

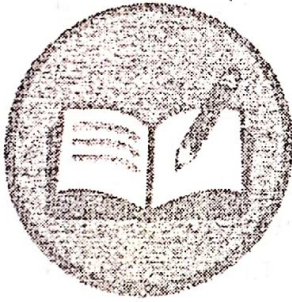
AYDI EST.

Open Learning & Translation

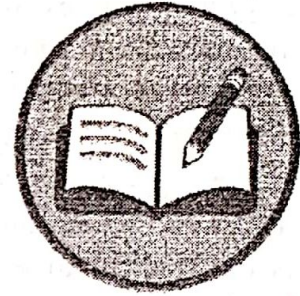
2021-2022

Fourth Year

Second Term



P.1



L1+L2+L3

Essay II

04.12.2021

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أ. وعد الزعبي



EssayII 4.P1

AYDI 2022/ T2

HELLO EVERYONE!

What is an essay?

Student: It consists of multiple paragraphs. It has an Introduction, body paragraphs and a conclusion.

Instructor: This is the structure of the essay. In essays we choose a specific subject to talk about, with the structure that my friend spoke about. It's organized ideas about a specific subject. It consists of an Introduction, the body paragraphs and a conclusion.. What do we write in an introduction?

Student: A thesis statement.

Instructor: Yes, a thesis statement, to introduce and lay the ground for our ideas. And in the developing paragraphs (body paragraphs), we discuss only one topic in each paragraph. Don't discuss more than one topic ever. You'll get zero if you discuss two ideas in one body paragraph.

What do we have in the conclusion?

Student: We summarize the ideas.

Student: It's the rewriting of the introduction in a different way.

Instructor: So to write a summary of the previous ideas is correct, but there are other types of conclusions.

Student: Restating the thesis statement.

Student: Or we give our opinion.

Instructor: Or suggestions for further analysis. But for us, it is enough to rewrite what you have written in the essay with different phrasing. This is the traditional way for writing an essay. We don't want to make things harder for you.

The first thing that I pay attention to in your essay is your English. If you have bad English, you will not pass the exam, especially when it comes to grammar and spelling. I can forgive some spelling mistakes, but I cannot tolerate too many spelling mistakes. So the first thing to pay attention to is to write in good English, both in grammar and spelling...
What does the English sentence consist of?

- Subject + Verb + Complement

And for advanced students such as yourselves, it consists of:

- Subject + Predicate

The predicate is the verbs and the rest of the sentence.

Predicate: everything in a standard declarative sentence except the subject.

So what is the subject?

Student: A noun or a pronoun or a proper noun.

Instructor: A proper noun is like a name, like Khaled and Ali, but it's a noun. The subject is usually the noun. The subject is usually what we are writing about.

For example: Who wrote the essay? 'Rania wrote the essay'. So she's the one who did the action...

What is on the table here? The bottle is on the table. So here we have simple subjects.

There are also more complicated subjects: compound subjects. They have modifiers, articles, or adjectives that describe the noun. For example: a beautiful girl, a plastic bottle, a well-educated man. So these are more complicated subjects. We even have complicated subjects that contain a clause, but I don't think you are going to need it because you are writing simple essays. Keep your sentences simple. Don't over-complicate your sentences. Always write in simple short sentences.

In the paragraph you'll need linking words. For example if I want to write a paragraph that deals with results, what are some linking words I could use? Consequently, as a result... So in your essay you need to use some adverbs in order to make it more comprehensible. For example, if a sentence develops the previous sentence, I could say: furthermore, moreover.. If the sentence is a result of the previous sentence I could write: consequently, as a result... So always keep your sentences simple and connected. But of course not all of them. We don't put an adverb at the beginning of every sentence. Maybe you'll use only one adverb in the whole paragraph. Don't use too many. Don't use more than is needed.

There are three main types of linking words: conjunctions, transitions, and prepositions.

