

# ESLC/DO – How to Write an Essay

## 1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph: The Introduction –

*This paragraph tells the reader what you will be arguing or discussing in your essay.*

1) Opening Statement or Hook - Start with an interesting fact, statistic, quotation or story that is related to the topic of your essay.

2) Background- Explain to the reader what the topic of our essay is and why it is worth discussing.

2) **Thesis:** This is the main point that you are going to make in your essay. Tell us which person you are going to talk about and why. Create a complex sentence that includes the three main points that will be discussed in your essay, proving that your chosen person is worthy of being recognized.

## Paragraphs 2, 3, 4: The Body

These paragraphs are where you will make your arguments and prove your points. Each paragraph discusses a different point, as written in your thesis statement.

1) **Topic Sentence**: Clearly tell the reader what you will be proving in this paragraph. What is the first reason that proves your subject deserves recognition? This should be a character trait, achievement or contribution to society.

2) **Example #1**: Give one specific example that shows the person doing something as described in your topic sentence. What have they done? **Be specific!**

3) **Explanation #1**: Explain how example #1 shows that the person has the character trait or why this achievement is important and worthy of being recognized.

4) **Example #2**: Give another example that shows the person has this trait.

5) **Explanation #2:** Explain how this example shows that the person has the character trait or why this achievement is important and worthy of being recognized.

**\*\*You can add as many examples and explanations as you want. You MUST have at least 2 examples and explanations, but if you want to challenge yourself try to come up with 3.\*\***

## **5<sup>th</sup> Paragraph: The Conclusion -**

This is where you remind the readers of what you just proved.

1) **Restate your Thesis:** Say your thesis again. Try to say it using different words so it isn't exactly the same as the introduction.

2) **Final Thought:** Leave your reader with a final thought that keeps them thinking about your essay. This could be an opinion about the topic, a connection to how this topic affects you, a truth or lesson learned from this person.