



ROCK  
STAR  
TOUR

FM9-ELA

The logo features the words "ROCK STAR" in a large, stylized, black font with a white outline, arranged in two lines. Below "STAR" is a graphic of a grey electric guitar. To the right of the guitar is a musical staff with two notes. Above the guitar are two blue, multi-pointed stars. The word "TOUR" is written in a large, bold, black font at the bottom. The text "FM9-ELA" is positioned above "TOUR". The entire graphic is set against a white background with a red border on the left and right sides.

What do you already know about the expository essay?

Make a list in your writer's notebook.

What questions do you have about the essay?

# How do I plan an essay that is 26 lines?

4 paragraph format:

introduction

example 1

example 2

conclusion



It is ok to have a small intro and small conclusion. Space is valuable on the answer doc.

# What does a prompt look like?

Read the information in the box below.

How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world.

~William Shakespeare

It has often been said that nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something. Every act of goodness and charity, no matter how small, makes the world a better place. Think carefully about this statement.

WRITE an essay describing something that you can do to make the world a better place.

Be sure to —

- clearly state your thesis
- organize and develop your ideas effectively
- choose your words carefully
- edit your writing for grammar, mechanics, and spelling

# Planning is Critical!

Since you have no specific text to refer to in the essay, you have to rely on *yourself* to supply the needed examples that support your thesis.

NEED IDEAS? “STOP HALN” Use this acronym!

S- science

T- technology

O- observation

P- personal experience

H-history

A- art (movies, TV too)

L- literature

N- news/current event

# Brainstorming is very important.

Read the information in the box below.

How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world.

~William Shakespeare

A few ideas how to get started:

Make a list.

Make an outline.

Draw a web.

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<p><b>#1 Define it:</b></p> <p>What is your opinion about the subject?</p> <p>(this becomes the introduction)</p>	<p><b>#2 Remember It:</b></p> <p>Provide a personal memory connected to the subject.</p> <p>(this becomes a body paragraph)</p>
<p><b>#3 Connect It:</b></p> <p>Find another example connected to the topic.</p> <p>Use STOP HALN to generate ideas:</p> <p>(this becomes another body paragraph)</p>	<p><b>#4 So What:</b></p> <p>Why is this important? What new insight or understanding do you have about the topic? Why does it matter?</p> <p>(this becomes the conclusion)</p>

# Four Square Method

Read the information in the box below.

Curiosity is natural to the soul of man and interesting objects have a powerful influence on our affections.

Daniel Boone

Objects can influence people in important ways. Think carefully about this statement.

Write an essay explaining specific ways that an object has influenced you.

Be sure to —

- clearly state your thesis
- organize and develop your ideas effectively
- choose your words carefully
- edit your writing for grammar, mechanics, and spelling

**#1 Define It:**

**#2 Remember It:**

**#3 Connect It:**

**#4 So What:**



# Did you know themes matter?

Most prompts center from an abstract noun. By the time you get to the essay, a thematic connection has been built in along the way through the reading selections.

\*Tip: Have some easy “go-to” pieces that can work with most concepts/prompts.

Consider the following abstract nouns. As a group, brainstorm connections that could be used in an essay. Don't forget to **STOP HALN!**

Topics:

Beauty, Power, Dishonesty, Integrity, Loyalty, Communication, Friendship, Corruption, Pride, Jealousy

# Thesis Statements

The thesis sentence is the most important sentence in an essay -- the one ruling idea you will support throughout your paper.

It serves as a plan for the writer and a “road map” for the reader. The writer promises to prove the thesis to the reader.

The thesis is the writer’s **opinion** -- an argument, not a fact.

Both of the following sentences have the same topic-- “The Red Headed League” -- but only one sentence includes has an all-important opinion word.

NO “The Red-Headed League” is a short story. (fact)

YES “The Red-Headed League” is a **good** short story. (opinion)

EVEN BETTER “The Red-Headed League” **successfully engages the reader’s attention, because of the suspenseful plot and carefully crafted foreshadowing.**

# What will the essay look like when finished?

## Introduction: (Define It)

Start with a broad general statement

- Quote ◦ Attention Getter ◦ Hook – Catch your reader!

Provide a transition statement to the thesis.

Next, present your thesis statement.

Make sure the thesis is the last sentence in the paragraph!

## Two Body Paragraphs: (Connections)

Each paragraph must have a topic sentence. Elaborate!

Each paragraph must have at least 5 sentences

Use transitions from one paragraph to the next – Connect the ideas to the

thesis before moving on to the next example! Memorize a few words that work for most situations:

**for example, however, consequently, also, In conclusion, In addition**

## Conclusion: (So What?)

Restate thesis- reword it!!!

Transition statement – connect thesis to exit sentence

Exit sentence –You should leave the reader with something to take away...thought-provoking!

# Final Thoughts...

## do's and dont's

### DO...

- the essay first!
- plan and brainstorm!
- use transitions! (for example works fine)
- write neatly!

### DO NOT...

- add lines.
- say “Let me tell you about” “My thesis is”
- have run-ons or fragments!
- start sentences with “And” or “Because”