-Conjunctions. The most important conjunctions are because, as, since, and so. " ...

-Transitions. The most important transitions are therefore, consequently, and as a result. ...

-Prepositions.

What are the types of verbs in English? We have **linking verbs**, and **action verbs**. Can you give me an example of a linking verb?

Student: Like verbs to be... and seem..

Instructor: Yes. Verbs to be are linking verbs. Like when I say: 'She is beautiful'. The verb 'is' is linking the adjective 'beautiful' with the subject 'she'. But it doesn't describe an action.

What are some examples of action verbs? Plays, lives.. They describe

an action. They don't just link between the subject and the rest of the sentence..

In "She seems tired", I am describing her state of being. Not her action. So 'seems' is a linking verb.

So another category of linking verbs is " Verbs of feelings", like: appear, like, love, seem.

I don't think this is new to you. You are fourth-year student. I expect you are good at grammar.

If I want to write an essay about **smoking**, what do you think the essay will talk about?

Student: The negative and harmful effects of smoking.

Instructor: It's all negative?

Student: There are no benefits. There are benefits for the companies, not for us. And for farmers I guess.

Instructor: And for individuals? Are you a smoker?

Student: Yes.

Instructor: So why do you smoke?

Student: It started as a bad habit and continued for 25 years.

Instructor: It releases your tension?

Student: I convince myself that it does so.

Instructor: So you have a nice time for a brief moment. I don't know, for one minute. Two minutes?

Student: About five minutes.

Instructor: So for five minutes your mind is free. You're only smoking.

Student: It is a habit, and now I enjoy it because when I'm working or doing homework or something, and then I smoke, I feel that I am more fresh.

Instructor: Fresh!

Student: But when I don't smoke, I don't know, I feel that I am confused...

Student: It's addictive.

Instructor: So we are going to ask you to write an essay that speaks about the advantages and disadvantages of smoking. So what is my introduction going to be? The introduction gives you the thesis statement. It's the most general idea of the essay. So what will my first sentence be? It's better to state your thesis statement at the very beginning, but it's okay to write it at the end of the introduction paragraph. It's up to you. It depends on your style. So if I want to write about smoking, For example, I

would start by saying that smoking prevails in the world. It is all around the world. (Prevail: be widespread). And there is a lot of discussion about its bad effects, but one could deduce a good side to smoking in regards to the smoker. So in my essay I'm going to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of smoking... So it's up to you. Just write full sentences, then give your thesis statement. If you believe it's all bad, you also can say it's all bad.

If I want to write about a vacation. Vacation is all about fun and entertainment, isn't it? So it could be a descriptive essay for example.. But the essay about smoking is more complex. It's argumentative. It talks about advantages and disadvantages. Though I don't believe we're going to write a lot of things about the benefits. I think most of the benefits are false. They are in the mind of the smoker.

Student: It's only beneficial to the farmers. Because they gain good money from it.

Instructor: But there are also economic advantages. For example, it provides jobs to a lot of people.

Student: The Cuban cigars are the most expensive cigars in the world. They play a major role in the Cuban economy. That's one advantage of smoking, but I can't think of anything else.

Instructor: I would discuss the alleged advantages of smoking to the smoker and the economy in one paragraph, then I would move to the disadvantages. What are the disadvantages of smoking. What's the most important disadvantage?

Student: That it's bad for health.

Instructor: So the topic sentence would say that. Then we'd say it causes heart diseases for example, what's the next paragraph going to be about?

Student: About negative smoking.

Instructor: If you're going to talk about a lot of health issues that come from smoking, don't write them all in one paragraph. So write one paragraph, and in the next paragraph, you don't need a topic sentence. You are just elaborating your idea... I don't advise you to write long paragraphs. Don't write more than six sentences in one paragraph. So if after six sentences you still need to elaborate on the point, write another paragraph. It's easier for you.. Because when I'm correcting your papers, if there's a long paragraph, I'm sure it would be distracting. So if I'm talking about smoking, the health issues, I believe, would take two paragraphs, because there are too many health issues. What is something that has to do with the economy and is related to health issues at the same time? It causes

chronic health conditions, like high blood pressure.

