- Essay-Fourth Class
- Review and Practice
- Elements of the Lecture
- المراجعة- التمارين Review Exercises

These are the important points covered in this chapter.

Main Parts of an Essay

- 1. An essay has three main parts: an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.
 - The introductory paragraph consists of two parts: a few general statements to attract your reader's attention and a thesis statement to state your main idea. A thesis statement may also name the major subdivisions of the topic, and it may indicate how you will organize the essay.
 - The body of an essay discusses the subtopics, one by one. It contains as many paragraphs as necessary to explain all subtopics.
 - The concluding paragraph reminds your reader of what you have said. In it, you summarize your main ideas or paraphrase your thesis. You may also make a final comment on the topic for your reader to remember.
- 2. Use the logical division of ideas pattern to divide a topic into separate paragraphs.
- 3. Link paragraphs with transitions; that is, show how one paragraph is related to the next by using appropriate transition words, phrases, or clauses.
- 4. Prepare an outline to organize your ideas before you begin to write.



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Study the model essay about the influence of Native Americans¹ on modern U.S. culture and notice its structure.

MODEL

Essay Structure

INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH

Native American Influences on Modern U.S. Culture

When the first Europeans came to the North American continent, they encountered the completely new cultures of the Native American peoples of North America. Native Americans, who had highly developed cultures in many respects, must have been as curious about the strange European manners and customs as the Europeans were curious about them. As always happens when two or more cultures come into contact, there was a cultural exchange. Native Americans adopted some of the Europeans' ways, and the Europeans adopted some of their ways. As a result, Native Americans have made many valuable contributions to modern U.S. culture, particularly in the areas of language, art, food, and government.

BODY PARAGRAPH 1

THESIS STATEMENT

First of all, Native Americans left a permanent mark on the English language. The early English-speaking settlers borrowed from several different Native American languages words for places in this new land. All across the country are cities, towns, rivers, and states with Native American names. For example, the states of Delaware, Iowa, Illinois, and Alabama are named after Native American tribes,² as are the cities of Chicago, Miami, and Spokane. In addition to place names, English adopted from various Native American languages the words for animals and plants found in the Americas. *Chipmunk, moose, raccoon, skunk, tobacco,* and *squash* are just a few examples.

BODY PARAGRAPH 2

Although the vocabulary of English is the area that shows the most Native American influence, it is not the only area of U.S. culture that has been shaped by contact with Native Americans. Art is another area of important Native American contributions. Wool rugs woven by women of the Navajo tribe in Arizona and New Mexico are highly valued works of art in the United States. Native American jewelry made from silver and turquoise is also very popular and very expensive. Especially in the western and southwestern regions of the United States, native crafts such as pottery, leather products, and beadwork can be found in many homes. Indeed, native art and handicrafts are a treasured part of U.S. culture.

BODY PARAGRAPH 3

In addition to language and art, agriculture is another area in which Native Americans had a great and lasting influence on the peoples who arrived here from Europe, Africa, and Asia. Being skilled farmers, the Native Americans of North America taught the newcomers many things about farming techniques and crops. Every U.S. schoolchild has heard the story of how Native Americans taught the first settlers to place a dead fish in a planting hole to provide fertilizer for the growing plant. Furthermore, they taught the settlers irrigation methods and crop rotation. Many of the foods people in the United States eat today were introduced to the Europeans by Native Americans. For example, corn and chocolate were unknown in Europe. Now they are staples in the U.S. diet.

BODY PARAGRAPH 4

are also indebted³ to the native people for our form of government. The Iroquois, who were an extremely large tribe with many branches called "nations," had

Finally, it may surprise some people to learn that citizens of the United States

¹Native Americans: American Indians ²tribes: groups of native people ³indebted: owing gratitude developed a highly sophisticated system of government to settle disputes that arose between the various branches. Five of the nations had joined together in a confederation called "The League of the Iroquois." Under the league, each nation was autonomous⁴ in running its own internal affairs, but the nations acted as a unit when dealing with outsiders. The league kept the Iroquois from fighting among themselves and was also valuable in diplomatic relations with other tribes. When the 13 colonies were considering what kind of government to establish after they had won their independence from Britain, someone suggested that they use a system similar to that of the League of the Iroquois. Under this system, each colony or future state would be autonomous in managing its own affairs but would join forces with the other states to deal with matters that concerned them all. This is exactly what happened. As a result, the present form of government of the United States can be traced directly back to a Native American model.

