

Just Run With It...

Explanatory writing explains an idea, process or event that has happened, will happen or could possibly happen. This type of writing is fact-based and does not reflect the writer's opinion on the topic.

DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps provided to draft an explanatory essay.

1. Choose a topic (idea process or event) to explain which you think that your class or teacher may not already be aware of.
2. If your topic is a process, list the steps. If it is an idea, list its components and their origin and/or ramifications.
3. Put your ideas in a logical order.
4. Choose a few signal words to help reinforce the order. (First, next, then, finally, etc.)
5. Write a topic sentence that introduces the topic.
6. Now write an introductory sentence to go before the topic sentence, to grab the reader's attention.
7. Complete your essay by adding whatever details are needed in order for a reader to understand what it is you are trying to explain.
8. Write a summarizing sentence for a conclusion.



REMEMBER:

Prewriting or brainstorming will help you to develop and organize your ideas.

Draft your essay. Your first draft is not the same as your final draft. When writing your first draft, write quickly, follow your outline, but also allow yourself the freedom to explore additional ideas as they occur to you.

Revise your first draft. If you have thought of new things during the drafting process, revise as necessary to ensure your essay is still focused and organized in an optimum way.

Edit as necessary for punctuation, word usage, sentence structure, etc.