



ODU Student Support Services

GUIDE TO A 500-1500 WORD SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

Introduction (60-188 words)

The introduction guides your reader into the paper by introducing the topic. It should begin with a hook that catches the reader’s interest. This hook could be a quote, an analogy, a question, etc. After getting the reader’s attention, the introduction should give some background information on the topic. The ideas within the introduction should be general enough for the reader to understand the main claim and gradually become more specific to lead into the thesis statement.

<p>Opening Statement:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Introduction:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Thesis Statement

The thesis statement concisely states the main ideas or argument of the essay, sets limits on the topic, and can indicate the organization of the essay. The thesis works as a road map for the entire essay, showing the readers what you have to say and which main points you will use to support your ideas.

Main Point: _____

Point #1: _____

Point #2: _____

Point #3: _____

<p>Thesis Statement:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Body Paragraph #1 (125-375 words)

Add more information about the 1st part of your thesis here:

Main Point #1: _____

Here you can include support from research and personal experiences that back up the main point:

Support #1: _____

Support #2: _____

Support #3: _____

Body Paragraph #1:

Body Paragraph #2 (125-375 words)

Add more information about the 2nd part of your thesis here:

Main Point #2: _____

Here you can include support from research and personal experiences that back up the main point:

Support #1: _____

Support #2: _____

Support #3: _____

Body Paragraph #2:

Body Paragraph #3 (125-375 words)

Add more information about the 3rd part of your thesis here:

Main Point #3: _____

Here you can include support from research and personal experiences that back up the main point:

Support #1: _____

Support #2: _____

Support #3: _____

<p>Body Paragraph #3:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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Conclusion (60-188 words)

The conclusion brings together all the main points of the essay. It refers back to the thesis statement and leaves readers with a final thought and sense of closure by resolving any ideas brought up in the essay. It may also address the implications of the argument. In the conclusion, new topics or ideas that were not developed in the paper should not be introduced.

<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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ODU Student Support Services

GUIDE TO A 500-1500 WORD SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY (SAMPLE)

Introduction (60-188 words)

Opening Statement:

March 20th is the official first day of Spring and we are welcoming the season that follows Winter and precedes Summer with open arms!

Thesis Statement

Main Point: *Spring is the best season*

Point #1: *Weather isn't too hot or cold*

Point #2: *My birthday is in the Spring*

Point #3: *Flowers start to bloom*

Thesis Statement:

Of the four-annual seasons, Spring is the most favorable because the weather isn't too hot or cold, my birthday will be celebrated, and flowers will begin to bloom.

Body Paragraph #1 (125-375 words)

Add more information about the 1st part of your thesis here:

Main Point #1: *Spring time weather doesn't get too hot or too cold.*

Here you can include support from research and personal experiences that back up the main point:

Support #1: *The average temperature in Virginia is 68 degrees in the Spring.*

Support #2: *The month of May has more rain to help balance the heat.*

Support #3: *You don't have to warm your car in the morning.*

Body Paragraph #1:

Although the weather may be different in various locations, in the state of Virginia, the Spring is the best season of all. Winter and Fall are too cold, and Summer is just too hot! According to The Weather Channel's historical database, the average temperature in Virginia during the Spring season is a perfect sixty-eight degrees. As the heat of the summer begins to creep in, the rain showers of May help make the heat bearable. Not only is the temperature more comfortable for people, but no one has to wait in their car while the car windows defrost any more. Having a season where the weather is not too hot or too cold is beneficial in many ways.