You can write essays about plagiarism, the internet, the hardships of living in Syria.

As a practice, you can write an introduction and two body paragraphs and a conclusion. It's up to you; you can write it so I correct it and give you feedback.

Essay:

It's a piece of writing in which I want to inform the reader about a subject, an idea, a thesis. The form of my essay depends on my purpose. Do I want to tell a story that changed my life? Do I want to persuade the reader to buy traveling tickets? Do I want the reader to listen to my viewpoint? Do I want to sell an idea?

The Narrative Essay:

A narrative essay narrates a story. For example, I had a really bad day yesterday. So what do you expect I'm going to say in the essay? I'm going to start from the very beginning. In the morning, I woke up late. I didn't have good shoes to go outside. It was raining, and there was no electricity, so I couldn't iron my scarf. The traffic was a nightmare, and when I was going back home, I tripped and fell down. So **when I narrate a story, I'm following a chronological order**, that is, I start from early in the morning, and I go step by step according to the timeline. **This is the traditional way** actually. This is the traditional way we write essays, but it's not the case in post modernism.

Student: We have flashbacks?

Instructor: Yes. But for you, it's the ordinary fashion. For you, as students, I expect you to have a chronological order but the fact is that I accept a non-chronological timeline, because in post-modernism, we don't have such rigid rules. You have more liberty, as long as it makes sense.

The Descriptive Essay:

It describes something. For example, if I want to describe an event; what happens every Friday in my family.

How can I make it interesting for the reader?

Students: With adjectives.

Instructor: Yes. Adjectives. What else? I have to use details. I have to prove the reader with a mental image of my family, a picture. Otherwise, it would be just words put together. For example, what types of Fridays do you have in your house?

Student: There is a delicious breakfast.

Instructor: For example, you could describe the dish of Ful, which is one of the traditional things to have on Friday. You can describe the ingredients; the color of the tomato; the beautiful green color of parsley; you can describe the smell, for example, the smell of the lemon, along with the garlic and the olive oil, so that the reader can actually live the experience (vicariously). Rather than just saying that you had Ful, and then moving on. The art of writing is about making the reader engaged with your words.

(vicariously: experienced or felt by watching, hearing about, or reading about someone else rather than by doing something yourself).

The Descriptive Essay:

It is an easy type of essay actually. You can describe an event. You can describe a place.

With the Persuasive Essay, the aim is to sell an idea (convince you of the idea). First of all, for example, I tell the benefits of this idea, what life would be like with my idea, and what life is going to be like without my idea, in order to convince you, and persuade you.

The Expository Essay:

An expository essay is an essay that communicates factual information. To write such an essay, the writer must have an extensive knowledge about the subject. It is completely based on facts, stats, examples, etc. So this essay just states facts. It's not about opinions and emotions. And the **contrast essay** is a type of expository essay.

Order:

I can order my essay either according to the **chronological order**, or according to space (the **spatial order**). The spatial order has to do with locations: behind, left, right. So if you're describing a person, the order of description can start from the head to the toes. I don't necessarily follow this order, but it's an easy order for the teacher to follow when correcting the exams. So it's a good one for you. I advise all of you to be logical in your arrangement. Imagine I am in front of you, and you're taking me step by step. It would be easy to read your essay, and you are going to pass. For example, one of your colleagues wrote a very well-ordered essay, and even though it had many flaws, but I was happy to read it, so she passed. So this is the way you should write for all your audience.

Student: When we describe someone, should we start with the personality and then describe what he looks like?

Instructor: No, actually it's better to begin with the physical

appearance, and then move on to the personality.

So when we describe a person, there are some words that you need to use in the essay. What are they? What is the vocabulary that we're going to use?

