



Learn English: Global Issues with Gerund and Infinitive Functions

Writing Tips

An **expository essay** is a type of essay in which a writer investigates a topic by evaluating the evidence to explain or describe the topic. The purpose of an **expository essay** is to provide information in a clear, focused, objective, and balanced manner without trying to prove a point or give the writer's personal opinion. When writing this type of essay, it is essential to avoid writing in the first or second person. Stay neutral and objective.

Compare and contrast expository essays compare the similarities between two selected subjects, and contrast the differences in those subjects. For example, writers for car magazines often compare and contrast two types of cars by explaining the features of each car. They do not give an opinion but rather let the reader form an opinion based on the facts presented.

In a **cause-and-effect expository essay**, the writer tries to explain why something happened. This essay is focused on the reasons why something happened and its possible effects. For example, an essay can explain why there is political instability in a country and the potential long-term impact on the people living in that country.

The **problem-and-solution expository essay** is very similar to the cause-and-effect essay in that the writer explains a problem in detail and the reasons the problem exists. After explaining the causes of a problem, the writer then presents possible solutions for that problem.

The **definition expository essay** is an essay in which the writer gives a complete description of a word, phrase, or idea. The purpose of this essay is to explain in detail what the terms mean. For example, a writer could explain in detail the term food security and give details such as who coined the term, how it is used, and why it is important to know what the term means.