In conclusion, we can easily see from these few examples the extent of Native American influence on our language, our art forms, our eating habits, and our government. The people of the United States are deeply indebted to Native Americans for their contributions to U.S. culture.

Writing Technique Questions

- 1. How many paragraphs does this essay contain? How many paragraphs are in the body?
- 2. Underline the topic sentence of each body paragraph, and double underline the topic. (*Note:* The topic sentence is not necessarily the first sentence in every paragraph.)
- Notice which noun phrase appears four times in the introduction. Circle each repetition of this key noun in the other paragraphs of the essay.

Now let's examine the parts of an essay in more detail.

. The essay contains six paragraphs. There are four paragraphs in the body.

Topic sentences;

Body Paragraph 1: First of all, Native Americans left a permanent imprint on the English Language

Body Paragraph 2: Art is another area of important Native American contributions.

Body Paragraph 3: In addition to language and art, agriculture is another area in which Native Americans had a great and lasting influence on the peoples who arrived here from Europe, Africa, and Asia.

B.P.4: Finally, it may surprise some people to learn that Americans are also indebted to the native people for our <u>form of government.</u>

 Native Americans is the key noun. It should be recycled 5 times in body paragraph 1, 4 times in b.p. 2, 4 times in b.p. 3, 1 in b.p. 4, and 2 in the concluding par.

PRACTICE 1

Introductory Paragraphs Step 1 Read each of the following sets of sentences. When put in the correct order, they will form introductory paragraphs.

Step 2 Write each paragraph, beginning with the most general statement first. Then add each sentence in the correct order until the introduction becomes more specific. Write the thesis statement last.

Step 3 Identify the type of introduction (funnel, dramatic/interesting/funny story, surprising statistics, historical).

Paragraph 1

- If done properly, a handshake gives the impression of strength and honesty, and if done improperly, it conveys weakness and dishonesty.
- 2. In some cultures, people bow, and in others, they shake hands.
- 3. In English-speaking countries, shaking hands is the custom.
- A proper handshake has four ingredients: pressure, pumps,¹ eye contact, and verbal message.

Paragraph 1: (5) The way people greet each other when they meet for first time varies from culture to culture. (2) in some cultures, people bow, and in others, they shake hands. (3) In English-speaking countries, shaking hands is the custom. (1) If done properly, a handshake gives the impression of strength and honesty, and if done completely; it conveys weakness and dishonesty. (4) A proper handshake has four ingredients: pressure, pumps, eye contact and verbal message.

Type of Introduction: Funnel

Paragraph 2: (2) Mr. X went to Mexico from England to manage a milk pasteurization plant. (9) For eight months, he tried every way possible... (10) The response was always, "yes, yes, yes"... (3) Then one day an impressive new pasteurization ... (1) To celebrate the occasion, Mr. X decided to throw a big party at the plant. (4) The employees did most of the planning and draped the new unit with garlands. (8) The party was a great success, and everybody had a good time. (5) During the party one of Mr. X's supervisors... (6) And so it was -neither punctuality nor quality checks were any longer needed. (7) This story illustrates the need to understand that doing business in a different culture demands an understanding of the culture Type of Introduction: Interesting story

| Paragraph 3 Note: The order of sentences 2, 3, and 4 can vary. Currently under study are four main methods for predicting when and where the next Big One will occur. In 1976, an earthquake in Tangshan, China, killed over 250,000 people. In an average year, earthquakes kill 10,000 people worldwide and cause millions of dollars worth of property damage. Iran suffered more than 80,000 deaths in two massive quakes in 1990 and 2003. Scientists keep trying to find ways to predict earthquakes—so far without | Paragraph 3: (2) In 1976, an earthquake in China killed over 250, 000 people. (4) Iran suffered more than 80,000 deaths. (3) In an average year, earthquakes kill 10, 000 people worldwide (5) Scientists keep trying to find ways to predict earthquakes (1) currently under study are 4 main methods of predicting when and where the next BIG ONE will occur. |
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| much success. Type of introduction: | Type of Introduction: Surprising Statistics or Facts |



