

What is an ESSAY?

The purpose of an essay is to inform and persuade your reader about a certain issue. The type of essay you've been asked to do is called an analytical essay. This is how it's structured:

Introduction		
Paragraph 2	Body	First argument
Paragraph 3		Second argument
Paragraph 4		Third argument
Paragraph 5		Fourth argument
Conclusion		

Your essay should include an INTRODUCTION:

- *Introduce* the issue or topic of your essay (Impact of visitors in the Wet Tropics or impact of Kuranda Range road upgrade)
- *Indicate* the position you are going to argue (eg. that visitor numbers need to be reduced, that the road should go ahead). This is called a *hypothesis*.
- *Outline* your major arguments.

Your essay should include a BODY:

- Dedicate a *paragraph* to each of your main arguments. So, if you've got four main arguments, you'll need four paragraphs in your BODY.
- Start each paragraph with a *topic sentence*. This sentence lets the reader know what the paragraph will be about.
- Follow your topic sentence with your *evidence*. This is the information that helps support your position. Have another look at the [Types of Evidence](#) you could use. Try to include at least two different points of evidence for each of your paragraphs.
- Finish your paragraph with a *concluding sentence* (a clincher). This sentence is where you reinforce how the evidence supports your overall hypothesis.

Finish your essay with a CONCLUSION:

- *Re-state* your hypothesis to remind the reader of what you were trying to prove.
- *Summarise* your main arguments.
- Finish your essay by perhaps looking into the future. This is called *speculation*. What future directions should people involved in the issue take? What will happen if things go on unchanged?

Hints

- Make sure all your opinions are supported by evidence!
- Look at all sides of the issue. Watch out for your personal biases.