



**CLASS IX & X**  
**GRAMMAR**  
**COMPOSITIONS**  
**LESSON 7**  
**ESSAY**

**NOTES**

**A BRIEF DESCRIPTION**

Essay – Essay literally means to attempt an exercise in composition by giving expression to our own ideas or opinions on a given topic. It may also give information and details of some narrative or description. Various types of language are used in writing an essay.

**PARTS OF AN ESSAY**

There are three parts of an essay. They are

- (a) The Introduction
- (b) The Body
- (c) The Conclusion

**THE INTRODUCTION**

Introduction is the first part of an essay. It consists of a brief paragraph introducing the subject of the essay. This is where we briefly outline the subject.

**THE BODY**

The Body is the second and main part of an essay. It consists of facts, figures, illustration and reflection of the writer on the subject. It may also consist of some paragraphs, well constructed and properly connected with one another.

**THE CONCLUSION**

The conclusion is the third and last part of an essay. It should be short and striking. It should convey a sense of completeness and closure as well as a sense of the lingering possibilities of the topic, its larger meaning, and its implications.



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## CHARACTERISTICS

An essay should have the following characteristics:

### (i) Unity

Unity is the quality of oneness in an essay that results when all the words and sentences contribute to a single effect or main idea.

### (ii) Order

An essay should follow a certain orderly development of ideas and come to a definite concluding statement. Irrelevant and unnecessary ideas should be avoided.

### (iii) Brevity

School essays are generally not long. But it does not mean that there is a strict rule on the length of the essays. The length will depend on the nature of the subject. In any case, it is supposed to be a brief exercise in composition, effectively and precisely expressed.

### (iv) Style

The style and treatment of the subject of the essay should be properly adapted to the subject. A subject like a picnic or a school function may be dealt with in a natural and light hearted manner. In such essays, direct and simple expressions should be used. However, a serious or philosophical subject is supposed to be treated in a dignified manner. As a general rule, in all types of school Essay, slang and colloquial terms are avoided. It has to be noted that an essay is supposed to reveal the personal feelings and opinions of the writer. There is no need of being afraid to express one's idea in it. One should not be content with repeating the opinions of others. There should always be a note of sincerity in all such writings, and this is the basis of the style of the Essay.

## TYPES OR CLASSES OF ESSAYS.

There are five types or classes of Essays.

They are:

- (i) Descriptive Essay
- (ii) Narrative Essay
- (iii) Expository Essay
- (iv) Reflective Essay
- (v) Imagination Essay



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(i) **Descriptive Essays.**

This is the simplest type of Essay. It consists of the description of something i.e., place person or thing e.g. Moirang, a truck driver, M.K. Gandhi.

**Example of Descriptive Essay:**

**MUMBAI**

**Introduction**

Mumbai is the capital city of Maharashtra & also the financial capital of India. Mumbai was formerly called Bombay. This is because the *Shiv Sena party* re-named and spree everything in Mumbai having anything (even names) to do with England. Because of this reason they also renamed the Victoria Terminus into “Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus”. The airport was renamed as “Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport” disregards whether international or domestic flights operate over it. Not only this they even renamed the roads in the city. The name Mumbai is derived from Goddess Mumba Devi.

**Mumbai – A city**

Some well-known sports of Mumbai city are the Prince of Wales Museum (the Chhatrapati Shivaji Vastu Sanghralaya), Gateway of India, Juhu Beach, Marine Drive, Marvel and Chowpatty. Mumbai is a tourist spot for people located in various parts of the world. Mumbai is also blessed with great amusement parks such as Fantasy land, Tikujiniwaadi, Essel World and Water Kingdom. The city is mainly the home to Bollywood. Almost all the famous film stars of India reside in Mumbai in the suburbs. Mumbai is that part of India which works 24X7 and never sleeps. Marathi is the local language but still Hindi and English are also spoken fluently. That is why people travelling from various parts of the world do not face any kind of language constraints in Mumbai like other cities in India.

**Conclusion**

The temperature in the city varies throughout the year. March to June is the summer months having maximum temperature of around 40 degree. June to October is the monsoon months with rain in its full force. November to February is the months of winter. Winters are mild in Mumbai because it is situated in the coastal region but the weather remains pleasant.



