

Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay Study Guide

Understanding the Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay

A **personal narrative 5 paragraph essay** is a compelling form of writing that allows writers to share their personal experiences, insights, and lessons learned in a structured and engaging manner. This type of essay is commonly assigned in schools to help students develop their storytelling skills, enhance their writing abilities, and reflect on meaningful moments in their lives. By adhering to a clear format, writers can effectively communicate their stories, making their narratives both relatable and memorable for readers.

In essence, a personal narrative 5 paragraph essay combines storytelling with reflection. It provides a platform for individuals to express their thoughts and emotions while maintaining a coherent structure. Whether recounting a significant life event, a challenge overcome, or a moment of personal growth, this essay format emphasizes clarity, organization, and authenticity. As a foundational writing assignment, mastering the personal narrative 5 paragraph essay is crucial for students aiming to improve their overall writing skills and ability to convey personal stories compellingly.

The Structure of a Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay

A well-crafted personal narrative 5 paragraph essay typically follows a straightforward structure comprising an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Each part plays a vital role in shaping the overall narrative, ensuring that the story flows smoothly and resonates with the reader.

Introduction

The introduction sets the tone for the essay and hooks the reader's attention. It introduces the main idea or theme of the narrative, often including a thesis statement that hints at the story's purpose or lesson. A strong introduction may begin with a captivating hook—such as a question, a vivid description, or an intriguing statement—to draw the reader in.

Body Paragraphs

The three body paragraphs form the core of the personal narrative. Each paragraph focuses on a specific aspect of the story, providing details, sensory descriptions, and reflections.

Key elements of each body paragraph include:

- A topic sentence that introduces the main idea of the paragraph.
- Supporting details, such as actions, dialogue, and descriptions.
- Personal reflections or insights related to the events.
- Transitions that connect ideas smoothly.

The chronological order is commonly used to present events, but writers may also employ flashbacks or other narrative techniques to enhance storytelling.

Conclusion

The conclusion wraps up the narrative by reflecting on the significance of the experience. It reinforces the main message or lesson learned and leaves the reader with a lasting impression. A compelling conclusion may also connect the story to broader themes or future implications, providing closure and depth.

Key Elements of a Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay

Creating an effective personal narrative involves several essential components that contribute to clarity and emotional impact.

Engaging Hook

Start with a sentence or question that grabs the reader's attention immediately. Examples include:

- A vivid sensory detail.
- An intriguing question related to the story.
- A surprising statement or fact.

Clear Focus or Theme

Identify the central message or lesson of your narrative. This focus guides the storytelling and helps the reader understand the purpose behind sharing the experience.

Vivid Descriptions and Details

Use sensory language and specific details to bring the story to life. Show, don't just tell—allow the reader to visualize scenes, hear sounds, and feel emotions.

Personal Reflection

Share your thoughts and feelings about the events. Reflection adds depth and demonstrates personal growth or insight gained from the experience.

Strong Conclusion

Summarize the main points and reinforce the lesson or significance of the story. End with a thought-provoking idea or a call to action to leave a lasting impact.

Tips for Writing a Successful Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay

Writing a personal narrative can be both rewarding and challenging. Here are some tips to craft a compelling and well-structured essay:

- Plan Your Story Before Writing

Create an outline or graphic organizer to map out the sequence of events, key details, and reflections. Planning ensures your story remains focused and organized.

- Use Descriptive Language

Engage readers with sensory details and vivid imagery. Descriptions help readers experience the story alongside you.

- Be Authentic and Honest

Authenticity resonates with readers. Share genuine feelings and thoughts to make your narrative relatable and heartfelt.

- Focus on a Single Event or Theme

Avoid overloading your essay with multiple stories. Concentrate on one main event or lesson to maintain clarity.

- Revise and Edit Thoroughly

Review your draft for grammatical errors, clarity, and coherence. Reading aloud can help identify awkward phrasing and improve flow.

- Include Dialogue When Appropriate

Dialogue can add realism and bring characters to life, making scenes more dynamic.

- Show Personal Growth or Lessons Learned

Reflect on how the experience impacted you, emphasizing personal development and insights gained.

