

# Writing an Excellent Essay

An essay is a composition that gives the writer's opinion about a topic. The writer must use facts and arguments to support the opinions given. We will learn an easy format to write an excellent essay.

Here is the outline that we will use. It has all the parts you need to have in your essay.

## Outline for an essay:

**I. Introduction:** Your introduction must state the topic and give three reasons or examples.

**II. Reason or example 1:** Write a paragraph that gives more information or facts about the first reason or example.

**III. Reason or example 2:** Write a paragraph that gives more information or facts about the second reason or example.

**IV. Reason or example 3:** Write a paragraph that gives more information or facts about the third reason or example.

**V. Conclusion:** Restate the introduction, wrap it up and leave your audience thinking.

## Getting Started

As you have learned, the **first** thing you need to do is **Brainstorm**. When you **brainstorm**, just write as many ideas as you can that have to do with your topic. Don't try to arrange them...just get them down on the paper!

**Next**, you will check to see if any of the things you **brainstormed** go together. If they do, maybe you can use them together to make a paragraph that gives a reason or example.

**Third**, you will write a *rough draft* of an introduction that tells the reader your topic, and gives your three examples or reasons. **Then**, you will write the three supporting paragraphs, using the groups you listed from your **brainstorm**. **Last**, you will write a conclusion that restates your topic and wraps everything up.

Okay, that was a lot of information, so let's go through it again, this time with examples. **First**, the **brainstorm**, on the topic of "the best

ways to annoy your teacher.” (Remember, don’t ever actually **do** any of these things. You **will** annoy your teacher, and probably get in trouble.)

- bring toys to school, play with them during lessons
- talk when the teacher is talking
- be obnoxious
- yell out answers
- pick your nose
- lean back in your chair
- interrupt
- run in the classroom
- hit other students
- bring things that beep, watches, games, etc.
- mimic the teacher
- burp, or make other loud, rude noises
- goof off during a test
- get up and walk around when the teacher is talking
- pull the chair out from under someone
- play in the classroom, especially when you have lots to do
- mess with the teacher’s hair
- throw paper planes or other projectiles
- forget your homework all the time
- eat food in the classroom
- tell lies
- have a sloppy desk
- pick on other kids
- scare the teacher
- mess with other people’s stuff
- talk during videos

This is, of course, only a sample of the annoying things that can be done in the classroom...a **brainstorm** of the things that come to mind. Now, look up at the list. Do any of the things sort of go together? When you put them together, do they have to do with the same basic things?

**This is a lot easier than you thought it was going to be, isn't it!**

So, lets look at the list again, and circle the items that go together:

- bring toys to school, play with them during lessons
- talk when the teacher is talking
- be obnoxious
- yell out answers
- pick your nose
- lean back in your chair
- interrupt
- run in the classroom
- hit other students
- bring things that beep, watches, games, etc.
- mimic the teacher
- burp, or make other loud, rude noises
- goof off during a test
- get up and walk around when the teacher is talking

- pull the chair out from under someone
- play in the classroom, especially when you have lots to do
- mess with the teacher's hair
- throw paper planes or other projectiles
- forget your homework all the time
- eat food in the classroom
- tell lies
- have a sloppy desk
- pick on other kids
- scare the teacher
- mess with other people's stuff
- talk during videos

If you look at the things we have circled, they do seem to fall into groups. All the **blue** items have to do with **talking**, all the **yellow** ones are about **obnoxious or distracting behavior**, and all the **red** ones relate to **being a bully**.

Now, if we go back to our outline, we should get something like this:

**I. Introduction:** Topic = ways to annoy teachers  
Examples = **talking**, **be obnoxious**, **be a bully**

**II. Example 1 :** **Talking**

**III. Example 2 :** **be obnoxious**

**IV. Example 3 :** **be a bully**

**V Conclusion** (We'll talk more about this later.)

Finally, if you look back to our steps on the first page, you'll see that the only thing left to do is...start writing! Here it is, our

# Sample Excellent Essay

or...

## How To Annoy Your Teacher

There are many things that a student can do to annoy a teacher. Some of the most effective ways to irritate your teacher include being a bully, engaging in obnoxious or distracting behavior, or even simply talking.

One thing that really annoys teachers is bullies. A bully is someone that picks on other kids, usually kids that are small and won't fight back. Bullies don't pick on kids their own size, because all bullies are cowards. However, if you are the kind of person who wants to annoy your teacher, you probably don't care if everyone else knows you are cowardly as well as being a behavior problem! So, to be a bully, you can hit other kids, mess with people's stuff, pick on little kids or do any other stuff that is generally mean and rotten.

Another thing that drives teachers nuts is obnoxious or distracting behavior. If you are being obnoxious, the rest of the class will be paying all their attention to you, not the teacher. Teachers hate that. There are many things that you can do in class that will be considered obnoxious or distracting. Any loud or rude noise is definitely obnoxious. Something as simple as a well timed burp can earn you a nasty look from your teacher. Also, you can bring things to school that make annoying noises, like watches, virtual pets or electronic games. If you want to be really obnoxious, you can try paper planes or other projectiles, and pulling the chair out from under someone is sure to get you a fast trip to the office.

Simply talking is another easy way to perturb your teacher. It is so easy, yet it works so well! Any time you talk when the teacher is talking, you are guaranteed to annoy her. Talking is particularly annoying if you do it during a test, or when the teacher is trying to have a reading group. Other ways to use talking as a tool for irritation include interrupting, mimicking and yelling out answers.

As you can see, there are a variety of ways to irk your teacher. If talking, obnoxious behavior or being a bully is not your style, you'll have to come up with your own way to get her. But, you can see that these three things can be very annoying indeed!

And that's all she wrote!