**Developing an Essay**

**An Essay:**

A multi-paragraph writings that deal with a subject in greater detail than is possible in a single paragraph.

The main difference between a paragraph and an essay is scope. When written correctly, the paragraph becomes a mini-essay that expresses one point, and collectively, these points create the essay.

**A paragraph:**

Expresses a subject in a limited way. An essay covers a subject more thoroughly, exploring many facets and angles.

One type of essay featuring a three-paragraph body is called the five-paragraph essay (one introductory paragraph, three body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph).

**Introduction:**

A paragraph that indicates the subject and direction of the paper.

The most important part of the introduction is the thesis, the element that specifies the subject and focus of the entire essay.

The introduction also raises three points about the topic.

**Essay Direction:**

The writer’s perspective – how the writer feels about the topic.

**Essay Body:**

A series of paragraphs that support and illustrate the thesis.

Each of the three (minimum) paragraphs of the body discusses one of the three points raised about the topic in the introduction.

**Conclusion:**

Strengthens the overall message expressed by the thesis and the supporting examples and details.

The conclusion brings the essay to a logical and appropriate end, summing up the significance of the essay.

**The Writing Process:**

To write an essay, you follow a process similar to the one you follow to write a paragraph.

 When you write an essay, however, you use the stages of pre-writing, composing, revising and editing to explore the subject in far greater detail

**Pre-writing:**

Construct examples and details about a subject.

Develop this focus into your thesis, your main point for the essay, expressed in sentence form.

**Drafting:**

Arrange the sentences into paragraphs, including an introduction and a conclusion, that address the needs of the reader.

**Revisions:**

With a first draft completed, you revise or refine and polish your draft.

When you revise, you first reassess for unity, coherence and use of language.

Then you redraft to address any problem spots.

**Editing:**

This is the final stage of the writing process. It is commonly confused with revisions, but there are distinct differences.

In revisions, you review for content and the development of your message. In editing, you focus on grammar, spelling, punctuation, and the overall construction of your essay at the sentence level.

Once complete, walk away from your essay for as long as possible. Prior to turning in your work, read your essay one final time to review the completed essay.

For assistance with any of these steps, submit your work to the Write Place for a comprehensive review:

[**https://luzernewc.mywconline.com/**](https://luzernewc.mywconline.com/)