Examples of Personal Narrative Topics

Choosing a meaningful topic is crucial for crafting an engaging personal narrative. Here are some ideas to inspire your writing:

- The most memorable vacation or trip.
- Overcoming a fear or challenge.
- A significant moment with family or friends.
- An experience that changed your perspective.
- A personal achievement or milestone.
- A time you learned an important life lesson.
- An embarrassing moment and what you learned from it.
- A moment of kindness or generosity you experienced or showed.

Selecting a topic that resonates with you will make the writing process more authentic and enjoyable, ultimately resulting in a more compelling essay.

The Importance of Personal Narratives in Academic and Personal Growth

Personal narratives serve as powerful tools for self-expression and reflection. In academic settings, they help students develop critical thinking, organization, and storytelling skills. On a personal level, writing narratives allows individuals to process experiences, understand their emotions, and gain insights into their own lives.

Moreover, personal narratives foster empathy and connection. Sharing stories about challenges,

successes, or meaningful moments can inspire others and build a sense of community. Whether in school assignments, college applications, or personal journaling, mastering the personal narrative 5 paragraph essay is an invaluable skill that combines creativity with structure.

Conclusion

Mastering the **personal narrative 5 paragraph essay** is an essential step for anyone looking to improve their storytelling and reflective writing skills. By understanding its structure?comprising an engaging introduction, three detailed body paragraphs, and a meaningful conclusion?writers can craft compelling stories that resonate with readers. Incorporating vivid descriptions, personal reflections, and authentic emotions enhances the depth and impact of the narrative.

Remember to plan your story carefully, focus on a central theme, and revise your work thoroughly. Whether recounting a life-changing event or sharing a simple yet profound experience, a well-written personal narrative can inspire, educate, and connect people across diverse backgrounds. As you practice and refine your skills, you'll discover that personal storytelling is not only an academic exercise but also a powerful means of self-expression and personal growth.

Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay: A Comprehensive Guide

A personal narrative 5 paragraph essay is a storytelling format that allows writers to share meaningful personal experiences in a structured, engaging manner. This form of writing is a staple in educational settings, helping students develop their storytelling skills while also honing their ability to craft clear, concise, and impactful essays. Whether used in classrooms or as a personal reflection tool, mastering the five-paragraph personal narrative is essential for effective communication and self-expression.

Understanding the Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay

What Is a Personal Narrative?

A personal narrative is a story written from the writer's own perspective, focusing on a specific incident or experience that holds significance to them. Unlike fictional stories, personal narratives are rooted in real events and emotions, aiming to convey lessons learned, personal growth, or insights gained. They can be about moments of triumph, challenge, discovery, or transformation.

The Structure of the 5 Paragraph Essay

The five-paragraph essay format is a straightforward yet powerful way to organize a personal narrative. It typically includes:

- Introduction
- Body Paragraph 1
- Body Paragraph 2
- Body Paragraph 3
- Conclusion

This structure provides a clear framework that guides the writer from setting the scene to reflecting on its significance.

Importance of the Format

Using a five-paragraph structure helps writers:

- Maintain focus on a single central experience.
- Organize ideas logically.
- Develop their narrative with sufficient detail.
- Conclude with insights or lessons learned.

Crafting the Introduction of a Personal Narrative

Hook the Reader

Begin with an engaging sentence or question that draws the reader into your story. This could be a vivid description, a surprising fact, or a provocative question related to your experience.

Set the Scene

Provide context for your story. Mention the time, place, and the people involved. This helps the reader visualize the setting and understand the background.

State the Main Point

End the introduction with a thesis statement that summarizes the core of your narrative. It should hint at the lesson or significance of the experience without giving away all details.

Example of an Introduction:

"Have you ever faced a moment that completely changed your perspective? I had such an experience during my summer volunteering trip, where I learned the true meaning of compassion and resilience. That day not only transformed how I see the world but also shaped who I am today."

Developing the Body Paragraphs

The body of a personal narrative 5 paragraph essay is where the story unfolds. Each paragraph should focus on a specific part of the experience, progressing logically toward the conclusion.

Body Paragraph 1: Setting the Stage

- Describe the initial situation or event.
- Introduce the characters involved.
- Share relevant background details.
- Use sensory details to immerse the reader.

Example Points:

- The environment or location where the event took place.
- Your feelings or expectations at the beginning.
- Any relevant circumstances leading up to the main event.

