

# WRITING ROADMAP

A Guided Writing Process Course

[iwc.knu.ac.kr](http://iwc.knu.ac.kr)

## HOW TO WRITE A COLLEGE LEVEL ESSAY



International English  
Exchange Prep Course

# What is a

## College-Level Essay?

A college-level essay is a thesis-based paper with credible support. It is often an argumentative or persuasive essay with a minimum 5 or more paragraphs. The Writing Roadmap is a 4-paragraph paper designed to introduce the basic structure, approach, and process to completing a full college-level essay.

### Basic Essay Structure:

1. Introduction Paragraph
2. Supporting Paragraphs
3. Conclusion Paragraph

### Essay Writing Process:

1. Brainstorming & Outlining
2. Organization & Drafts
3. Revision & Submission

### The Writing Roadmap is **NOT** an Academic Research Writing Course

- No Citations
- No References



## Tips For

## Writing an Essay

- Think carefully about the topic
- Read credible articles to help establish your position
- Brainstorm and make an outline
- Stay focused on the topic
- Be clear and concise
- Write several drafts

### Get feedback often:

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# Step 1

## Introduction Paragraph

### What is an Introduction Paragraph?

This paragraph is the beginning of the essay. It clearly identifies the essay topic and the writer's position or opinion. The purpose is to make the reader interested in learning more and understanding the direction of the essay. It ends with a statement that summarizes the essay contents and introduces the supporting ideas.

### How to Start!

Read below and brainstorm ideas. Choose your "Hook" Style and Position and begin writing sentences that will introduce the essay. Create a Thesis Statement. Book a Feedback Appointment with your mentor and work together to finalize this paragraph.

## PARTS OF AN INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH

**"HOOK"** (1 or 2 sentences):  
This is the first sentence and gets the reader interested in learning more.

**POSITION SENTENCES** (2 or more sentences):  
These sentences introduce and give specific information on the topic to help the reader better understand the writer's position (opinion).

**THESIS STATEMENT** (1 sentence):  
The Writing Roadmap teaches a "direct" thesis statement, summarizing the main idea, people involved, and supporting ideas of the essay.

### 3 HOOK Sentence Styles

Choose ONE

#### QUOTE

Use a Quote from a person about the Topic

#### NUMBERS

Use Numbers to show important statistics

#### QUESTION

Ask an interesting Question about the Topic

### 3 POSITION Sentence Styles

Choose ONE

#### COMPARISON

How do issues in your chosen Topic compare with each other

#### ARGUMENT

Make a claim about your chosen Topic and try to persuade the reader

#### PROBLEM

What problems are caused or fixed by your chosen Topic

### 3 Parts of a Direct THESIS STATEMENT

Must Contain ALL

#### MAIN IDEA

This is directly related to and focused as a summary of the essay contents

#### PEOPLE INVOLVED

This is the population of people impacted by the Topic

#### SUPPORTING IDEAS

Clear and connected support of the Main Idea with strong evidence and examples

# Step 2

## Supporting Paragraphs

### How to Start!

Read below and brainstorm ideas. Try to focus each supporting idea into more specific examples. Each example needs descriptive details that help clarify the writer's position. A good writer does research to learn more and uses credible support in both paragraphs. Book a Feedback Appointment with your mentor and work together to finalize this paragraph.

### What are Supporting Paragraphs?

These paragraphs are the body of the essay. They give authentic evidence and examples to support the writer's position on the topic. The first supporting paragraph is about the first supporting idea from the thesis statement. The second paragraph is about the second supporting idea from the thesis statement. Each paragraph gives one example with details that help support the main idea. It's important to stay focused on the position stated in the introduction paragraph.

## PARTS OF A SUPPORTING PARAGRAPH

**TOPIC SENTENCE** (1 sentence):

This sentence broadly introduces the topic of the paragraph. Each Supporting Paragraph has a different topic sentence. It clearly states a supporting idea mentioned in the Thesis Statement.

**FOCUS SENTENCE** (1 sentence):

This sentence narrows the topic sentence to a specific area.

**SUPPORTING SENTENCES** (3 or more sentences):

These sentences give specific information on the supporting idea to help the reader better understand the writer's position (opinion).

**CONCLUDING SENTENCE** (1 sentence):

This sentence summarizes your paragraph and establishes a transition to the next Supporting Paragraph.

### Credible Support

The essay needs to be supported with credible supporting ideas. Authentic examples and details are important. Is your support credible?

