



# The Internet and Technology

Descriptive Essay

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# Introduction

## **Assumptions 1**

Since new technologies lead to new forms of information, visual literacy is significantly used to share information. Meanings describing social and cultural issues are constructed visually. In social media, for example, people communicate and share ideas through the combination of semiotic modes; verbal and visual. This leads to the importance of visual literacy as well as verbal literacy.

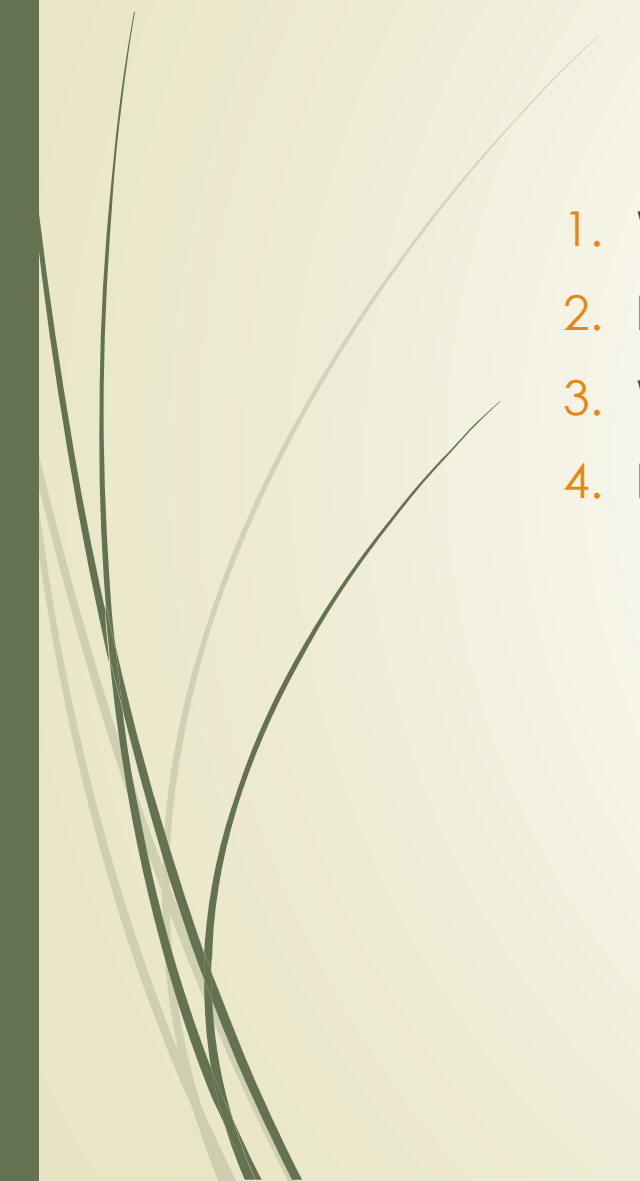


# Prepare to Read

1. How much time do you spend on the internet every week?
2. What do you use the internet for?
  - (1) Look at photos
  - (2) Listen to radio programs
  - (3) Search for information
  - (4) Watch videos or TV
  - (5) Check my bank account
  - (6) Shop online
  - (7) Play games
  - (8) Chat to my friends



# Prepare to watch

1. What does people do with their cell phone?
  2. How do they communicate with others?
  3. What information do they share?
  4. Do social media give a powerful impact on people lives?
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# Inferences Skills



- ▶ Do you think there is any good in social media?
- ▶ Do they have positive and negative impact on our lives?
- ▶ What are the advantages of social media?
- ▶ What are the disadvantages of social media?
- ▶ Have social media changed people's attitudes?
- ▶ In what way are social media taken control over people's attitude?
- ▶ What does the video maker try to say to you?



# Critical Thinking

Positive and negative effects of social media on people

Positive (+)

Negatives (-)





# Academic Writing Skills

## Rhetorical Focus: The Paragraph and the Short Essay

- ▶ Although a short essay is longer than a paragraph, it has three basic parts: **an introduction**, **a body**, and **a conclusion**.
- ▶ **Introduction:** the introductory paragraph is the first paragraph of a short essay. It contains a topic sentence and thesis statement.
- ▶ **Body paragraph:** a short essay has at least one or two body paragraphs. These develop the idea presented in the introduction.
- ▶ **Conclusion:** the concluding paragraph is the final paragraph and summarizes the idea(s) presented in the short essay





# Academic Writing Skills

## Rhetorical Focus: The Paragraph and the Short Essay

### Paragraph

- ▶ The topic sentence states the topic
- ▶ The topic sentence states the controlling idea
- ▶ The supporting sentences of the paragraph support the idea in the topic sentence
- ▶ The concluding sentence summarizes the idea in the topic sentence

### Essay

- ▶ The introductory paragraph states the topic
- ▶ The thesis statement states the controlling idea
- ▶ The body paragraph support the idea in the thesis statement. Each body paragraph has a topic sentence
- ▶ The essay conclusion summarizes the idea in the thesis statement.



# Short Essay Organization

An effective essay

- ▶ **Introduction**

A **hook** is an opening sentence that attract the reader's attention.

