



Different types of essays

**Lusine Avagyan
AUA Writing Center**



Situations and Purposes in Writing

A Writing Situation is about taking into consideration:

- **The audience**
- **The purpose**

The purpose in writing can be **informative** (such as encyclopedias, web pages, etc.), **expressive** (such as letters, journals, poetry).



Main types of writing

Expository essays

Descriptive essays

Narrative essays

Persuasive essays



Expository essays

An expository essay is an informative piece of writing, where the writer explains a topic, using facts, statistics, and examples.

Key points to remember:

- Expository writing usually explains something
- Expository writing is often equipped with facts and figures
- Expository writing leaves out personal opinions and ideas.



Descriptive essays

A descriptive writing is a style of writing which focuses on describing a character, an event or a place in great details.

Key points to remember:

- It is often poetic in nature
- It describes places, people, events, situations or locations in a highly-detailed manner.
- The author visualizes what he sees, hears, tastes, smells and feels



Narrative essays

A narrative type of essay refers to a written composition whose story is told from a defined point of view.

Key points to remember:

- Narrative essays are usually written in the first or third person.
- The writer concentrates on his/her memories, life, thoughts.
- A narrative essay contains literary elements, like characters, a setting, a plot and a theme.



Persuasive essays

Persuasive writing is a type of writing which contains justifications and reasons to make someone understand an issue from their perspective.

Key points to remember:

- Persuasive writing is equipped with reasons, arguments and justifications
 - It often asks for a call or an action from the readers.
- now let's sum up .



Time for playing: What type of writing is this?

Despite all the technological advances and scientific inventions that make us believe we have nothing in common with the rest of the animal kingdom, we are still part of the planet's fauna, whether we realize it or not. Now, with the technological revolutions and discoveries that made our past history, we seem to pay little attention to nature, getting more and more disconnected from it every day. However, the links we have with nature cannot disappear. There are a number of key reasons in favor of the concept that people should try to connect with nature more than they do today.

persuasive



Time for playing: What type of writing is this?

There's something very calming about looking out over a tranquil lake, its surface as smooth as glass, reflecting the beautiful summer sky. The sounds of the splashing waves against the shore provide no better cure for insomnia. The serenity and peacefulness of the area is unmatched by one other.

descriptive



Time for playing: What type of writing is this?

The risks associated with drug experimentation depend on various factors, such as quantity, frequency of use, combinations used, and the way a certain drug is taken. Too many sedatives lead to a fatal overdose. Stimulant and hallucinogenic drugs on the other hand lead to psychotic behavior and to the loss of the sense of reality. Besides, constantly increasing doses lead to drug tolerance. High tolerance levels also lead to overdose and death; this especially refers to heroin.

expository



Time for playing: What type of writing is this?

One of the hardest things I've ever had to do was to learn how to swim. I was always afraid of the water, but I decided that swimming was an important skill that I should learn. I also thought it would be a good exercise. What I didn't realize was that learning to swim would also make me a more confident person.

narrative



Time for playing. What type of writing is this?

The Hawaiian brides, traditionally, wear a white *holoku* (traditional Hawaiian wedding dress) with flowers in her hair as well. Her male counterpart wears a white shirt along with white pants and colourful *sash*. If, the wedding takes place in the house, the couple may avoid footwear otherwise casual footwear is used.

descriptive



References

- AcademicHelp.net. Persuasive essay sample: Why people should connect more with the nature. Retrieved from <http://academichelp.net/samples/essays/persuasive/connect-with-nature.html>
- AcademicHelp.net. Expository essay sample: Risks of experimenting with drugs. Retrieved from <http://academichelp.net/samples/essays/expository/drugs-effects.html>
- SlideShare (January, 2011). Writing different types of essays. Retrieved from <http://www.slideshare.net/helpwithassignment/writing-different-types-of-essays-narrative-descriptive-persuasive>
- Time4Learning.com. Types of essays. Retrieved from <http://www.time4writing.com/writing-resources/types-of-essays/>
- YourDictionary.com, an online dictionary and thesaurus. Narrative essays. Retrieved from <http://examples.yourdictionary.com/narrative-essay-examples.html>



Thank you!

**Lusine Avagyan,
AUA Writing Center
Email: writingconsultant2@edu.aua.am**