#### + Credible Ideas

- + Opinions are based on facts/statistics
- + Examples are based on personal experience
- + Ideas are easily relatable to the reader

#### X Consider Changing

- X Opinions are not realistic
- X Examples are "hearsay"
- X Ideas are abstract

## Conclusion Paragraph

### What is a Conclusion Paragraph?

This paragraph is the end of the essay. It summarizes the essay's contents. It offers an expectation about the topic and concludes with a final thought from the writer about the topic. It does **NOT** provide new information, such as more supporting ideas or examples. The reader should feel more knowledgeable about the topic and want to learn more.

### How to Start!

Read below and brainstorm ideas. Think carefully about one of the three Expectation Styles. A good writer does some research to learn more. It must stay focused on the topic. Book a Feedback Appointment with your mentor and work together to finalize this paragraph.

## PARTS OF A CONCLUSION PARAGRAPH

**REVIEW SENTENCE** (1 sentence):

This sentence is a summary of the essay's main point.

**EXPECTATION SENTENCES** (2 or more sentences):

These sentences offer three possible outcomes that should further interest the reader (see below).

**FINAL STATEMENT** (1 sentence):

This sentence asserts the writer's position on the topic in a clear and concise manner.

### EXPECTATION Sentence Styles

Choose ONE

#### SOLUTION

These sentences offer a brief solution to any problems related to the topic and supporting ideas. Don't over-explain or give too many details. Simply suggest a way that might be useful and allow the reader to think more on it themselves.

### EXPECTATION Sentence Styles

Choose ONE

#### RECOMMENDATION

These sentences offer the reader choices in experiencing something related to the topic and supporting ideas. It could be a product or service or it might be an invitation to explore something more significant. Again, don't over-explain or give too many details.

### EXPECTATION Sentence Styles

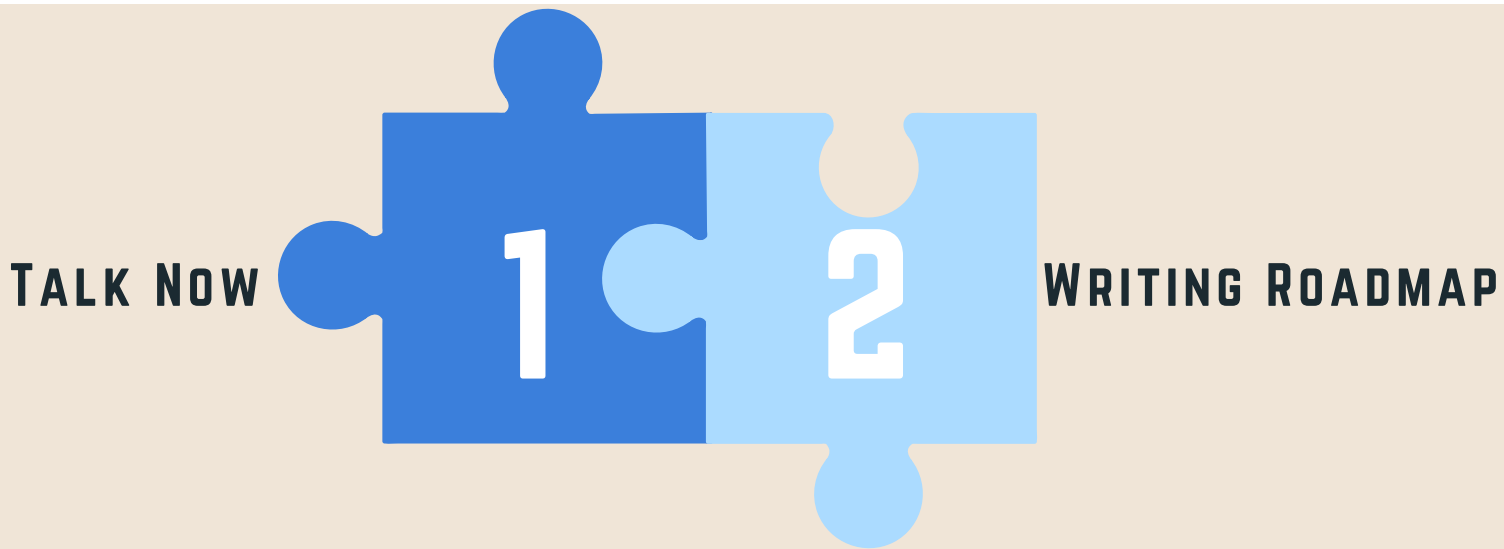
Choose ONE

#### PREDICTION

These sentences offer the reader a chance to think about the future. Make a prediction about any changes (good or bad) your topic might have and how it might impact society.



**WRITING ROADMAP**



Students participating in International Exchange Programs must complete the Talk Now and Writing Roadmap courses. Let the IWC help you put these two pieces together.

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My Name:

My Mentor:

Completion Stamp