



## How to Eat an Essay - One Bite at a Time!

1. Choose a winning topic - Brainstorm ideas, then pick your favorite one. Topics should be interesting, appropriate for the audience, and meaningful to you.
2. Plan your points - A basic five paragraph essay should have an introduction, three main points in the body (one paragraph each), and a conclusion.
3. Gather information - Using the library, encyclopedias, credible internet sources, and personal interviews, learn all you can about your topic.
4. Arrange the information - Use note cards to record and arrange the information in a logical way. Focus on the information that supports your three main points.
5. Write the introduction - Spend some time creating an attention-grabbing opening sentence that makes the reader eager to learn more. Then, offer a preview of your three main points.
6. Write the body - Write one paragraph for each of your main points, include the facts you've learned. Remember to give credit to the people, books, or websites where you found the information.
7. Write the conclusion - The conclusion should mirror the introduction. Tie everything together by reviewing your main points and reminding the reader of why your topic is important or interesting.
8. Connect paragraphs with transitions - A transition sentence tells the reader how the information in one paragraph is related to the information in the next paragraph.
9. Read and revise - You're almost done! Read your essay OUT LOUD to catch any errors. Check punctuation and spelling. Rework any sentences that sound awkward or confusing.
10. Polish it off - The final step is a polished presentation! Now that you've chosen, planned, gathered, arranged, written, and revised, it's time to take the finished essay and type it or write it in your best handwriting.

Once you've eaten your essay, don't forget dessert!