

Informative essays have a structure that is fairly easy to dissect. This lesson includes an anchor essay which students will mark up, a mixed-up essay outline for them to sort, and a web for them to organize ideas for their own essay.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to identify the parts of an essay and generate ideas in their own graphic organizer.

Materials and Preparation

Key Terms

- Class set of [Informative Essay: Anchor Paper](#)
- Class set of [Informative Essay: Mixed Up Essay](#)
- Class set of [Informative Essay: Idea Map](#)
- Whiteboard or chalkboard
- Scissors
- Glue
- 11x14 or other large-sized construction paper

Lesson

Introduction (10 minutes)

- Ask students to work with a partner or table group and think of the three most important things to do in order to be successful in school.
- Share answers and decide on three as a class. Write them on the board.
- Have students work together again and think of three details for each of the three ideas on the board.
- Share and write three details under each idea.
- Tell students that they just created an outline for an informative essay.
- Discuss possible topics for the essay. Examples might include: How to Succeed at School, Three Keys to Academic Success, and How to Rock Your Report Card.

Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling (15 minutes)

- Distribute the worksheet [Informative Essay: Anchor Paper](#).
- Go over the instructions and read the essay together.
- As a class, follow the steps on the bottom. Students will mark up the essay, identifying each of the parts.
- Add additional explanation about each of the parts as needed.

Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling (20 minutes)

- Distribute scissors, construction paper, and glue.
- Distribute the worksheet [Informative Essay: Mixed Up Essay](#).
- Go over the instructions together and then support students as they assemble the essay outline.