

Expository Essay Assessment

Instructions: Write a 5-paragraph expository essay that explains your thoughts and opinions about the issues covered in one of the articles that we've read this year. Your essay should have:

- An introductory paragraph with thesis statement
- 3 body paragraphs
- Evidence from the article to support your thoughts and opinions
- Clear and accurate language
- A concluding paragraph

Prompts: Choose one of the prompts below. Note: all articles are available on my website (www.drescherpdx.com).

1. In the article, 'It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's...Some Dude?!', Jon Ronson recounts the exploits of Phoenix Jones and other Real Life Superheroes. In your opinion, are Phoenix Jones and other RLSHs making their communities more or less dangerous?
2. In the article, 'The Surrogacy Cycle', Abby Rabinowitz describes the practice of commercial surrogacy in India. In your opinion, does commercial surrogacy help or exploit women in the developing world?
3. In the article, 'Should we Kill Animals to Save Them?', Michael Paterniti explores the complicated relationship between conservationists and big-game hunters. In your opinion, should legalized big-game hunting be a part of conserving endangered species'?

Grading Rubric:

Criteria	Above & Beyond	Meets Standard	Almost	Needs Work
Effective Thesis Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Clearly written● Not too broad/narrow● Directly answers the question● Uses the 'Rule of Three'● Introduces your opinion/position	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point

Textual Evidence/Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Refers to specific details from the article ● Commentary used to support/justify your thoughts and/or opinions ● Accurate topic sentences introduce each body paragraph ● Quotations are accurately used when appropriate 	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Introductory and Concluding Paragraphs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intro paragraph provides author/article's name and relevant background info ● Concluding paragraph effectively summarizes the essay and leaves a final thought ● Both paragraphs have 4-6 well-organized sentences 	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point

Thesis Statement – Writing Frame

Instructions: Use the writing frame and the steps below to write your own thesis statement.

Step 1: Identify your Topic

- What is your topic?

Step 2: State your Opinion

- I think that....

Step 3: Use 'The Rule of 3'

Reason #1:

Reason #2

Reason #3

Step 4: Write your thesis

'In my opinion, I think

because (give 3 reasons)

Introductory Paragraph - Graphic Organizer

Complete the boxes below to plan out your intro paragraph

Author/Article Info - 1 sentence In the article, _____ [write article's title] _____ _____ [write author's name] describes	
Topic Summary/Define terms - 3 sentences Explain what the article is about and define/explain terms like what a RLSH, CI, surrogacy, or CRISPR is	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• • •
Thesis Statement - 1 sentence Write your thesis statement below...	

Body Paragraph #1:

1. Topic Sentence:

'The first reason why I think...

2. Evidence #1:

In the article, the author mentions...

3. Commentary #1:

This means that, ...

4. Evidence #2:

According to...

5. Commentary #2:

In other words,...

6. Concluding Sentence:

In conclusion, ...

Body Paragraph #2:

1. Topic Sentence:

'Another reason why I think...

2. Evidence #1:

In the article, the author mentions...

3. Commentary #1:

This means that, ...

4. Evidence #2:

According to...

5. Commentary #2:

In other words,...

6. Concluding Sentence:

In conclusion, ...

Body Paragraph #3:

1. Topic Sentence:

'A final reason why I think...

2. Evidence #1:

In the article, the author mentions...

3. Commentary #1:

This means that, ...

4. Evidence #2:

According to...

5. Commentary #2:

In other words,...

6. Concluding Sentence:

In conclusion, ...