## (ii) Narrative Essays.

A narrative essay narrates an incident, an accident, a journey, legends or historical stories, a biography etc. Which may be written on a street play, a visit to Zoo, a Tsunami, the story of kings and queens of Manipur etc.

### Example of Narrative Essay:

#### MAHATAMA GANDHI

##### Introduction

Mohandas Karamchand **Gandhi**, whom people lovingly called '*Bapu*' is popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi.

##### Life of Gandhi

He was born on October 2, 1869 at Porbandar in Gujarat. He received his early education at home and was highly influenced by his parents.

He was sent to England for higher studies. He studied law and in 1891 was called to the Bar. He returned to India and set up his legal practice but could not succeed as a lawyer.

Two years later he went to South Africa for a legal case. He guided the Indians there to struggle against injustice and tyranny which they were suffering under cruel laws. It was a successful non-violent movement.

After 21 years he returned to India and joined the struggle for India's Independence. Sabarmati was the centre of his many activities of non-violent, non-cooperation movements. For this, he was sent to jail many times. He fought against injustice fearlessly and was a tyranny everywhere. He strongly believed in Satyagraha which is a fight based on truth against injustice, cruelty and untruth. He successfully led the countrymen to their freedom in August 1947.

Mahatma Gandhi was a great humanitarian. He was a God fearing and spiritual minded person. The Father of the Nation not only served the country but worked throughout his life for the upliftment of the weaker sections of the society and the removal of many social and moral evils.

##### Conclusion

He lived a splendid long life and has set great moral standards before us. He showed to the world the true way to peace. He wished to see India prosper but he became a martyr for the noble cause of Hindu-Muslim unity at the time of partition when a religious fanatic, Nathuram Godse, shot him dead on January 30, 1948. His last words were 'Hey Ram'.



### (iii) Expository Essays

An expository essay, which are generally objective and impersonal, consists of an exposition or explanation of subjects like institutions, industries, occupations scientific and literary topics, Press parliament, evolution, physics gravitation etc.

#### Example of Expository Essay:

#### The Internet and its uses

##### Introduction

Internet is a global network of inter-connected computers, where one computer can be connected to any other computer (or computerized device) in any portion of the world. Internet uses various internet protocol technologies.

##### The Internet and its uses

The recent introduction of mobile internet has been equally successful. "Internet surfing is very easy. Internet is available in all major villages, towns, cities of almost every country. It is possible to surf through Internet with the help of internet browsers such as Windows explorer, Google chrome, etc. The organization that provides the Internet service to end-users are known as an Internet Services Providers (ISP). The major internet companies of India are BSNL, Vodafone, Airtel, Idea, and Aircel. The better the quality, the more the usage of Internet operations. Large volume of Information: Internet can be used to collect information from around the world. This information could relate to education, medicine, literature, software, computers, business, entertainment, friendship, tourism, and leisure. People can search for information by visiting the home page of various search engines such as Google, Yahoo, Bing, etc. Teaching (Virtual classes): Internet has completely changed the way of teaching. Instead of physically going to the classroom, students can study at the comfort of their home. They simply need to either subscribe to a teacher or watch educational lectures that are available free on internet. All the newspapers, magazines and journals of the world are available on the Internet.

##### Conclusion

With the introduction of broadband and advanced mobile telecommunication technologies such as **3G** (third generation), **4G** (fourth generation), and **VoLTE** (Voice over Long Term Evaluation), the speed of internet service has increased tremendously. A person can get the latest news about the world in a matter of few seconds.



#### (iv) Reflective Essays

Reflective Essays deals with abstract of topics like habits, feelings, qualities etc. It consists of reflection or thoughts of the writer on various subjects like courage, truth, education, poverty, etc. In the writing of reflective Essays we are supposed to explain and reason and support our statements with arguments and facts.

#### Example of Reflective Essay:

### DISCIPLINE

#### Introduction

The word 'discipline' means a training that produces obedience or self-controlled behaviour to the orders of a proper authority. In every walk of life, discipline is of supreme importance. When a number of people are engaged to perform some colossal work, they must observe certain rules and obey the persons placed over them. That is called 'discipline'. If they do not obey the rules or their superiors, the work is likely to suffer.