Body Paragraph 2: The Conflict or Turning Point

- Detail the challenge, obstacle, or pivotal moment.
- Show your emotional response and thoughts.
- Highlight actions taken or decisions made.

Example Points:

- A problem you faced.
- How you felt overwhelmed, scared, or uncertain.
- The steps you took to confront or resolve the issue.

Body Paragraph 3: Resolution and Reflection

- Describe how the situation was resolved.
- Share the outcome and lessons learned.
- Reflect on how the experience affected you.

Example Points:

- What you gained from the experience.
- How your perspective or behavior changed.
- The personal growth resulting from the event.

Concluding the Narrative Effectively

Summarize and Reflect

The conclusion should revisit the main lesson or insight gained from the experience. It ties the story together and leaves the reader with a lasting impression.

Restate the Significance

Reinforce why the experience was meaningful and how it influenced your life moving forward.

End with a Thought-Provoking Statement

Conclude with a question, quote, or statement that encourages reflection or emphasizes the story's message.

Example of a Conclusion:

"That summer taught me that resilience in the face of adversity can lead to unexpected growth. It reminded me that even in moments of doubt, persistence and compassion can guide us toward a better understanding of ourselves and others."

Tips for Writing a Strong Personal Narrative 5 Paragraph Essay

- **Be Honest and Authentic:** Personal narratives are most compelling when they genuinely reflect your feelings and experiences.
- **Use Vivid Descriptions:** Engage the reader with sensory details? sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and textures.
- **Show, Don't Tell:** Instead of simply stating emotions, illustrate them through actions and dialogue.
- **Maintain Focus:** Stick to one main experience or theme to keep the narrative cohesive.
- **Revise and Edit:** Review your essay for clarity, grammar, and emotional impact. Consider feedback from peers or teachers.

Final Thoughts

Mastering the personal narrative 5 paragraph essay is a fundamental skill that combines storytelling with structured writing. It allows individuals to articulate their experiences with clarity and depth, fostering both personal growth and effective communication. Whether for academic assignments or personal reflection, a well-crafted five-paragraph personal narrative can inspire, teach, and resonate with readers long after the story is told.

By understanding the elements of introduction, development, and conclusion, and applying vivid storytelling techniques, writers can produce compelling narratives that leave a lasting impression. Embrace the process, be honest in your storytelling, and let your unique voice shine through each paragraph.

Question What is a personal narrative 5-paragraph essay? A personal narrative 5-paragraph essay is a short, structured story that shares a personal experience, typically organized into an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion, focusing on storytelling and reflection. **Answer** What are the key components of a personal narrative 5-paragraph essay? The key components include an engaging introduction, three body paragraphs that develop the story with details and reflections, and a conclusion that wraps up the story and shares the lesson learned. How do I choose a good topic for my personal narrative essay? Select a meaningful experience that had a significant impact on you, is memorable, and offers enough detail to tell a compelling story while allowing for reflection and personal growth. What should I include in the introduction of my personal narrative essay? The introduction should hook the reader with an interesting opening, introduce the setting or main idea, and include a clear thesis statement or purpose for your story. How can I make my personal narrative more engaging? Use vivid descriptions, sensory details, dialogue, and emotional reflections to bring your story to life and connect with the reader on a personal level. What is the purpose of the conclusion in a personal narrative essay? The conclusion summarizes the main points, reflects on the significance of the experience, and leaves the reader with a lasting impression or lesson learned. How do I ensure my personal narrative essay is well-organized? Plan your essay with an outline, ensure each paragraph has a clear focus, use transitions for smooth flow, and stay focused on the central story and its message.

Related keywords: personal essay, narrative writing, five paragraph structure, storytelling, autobiographical essay, essay introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion, writing tips, personal storytelling

Killer Sat Essay

killer sat essay is a phrase that strikes fear into the hearts of many high school students preparing for one of the most challenging components of the SAT exam. The SAT essay, although optional in some regions, remains a critical opportunity for students to showcase their analytical skills, writing prowess, and ability to craft a compelling argument under time constraints. Achieving a high score on the SAT essay can significantly enhance a student's overall application profile, making the difference between an average and an outstanding college application. This article delves into strategies, tips, and insights to help you craft a killer SAT essay that not only meets the scoring criteria but also impresses admissions officers.

