



## Writing Help Sheet: Essay Writing

Before you begin to write, think about the topic you have to write about. You can brainstorm or freewrite everything that you want to say. If you have to conduct research, be sure to keep the information about resources.

Organize your prewriting into a rough outline.

Make sure your ideas connect to your main idea.

The best writers find it necessary to write an essay more than once.

The first draft should set down your ideas on paper.

The second draft should make sure your ideas are organized. Discard all material that is unnecessary and add points that are missing.

The third writing should check for style and proofread for errors.

You will find proofreading and editing checklists in various forms throughout your school career.

The basics should cover the following:

- Do your sentences follow one pattern? Do you use a variety of simple, complex, and compound?
- Does every sentence or clause have a subject and predicate?
- Have you misspelled any words?
- Is your punctuation correct?

Make a neat, clean copy of your essay. You can also type and print your essay on separate paper.

Words that will help to make your essay as effective as possible should be chosen.

Your writing may not be technically perfect, but you can send a clearly written, well-organized, and well-developed ideas in your theme or composition.