**The sentences after the hook** give background information necessary to understand the **TOPIC**.

The last sentence in the introduction, **thesis statement**, is very important because it gives the topic and the controlling idea of the entire essay.

- ▶ **Body Paragraph**

The body is paragraph(s) in which the writer **develops** the thesis statement. It begins with a topic sentence followed by supporting details.

- ▶ **Conclusion**

The paragraph **summarizes** or **restates** the main idea of the thesis statement.



# Identifying the Topic

## Test for Topic

Ask yourself:

**“Who or what is the introductory paragraph about?”**

Indicators of the topic:

1. a single word or phrase
2. Not a complete sentence




# A Written Text

Finding a topic in a written text

When you ask yourself, “What is the short essay about?”,

- ▶ The answer can often be found in the title.
- ▶ If not, reading subtitles and headings, or diagrams and/or visual aids (pictures and words in special print, such as bold, italics, or color) may give you more information.
- ▶ Read the introductory paragraph: opening and final.
- ▶ Look for repeated words in a paragraph. It helps to use a pencil to circle or box repeated words and ideas.
- ▶ Look for something mentioned at the beginning of the paragraph and then referred to throughout the paragraph by pronouns or by other words.
- ▶ Look for ideas that are implied, or suggested, in addition to being named.



# This mnemonic (memory trick)

Strategy for finding topics

## FiRST

- ▶ **F** is for subject of the Introductory paragraph
- ▶ **R** is for a Repeated word or phrase
- ▶ **ST** means that all sentences deal with the Same Thing



# Phrasing the Topic

- ▶ Write a single word or phrase. If more than one idea is repeated or referred in an essay, the topic needs to be expressed in a phrase rather than a single word.
- ▶ Strike a balance. Be general enough to include everything discussed but specific enough to exclude what isn't.

The word “**tests**,” for example, covers:

- (1) taking tests,
- (2) creating them, or
- (3) cheating on them.



# Phrasing the Topic

Compare the general and specific topics listed below:

**General:**

tests

broadcasting

**Specific:**

taking essay tests in college

telecommunications policy in China

- ▶ Never write complete sentence.

**Correct:**

tips for essay tests

taking essay tests in college


**Incorrect:**

Learn to take essay tests

There are many essay tests in college.



# Discussion

- ▶ Finding a topic in written text given (additional material)
  - ▶ Finding a topic in media suggested in slide 5
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# Thesis Statement

in which the topic and the controlling idea of the entire essay lay

- Discussion (additional material)
- 



# Descriptive Organization

- ▶ In descriptive essay, a writer uses **details** to tell how a subject looks, sounds, smells, tastes, or feels. The essay should make the reader **feel like responding to what he or she is reading.**



# Brainstorming and Outlining

- ▶ Writing Task

This time you will write a three-paragraph descriptive essay, at minimum, about **the influence of social media**.

- ▶ **Brainstorming idea:** Use T-Chart in slide 7 to think of the influence of social media. Think about the things you know, feel, see, and want when you are experienced with social media.

## Re-Entry Students

Re-Entry students have a positive effect on college students, instructors, and the community. They are called “re-entry” students because they have been out of school for a period of time and have come back. Often students take college courses and then leave school for a variety of reasons: jobs, military training, family obligations, and indecision about careers. No longer are college classes primarily made up of 18-to 20-year-old recent high school graduates. In many colleges, the average age of all students is approaching 30 years. Occasionally a student graduates from college for the first time at the age of 70 years or older. For younger students, re-entry students are often models of dedication and hard work. Returning men and women help set a mature tone in the classroom, and their life experiences add to the enjoyment of class discussions. Instructors often notice improved student interaction in a class with a wide variety of ages and backgrounds. Students who have had careers in the workplace, the military, or as homemakers add a wealth of information and perspective to a class. Finally, the community benefits from better-educated citizens of all ages. Private businesses and government agencies get workers with better skills and the community gets better-informed citizens and voters. When students re-enter college to improve their lives, they also improve the lives of countless others.

Phrase the Topic.

- Write a single word or phrase.
- Strike a balance

## **Understanding thesis statement**

Read the short essay. The thesis statement is missing. Write a thesis statement on the lines provided. Make sure your thesis states a topic and a controlling idea. Compare your answer with a partner.

Imagine having a job that fits your class schedule. You do not have conflicts with studying because you only work at night and on the weekends. In addition, you can work in a beautiful room with paintings on the walls, candlelight, and beautiful music playing in the background. \_\_\_\_\_

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First, restaurant work is a great job for a student because the hours are different. Most restaurant are busiest during the weekends in the evening. Since students have to go to class during the week and during the day, a restaurant job gives them time for class.

The second reason why restaurant work suits students is that the student can eat at the restaurant. Students are short on time. They don't want to go shopping, cook, or clean up, so they need to get meals in a hurry. It is perfect if they can eat at work.

Students can make money, eat, and still have time for class if they work in a restaurant. For the reason, many eating places are staffed by students. It's a great job for those who need to work while they are in college.