Student: Looks like...

Student: Fat, thin...

Student: Height...

Student: Age...

Instructor: His weight... So these are some vocabulary that we must use in such an essay when it comes to the physical appearance. With regards to the personality, what are some of the words that we could use?

Student: Smart.

Student: Silly.

Instructor: Now, if I am describing a place, what do I need to talk about?

Student: Its location.

Student: Its size.

Instructor: Or the environment.

The Cause and Effect Essay:

The cause-and-effect essay is a form of argumentative essay that details the effect relationships between two subjects. Writers need to be sure that the causes and effects they describe are logically connected. For example, we have the internet, what are the effects of the internet? It has changed the way we live, in both positive and negative ways. What are some of the positive effects of the internet? Communication, education. What are some of the negative effects? Fake news. The overflow of information can be noisy, and there is some bad information. So the cause is the internet, and those are some of its positive and negative effects.

Student: What is the structure of the cause and effect essay? Do you write causes and effects in the three body paragraphs?

Instructor: No. You discuss the link between the cause and effect in the introduction, and in the three body paragraphs, you talk about the different effects. The topic sentences will be about the major effects.

Student: I have a question related to the thesis statement, should we include both the positive and the negative effects?

Instructor: It depends on the question I'm asking. For example, I could ask only about the positive effects. You must read the question well, and you will know how to answer.

Student: In the exam, the essay is only cause, or only effect, or both of

them?

Instructor: Both. I will make my question specific. If I want to mention certain advantages, I will tell you. If I want you to mention both advantages and negatives, I will tell you.

Student: When it comes to the order of the body paragraphs, I read somewhere that we should start with the least important paragraph

Instructor: We are going to discuss the order of the body paragraphs.

So the spatial order has to do with places. We also have the **climactic order**, and the **reverse-climactic order**. This answers your question. So what is a climactic order? It's like the plot of a story. In novels, we start from the least important action, until we reach the climax, which is the most important incident of the story. So we are building the intensity of our essay as we go along, and this is suitable for narrative essays, isn't it? If I had a bad day, I'm going to start from the least important incident until I reach the highlight of my bad day, for example. So I'm building up the intensity. Whatever way of ordering you choose is correct, as long as it follows a **pattern** نمط. So your argument must be systematic. For example, don't follow the climactic order in the first body paragraph, and then jump to the reverse climactic order in the second body paragraph. Be consistent. By systematic. There is no right or wrong in writing actually. A beautifully ordered writing is correct. Follow one order. For example, in the comparison essay, if you're mentioning bad things and good things in one body paragraph, you have to do the same in the other body paragraphs. Make sure that all the body paragraphs follow the same strategy.

So the reverse climactic order is when we start with the most important thing. This is true of the news. In the news, the headline mentions the most important thing about what happened. So if you missed the rest of the news, it's okay. I believe, if you're writing about smoking, the bad effects of smoking should follow the same pattern; you should start with the most serious effects on the health.

The process order is like when I teach you how to cook, or how to make a cake. This is one of the easiest types. In my first year in English literature in Damascus University, we had to write an essay about making a cake. It was an easy one.

The next type of order is the **classification order**. If we turned this lecture into an essay, it would be an example of a classification essay. So in the classification essay, you list several categories, and you introduce each category to the reader. This is an example of a classification paragraph that talks about the different kinds of essay:

There are four classic modes of writing. Each mode may take different forms. The first is Expository writing, which has the purpose of explaining something, or giving directions. The second mode is persuasive writing, which has the purpose of convincing the reader of something. The third mode is descriptive writing, which has the purpose of providing vivid details so that the reader can picture what is being presented. An essay that depicts the Grand Canyon is an example. The fourth mode is a narrative writing, which has the purpose of presenting an experience in the form of a story. A personal account of a vacation is an example of narrative writing.

