

ESSAY #3—IN-CLASS--PROCESS ANALYSIS—written in-class Monday, Sept 30.

Please remember to bring a yellow book to class on this day, as well as a blue or black pen.

The essay is to be 3-6 pages long, written in a large yellow book.

We will have an outline workshop for this essay on Wednesday, September 25

Please bring 3 copies of your outline to class.

Assignment: A process analysis essay is one in which you instruct your audience in the process of doing or making something. You will have to describe the process in order, and in great detail, so much so that I, or anyone else, can follow and understand the process which you are describing. It's okay to write an essay about something you know well, but you might want to try and research something that's new to you. Yes, you may have to do research, though it is not required for this essay. The more information you have, however, the more interesting your essay will be.

You may analyze how something is done (for example, how to cook something specific, how to restore a car, how to knit a sweater, how to play a sport). You can also describe emotional or social processes: the process of falling in or out of love with someone, stages in learning to like or dislike someone, steps in losing or gaining a friendship (these will obviously be very individual to the writer, but can be very powerful subjects for an essay).

A hint: It is easy to choose a topic that, on surface level, seems too simplistic (such as making recipe, changing a car tire, doing laundry). The built-in problem with these ideas for an essay is that the process can seem very short and therefore your essay will also be too short. A way to get around this is to include personal stories concerning the process (such as a time you made this recipe with a friend and how it turned out). You can also write about dangers or benefits of the process (such as what happens when you fill a car tire with too much air), or funny situations you've encountered when doing the process yourself. These can add a personal touch to your essay.

Your essay will be written in class and must contain the following:

- 1) 4-6 pages in length, one side of the paper, in a large blue book.**
- 2) Written in blue or black pen**
- 3) Have a clearly defined thesis/purpose of the paper (for example, let's say you are doing an essay on how to apply fake nails. A valid thesis statement would be, "Some people may think that the process of applying fake nails is difficult, but it can be achieved in six essential steps." This tells your audience you will be describing the process of applying fake nails. Subsequent paragraphs should describe this process in order, and in detail.**
- 4) You should also explain, at least from time to time in your essay, why each step is necessary. Obviously, this should be done for very important steps.**
- 5) Your final paragraph should attempt to sum up the process, not introduce more steps.**
- 6) Can be written in either the first or third person.**
- 7) You must use concrete, specific details to describe the process, as well as sensory detail.**

You are welcome to bring an outline or notes to class on the day of the essay to help you write and refresh your memory. All notes and your outline must be turned in to me with the essay.