Give examples/reasons/facts/details about the topic



Being More Specific

- How do you be more detailed?
 - Use more specific verbs (raced vs. drove, commented vs. said, etc.)
 - Use adjectives (What kind of sky? What kind of car?)
 - Use names
 - Use grammar (complex and compound sentences)

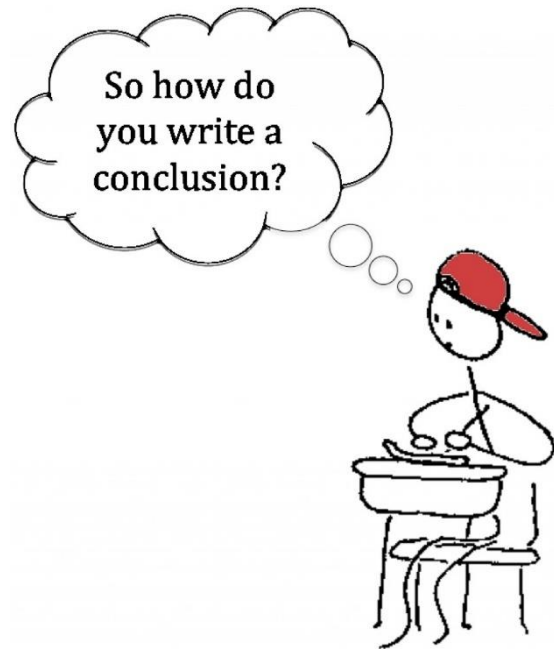
Practice

- Handout
 - How can you make these sentences more specific/interesting?
 - Change the underlined word to something more detailed.
- Example: I like Korean pop music and American country music.



Conclusion

- Summarizes the main idea of the paragraph or offers a prediction/suggestion



The Conclusion Sentence

- A conclusion ties together the entire composition and gives closure
- When I reach the last sentence of your paragraph, *I should know that the paragraph is finished without looking below for more*
- Usually the conclusion is:
 1. A summary of the main idea or main points of the paragraph
 2. A comment (opinion, prediction, suggestion) about the main idea

Paragraph Format

- Essential elements to remember about the **FORMAT** of a paragraph
 - Make a title
 - Ident the first line
 - Keep margins on both sides
 - Connect ALL the sentences together – do not start a new line when you start a new sentence

Lastname 1

Firstname Lastname

Instructor's Name

Course Number

16 February 2016

Center Title, Do Not Bold or Underline

Created by Kirby Rideout of Collin County Community College, this is a template for formatting a research paper in MLA format. The paper has one-inch margins all around. Each page has a header of last name and page number. The paper will be double-spaced throughout, no extra space between sections or paragraphs. The entire paper, including the heading and title, needs to be in the same type and size of font. This template uses Times New Roman 12pt font. Because it is easy to read, this font is definitely appropriate for college essays. Make sure that the essay is left aligned, not fully justified. One space between sentences is standard; however, double-spacing between sentences is okay. Follow your instructor's preference in spacing and be consistent. Hit the enter key only once at the end of each paragraph.

In the MLA format, you document your research in parenthetical citations. This allows you to "acknowledge your sources by keying brief parenthetical citations in your text to an alphabetical list of works that appears at the end of the paper" (Gibaldi 142). Notice that in this brief citation the period goes after the parenthesis. The information in parenthesis should be as brief as possible. You will use the author's last name or a shortened title for unsigned works. If you used the key information (author's last name or the title of an unsigned work) in your text, do not repeat it in the parenthesis. Gibaldi explains:

Titles

- Every composition needs a title
- Here are some rules to remember:
 - **Make sure your title relates to the main idea of your composition**
 - **Center it!**
 - **Capitalize the first word and the important words of the title (nouns, adjectives, verbs, & adverbs)!**
 - **Do not use a period after a title**
 - **Do not underline the title**

What's Wrong?

- What's wrong with these titles?
 1. my biggest mistake ever
 - My Biggest Mistake Ever
 2. My Dreams For The Future
 - My Dreams for the Future
 3. My first and last trip to Disney World
 - My First and Last Trip to Disney World
 4. A Terrifying Midnight Boat Ride.
 - A Terrifying Midnight Boat Ride

Composition Structure

- You can really write an essay however you want as long as it's organized
- To make things simple, **most essays have three parts:**
 - Introduction
 - Body
 - Conclusion

Introduction

- The introduction consists of three important things:
 - **A hook** to grab the reader's attention
 - **General or background information** about the topic
 - **A thesis statement** to introduce the body of the essay

Body

- The body of your essay is the largest part of your essay
- It is usually 2-3 paragraphs
- Each paragraph includes:
 - **A topic sentence**
 - **Details/examples/reasons (supporting sentences)**
 - **A conclusion**

Conclusion

- The conclusion summarizes the main points of the essay in different words
- It is usually the shortest part of the essay
- It is similar to the introduction; it includes:
 - A restatement of your thesis
 - Your final sentence is usually a **summary, prediction, recommendation, or interesting idea** to leave the reader with

Correct Essay Order

- Look at the essay that the teacher has given you
- It is in the incorrect order – knowing the basics about essay structure, make a guess about the order of the paragraphs
- Then, we will analyze it together

