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## Essay Writing For ESL Students

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### **Introduction**

This paper addresses how English second language (ESL) students can write essays using required writing skills and format. In writing essays, it is necessary to use the standard guidelines; good English and, more importantly, avoid direct translation from your mother tongue. Direct translation can lead to poor sentence structure resulting to a poor quality essay. English second language students require learning the essay writing skills as they become more fluent in the English language. Moreover, combining that fluency in tasks such as writing essay brings out good essays of high quality.

### **Body**

Before an English second language student starts to write an essay, he or she should first know the topic and think about it whether the essay should be of particular analysis or just a general overview of the topic selected. For instance, a topic on “Social Media” is general and a topic on “Social media in Mexico” need specific analysis. Secondly, one should think about the purpose of the essay to write. Here, the purpose of the essay must relate to the selected topic. The next thing that will follow will be an outline that will put topic ideas on the

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paper according to the required format. One can choose either to use a flowing outline or the cut-and-structure one (Silva, 2013).

After finishing the outline, you now have the basic structure of the essay, and the next thing is to write the thesis statement for the essay. In the thesis statement, you explain to the reader about the points you will be making concerning the main essay. Explain how all the ideas relate to the main topic selected earlier. Normally, a thesis statement has two parts. The first part of the thesis states the topic of the essay whereas; the point of the essay is stated in the second part of the thesis (Dew, 2015).

The next part of the essay is the body which is the most crucial part of the essay. The body of the essay explains or describes the topic chosen. In this part, all the earlier preparation of the essay come to fruition, and every main idea takes a paragraph in the main body of the essay. This means that if you had five ideas, then the body of the essay will have five paragraphs. All the paragraphs in the body should have the same structure; then the main idea should be in the first paragraph of the main body as it will capture your reader's attention at the very first moment (Jia, 2006). This is paramount as it will interest the reader to keep on reading the essay. The main idea has to be supported by other points that are clearly explained to bring out a clear picture of the main idea. At the end of each paragraph, one can write a sentence to summarize the paragraph although it is not that important. The final part of the essay is the conclusion that summarizes all the points about the topic of your essay. Also, you need to put three to four sentences describing the main points on a general view.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, an essay comprises three parts. These are Introduction, body and conclusion respectively. The first part of the essay, which is the introduction, basically

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introduces the topic to the reader as well as capturing the reader's attention. The second part is the body that discusses or explains the main topic of the essay using the main ideas in each paragraph. The last part of the essay is the conclusion, and it gives the general overview of the whole topic of the essay or feeling of the writer about the topic. An English second language student who is fluent in English is more likely to produce an essay of high quality compared to an English second language student who is not fluent in English.

### References

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