#### Discipline

In a battle-field, every soldier must obey the command of his higher officers. If not, the army, lacking discipline, is likely to lose the battle. It is only that a disciplined army is found to march forward and win the war. There are thousands of such examples in the pages of history.

Discipline is the backbone of character. Without discipline, nothing great can be achieved in life. A person is normally found to be disciplined from his childhood. It is a habit that one acquires from his environments, or by way of training. A child must be trained to observe discipline from his early years. His habits, manners, movements, speeches, everything should be guided by the term of discipline so that a good personality can be acquired in his later life that helps one in one's upliftment.

#### Conclusion

A person must show his sense of discipline to his family, and then to his country. It is very important to enforce discipline into the family life also. Then, one is able to appreciate and accept the blessings of discipline in public life too. Discipline is an essential habit that everyone should possess as a civilized citizen.





## (v) Imagination Essays

Imagination Essays attempt topics of which the writer has no experience at all. Only imagination can help the writer in writing such an essay. It deals with imaginary things and situation.

### Example of Imaginative Essay:

#### IF I WERE THE CHIEF MINISTER OF MY STATE

##### Introduction

If I were the Chief Minister of my state, I would do as much as I could to make new laws, rules and regulations that would eliminate some of the negative vibes from the state.

##### If I were the Chief Minister of my State

First of all I would pass a stringent law to prohibit cutting of trees. According to the law if anyone found guilty of cutting a tree would be penalized severely. If somebody cut off one tree he would be forced to plant 1000 trees; he would also be forced to ensure their growth and development until they become full trees. “The second stringent law that I would enforce would be planting patches of green belts in or around all the cities all across my state. All the factories, manufacturing units would be forced to install smoke and effluent treatment plants; any unit not conforming to the law would be immediately shut. “Third very strict law that I would implement would be anti-corruption law according to which any politician, government official or employee found guilty of corruption, his entire property and bank accounts would be confiscated immediately and distributed among the poor people of my state. “The fourth law I would introduce would be strict monitoring of the politicians, government officials, officers, and employees work. They would get their salaries according to the work they would do. I would introduce point system for each task they did. No work no salary. “The fifth law that I would pass would be setting up advanced research centres of all the sciences in all the cities and towns across my state where the best of scientists would carry on the advancement of defence, medicines, space, electronics, technology, agriculture, etc.; and all these centres would be connected to schools and colleges.

##### Conclusion

I would make it my regular routine to visit one village a week in disguise with my team; I would personally see the status of civic amenities such as water supply, condition of roads, corruption, etc. I would set myself as an ideal model of hard-work, patriotism, service to state that all my countrymen would try their best to contribute optimally to the national development.



## HOW TO WRITE AN ESSAY

The following are some hints on the writing of an Essay:

- (i) Students should not start writing an Essay at once. He should concentrate on the topic for some time.
- (ii) The ideas should be classified under suitable headings. Unnecessary ideas must be rejected. In a short Essay not many ideas may be necessary. We can jot down some examples, quotations which may also come into our mind.
- (iii) After jotting down the ideas we try to arrange under various heads. This is very important as we cannot write a good Essay without a proper plan. We should write a separate paragraph on each idea or point. In a short Essay four or five short paragraphs may be enough.
- (iv) There should be a sense of continuity in the Essay so that one paragraph leads logically to the next one. If this is done there will be unity and continuity of the ideas in the Essay. One idea should not be unduly stressed or elaborated at the expense of another.  
  
This means that there should be a sense of balance and proportion in the development of the ideas.
- (v) When an idea is developed into a paragraph, proper examples or illustrations may be added.
- (vi) We should divide our Essays into three parts i.e. the Introduction, the Body and the conclusion.
- (vii) The introduction should be brief and striking so that it attracts the attention of the reader at once. The body is the main part consisting of facts, figures, illustrations and reflections of the writer on the subject. The conclusion also must be forceful and effective. We can conclude the essay with a brief summary of what had been stated above or with a quotation or an anecdote.
- (viii) We should use simple words and short sentences. The style of writing should be direct and natural.

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