Understanding the SAT Essay: What You Need to Know

What Is the SAT Essay?

The SAT Essay is an optional component designed to assess a student's ability to analyze a provided text and construct a coherent, evidence-based argument. Typically, students are given a passage—often a speech, editorial, or literary excerpt—and are asked to analyze how the author builds their argument, uses rhetorical devices, and persuades the audience.

Why Is the Essay Important?

Even though some colleges have moved away from requiring SAT essays, many still consider the score as part of the holistic review process. A strong essay can demonstrate critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and writing skills—qualities highly valued in college.

The Scoring Criteria

The SAT essay is scored on a scale of 2–8 in three categories:

- Reading
- Analysis
- Writing

These scores are then combined to give a total score out of 24. A killer SAT essay excels across all three domains, showcasing depth of understanding, insightful analysis, and polished writing.

Key Elements of a Killer SAT Essay

1. Clear and Focused Thesis Statement

Your thesis should succinctly state your main argument or interpretation of the passage. It serves as

the roadmap for your essay and should directly answer the prompt.

2. Strong Evidence and Examples

Use specific references from the passage to support your analysis. Quote or paraphrase key parts, explaining how they contribute to the author's argument and your overall analysis.

3. Logical and Coherent Structure

Organize your essay into clear paragraphs with topic sentences. Ensure each paragraph transitions smoothly to the next, maintaining a logical flow.

4. Analytical Depth

Don't just summarize the passage?explain how the author uses rhetorical devices, tone, diction, and structure to persuade the audience.

5. Polished Language and Grammar

Use varied sentence structures and precise vocabulary. Proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling are essential to demonstrate mastery of writing skills.

Strategies to Write a Killer SAT Essay

Preparation Before the Test

Effective preparation involves familiarizing yourself with the test format, practicing with real prompts, and honing your analytical and writing skills.

- Practice analyzing various passages and identifying rhetorical devices
- Develop a set of go-to templates for introductions and conclusions
- Work on timed writing to simulate test conditions
- Read high-quality editorials and essays to strengthen your analytical skills

During the Test: Step-by-Step Approach

A systematic approach can help you maximize your score:

- **Read the Passage Carefully:** Spend 3-4 minutes understanding the main argument and

rhetorical strategies.

- **Outline Your Essay:** Jot down your thesis statement and main points to stay organized.
- **Write a Clear Introduction:** Introduce the passage and state your thesis.
- **Develop Body Paragraphs:** Use each paragraph to analyze specific rhetorical devices or strategies, providing evidence and explanations.
- **Conclude Effectively:** Summarize your key points and restate your thesis in a new way.
- **Review and Edit:** If time permits, quickly check for grammatical errors and clarity.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

To craft a killer essay, steer clear of these mistakes:

- Failing to address all parts of the prompt
- Providing superficial analysis without depth
- Overusing quotations without explanation
- Ignoring the author's rhetorical strategies
- Writing overly vague or generic statements
- Neglecting organization and coherence

Sample Outline for a Killer SAT Essay

Creating a structured outline before you start writing can greatly improve clarity and coherence. Here's an example:

Introduction

- Briefly introduce the passage and its main argument
- State your thesis about how the author constructs their persuasive strategy

Body Paragraph 1: Rhetorical Devices

- Identify a specific device (e.g., metaphor, repetition)
- Quote or paraphrase the passage
- Explain how this device enhances the author's argument

Body Paragraph 2: Tone and Diction

- Analyze the tone (e.g., urgent, optimistic)
- Discuss word choices that contribute to this tone
- Connect tone to the overall purpose

Body Paragraph 3: Structural Elements

- Examine paragraph organization or sentence structure
- Describe how structure emphasizes key points
- Support with examples

Conclusion

- Recap your main points
- Restate the significance of the author's rhetorical approach
- Reinforce your thesis

Additional Tips for Achieving a High Score

Practice with Real Prompts

Use official SAT practice tests and prompts from College Board to simulate real testing conditions.