PRACTICE 2

Thesis Statements

- A. Study these thesis statements from two different essays on the topic of the status of women in Xanadu, an imaginary country. One of the essays uses a comparison/contrast pattern, the other a time sequence (chronological order) pattern. Which statement indicates which pattern?
 - Beginning in World War II and continuing through the period of economic boom, the status of women in Xanadu has changed remarkably. Pattern of organization:
 - Although the status of women in Xanadu has improved remarkably in recent years, it is still very low when compared to the status of women in the countries of the industrial world.

Pattern of organization:_

- B. In each of the following two thesis statements, both the method of organization and the major subdivisions of the topic are indicated. Each subdivision will itself become the topic of a separate paragraph in the body of the essay. Underline the topics of each paragraph. How many paragraphs will the body of each essay probably contain?
 - The status of women in Xanadu has changed remarkably in recent years due to increased educational opportunities and changes in the country's laws.
 Probable number of body paragraphs: _____
 - The status of women in Xanadu has improved remarkably in recent years in the areas of economic independence, political rights, educational opportunities, and social status.

Probable number of body paragraphs: ____

A. 1. Chronological Order.2. Comparison and contrast

B. 1. Two Paragraphs:
Increased educational opportunities and changes in the country's laws.
2. Four Paragraphs:
economic independence, political rights, educational opportunities, and social status/.

| PRACTICE 3 A. Check (✓) the thesis statements that suggest logical division as a method of organization. | B. 2. Women generally live longer than men for two main reasons() they tend to ta |
|---|--|
| Thesis I. Teenagers demonstrate their independence in several ways. Statements Image: Ima | better care of their health, and they have better resistance to stress. 3. Teenagers declare their separateness from their parents by the way they dress and by the way they talk. 4. In [choosing a major, a student has to consider various factors], (such as perso interest, job opportunities, and the availability of training institutions. |
| Teenagers declare their separateness from their parents by the way they dress and by the way they talk. In choosing a major, a student has to consider various factors, such as personal interest, job opportunities, and the availability of training institutions. | |

PRACTICE 8 Essay Outlining

A. Below is an incomplete outline of the model essay "Native American Influences on Modern U.S. Culture" on pages 58–59. Complete the outline by filling in the missing parts.

Native American Influences on Modern U.S. Culture

I. Introduction

Thesis statement: Native Americans have made many valuable contributions to modern U.S. culture, particularly in the areas of language, art, food, and government.

II. Body

- A. Native Americans left a permanent mark on the English language.
 - 1. Names of places-cities, towns, rivers, and states
 - a. States: Delaware, Iowa, Illinois, Alabama
 - b. Cities: Chicago, Miami, Spokane
 - 2. Names of animals and plants
 - a. Animals: chipmunk, moose, raccoon, skunk
 - b. Plants: tobacco, squash

| В, | - | | |
|----|----|------------------------------|--|
| | 1. | Navajo rugs | |
| | 2. | Silver and turquoise jewelry | |
| | 3. | | |
| | | a. Pottery | |
| | | b | |
| | | C | |
| C. | _ | | |
| | 1. | Farming techniques | |
| | | a | |
| | | b | |
| | 2. | | |
| | | a | |

Practice 8: Essay Outlining (pages 76-77) Responses will vary. Suggested completions:

Native American Influences on Modern U.S. Culture

I. Introduction

Thesis statement: Native Americans have made many valuable contributions to American culture, particularly in the areas of language, art, food, and government. II. Body

- A. Native Americans left a permanent mark on the English language.
 - 1. Names of places-cities, towns, rivers, and states
 - a. States: Delaware, Iowa, Illinois, Alabama
 - b. Cities: Chicago, Miami, Spokane
 - 2. Names of animals and plants
 - a. Animals: chipmunk, moose, raccoon, skunk
 - b. Plants: tobacco, squash
- B. Art is another area of important Native American contributions.
 - 1. Navajo rugs
 - 2. Silver and turquoise jewelry

b.



III. Conclusion

We can easily see from these few examples the extent of Native American influence on our language, our art forms, our eating habits, and our government.