Did you notice how after "expository writing" there is a comma? Punctuation affects understanding. And after "persuasive writing", there is a comma as well. So there is a parallel structure. This paragraph is well written. It's easy to read because it is written clearly.

The comparison and contrast order:

In this pattern of organization, the item is discussed in detail, before the next item is mentioned, in order that each item gets its own block of writing.

What's the meaning of block? It means I have to give space to each point.

You have to give each point its block.

We have to **indent** the paragraph, which means: you have to put a space before the first line of the paragraph. And you have to do that in each paragraph, including the introduction, the body paragraphs, and the conclusion paragraph... We've had colleagues who failed the exam because of indentation.

In the written form of many languages, an indentation or indent is an empty space at the beginning of a line to signal the start of a new paragraph.

Indentation for Paragraphs



Title of Book Here

This book entails information on how to successfully utilize Microsoft work to its fullest potential. There are endless features and shortcuts, some see, and some unseen which enable you to work smarter and more efficiently. These gems can be easily acquired with a little effort, and perhaps a cheat sheet near your computer. Once these tips and shortcuts become second nature, start working on your next.

How to title the essay? The main idea of the essay should be in the title, and the words in it have to be capitalized, except the prepositions.

What is the meaning of a concrete object? It is something that we can see, we can touch, we can perceive with our senses, like a natural scene for example. Abstraction is about ideas, not about objects, like for example experiences.

Student: Can we say tangible object, instead of concrete?

Instructor: Yes, it's the same thing.

If I gave you a topic, what is the first thing that you are going to do?

Student: Write a general statement.

Instructor: If I asked you to describe an event that changed your life, what is the first thing that you are going to do in the exam? What will your methodology be? First of all, what is the event? You have to tell me what the event is. So that's your thesis statement. Next, you are going to describe the context of the event, when it happened, and so on. You'd be brainstorming, and listing ideas.

Somebody tell me an idea, so we can practice.

Student: Having a child.

Instructor: So the first thing that you're going to say in the introduction, the phrase with which you are going to catch my attention, what is it going to be? It's about an event that changes your life, so what is the first sentence that you are going to write? You have to start from the general, and then move to the specific. The first sentence could be something like: There are few things that change a person's life as much as having a baby... Now in the thesis statement, what are you going to say about having a baby? You're going to say how your life has changed. One of the body paragraphs could be about the increase in responsibilities. Now you have someone to take care of all the time. You have to feed him. You have to change his diapers. You have more financial responsibilities... What else? What could the second body paragraph be about?

Student: The joy I have when he laughs, when he smiles.

Instructor: Yes, he adds joy. Having a child is a joy. So what are the delightful experiences that the child provides us with?

Student: When he says his first word.

Student: When he takes his first steps.

Instructor: Yes. So we are going to mention the joyful moments of this child. What are the bad things that come with having a child?

Student: Sleepless nights.

Student: No social life.

Instructor: Yes, the child actually imprisons you.

Student: When you read such an essay, you can know whether the writer is a woman or a man, because a woman will be imprisoned by the child, while a man won't.

Instructor: Well this is the price you have to pay as a woman.

Student: Even Prince Williams takes care of his son George.

Instructor: Well, he's a prince. He doesn't have to work in order to put food on the table. So now that we listed the good sides and the bad sides, we'll go to the conclusion. We're going to restate what we have said.

There are good moments and bad moments, but it's overall a life changing event. That's the essay. It's easy, right?

Student: Should we write about it in the next few weeks?

Instructor: You are welcome to do so.

Thank You

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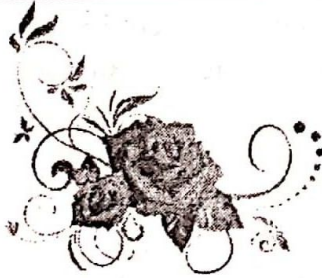


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مؤسسة العائدي للخدمات الطلابية

Group:

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