Time Management

Allocate approximately 50 minutes for the essay, dividing time as follows:

- Read and analyze: 10 minutes
- Outline: 5 minutes
- Write: 25-30 minutes
- Review: 5-10 minutes

Seek Feedback

Share your practice essays with teachers or tutors to receive constructive critique and identify areas for improvement.

Refine Your Voice and Style

Aim for clarity, confidence, and variety in your language. A distinctive voice can make your essay stand out.

Conclusion: Mastering the Art of the Killer SAT Essay

While the phrase killer sat essay might evoke anxiety, approaching the task with preparation, strategy, and confidence can transform it into an opportunity to shine. Focus on understanding the prompt, developing a clear thesis, supporting your analysis with specific evidence, and organizing your ideas logically. Remember, a high-scoring SAT essay is not just about correct grammar or vocabulary but about demonstrating your analytical ability and critical thinking skills. With consistent practice and a strategic approach, you can craft a killer SAT essay that leaves a lasting impression on admissions committees and boosts your overall exam score.

Killer SAT Essay: Mastering the Art of a Standout Performance

*killer sat essay?*these words evoke a mix of anxiety, determination, and the desire to excel. The SAT essay, although optional on many recent tests, remains a critical component for students aiming for top-tier colleges. A compelling SAT essay can set a student apart, demonstrating analytical prowess, strong writing skills, and a nuanced understanding of complex texts. But what exactly does it take to craft a killer SAT essay? This article delves deep into strategies, tips, and insights to help students approach the SAT essay with confidence and craft a performance that stands out.

Understanding the SAT Essay: What Is It and Why Does It Matter?

The Purpose of the SAT Essay

The SAT essay is designed to evaluate three core skills:

- Reading comprehension: How well can you analyze a provided text?
- Analytical reasoning: Can you discern the author's techniques and intentions?
- Writing proficiency: Are your ideas organized, clear, and compelling?

While the College Board has made the essay optional, many competitive colleges still consider it when reviewing applications. A killer essay demonstrates your ability to think critically and communicate effectively—traits highly valued by admissions officers.

Format and Expectations

Typically, students have 50 minutes to complete the essay, which involves:

- Reading a provided passage (around 650-750 words)
- Developing a well-organized, analytical essay response
- Supporting your claims with evidence from the text

The essay is scored on three dimensions: Reading, Analysis, and Writing, each rated from 2 to 8 points.

Key Elements of a Killer SAT Essay

Achieving a high score on the SAT essay hinges on mastering several core components:

- Strong, Clear Thesis Statement

Your thesis should explicitly state your main argument about the author's techniques or purpose. It acts as the blueprint for your essay, guiding the reader through your analysis.

Tip: Avoid vague statements like "The author uses many techniques." Instead, specify what techniques and their effects, e.g., "The author employs vivid imagery and rhetorical questions to emphasize the protagonist's inner turmoil."

- Effective Use of Evidence

Support your analysis with direct quotations and specific references from the passage. Demonstrating close reading shows your ability to engage deeply with the text.

Tip: Incorporate at least 2-3 pieces of evidence per body paragraph to substantiate your claims.

- Analytical Depth

A killer essay doesn't just paraphrase the passage; it analyzes how the author's choices influence the reader or serve the overall purpose.

Tip: Explain why the author uses a particular technique and how it affects the reader's understanding or emotional response.

- Cohesive and Organized Structure

Logical flow is crucial. Use clear topic sentences, transition words, and ordered paragraphs to make your essay easy to follow.

Tip: Outline your essay briefly before writing to ensure a coherent structure.

- Strong Conclusion

Summarize your main points and reinforce how your analysis supports your thesis. Leave the reader with a lasting impression of your critical insight.

Strategies for Writing a Killer SAT Essay

Achieving excellence requires deliberate practice and strategic planning. Here are actionable strategies:

Pre-Writing Preparation

- Familiarize Yourself with Common Text Types: The SAT often uses speeches, essays, or excerpts from famous works. Recognize common techniques like tone, diction, imagery, and rhetorical devices.
- Practice Active Reading: Annotate as you read?underline key phrases, note rhetorical devices, and jot down initial impressions.
- Create a Quick Outline: Decide your main analytical points early, so your essay remains focused.

During the Exam

- Manage Your Time: Allocate about 5-10 minutes for planning, 35-40 minutes for writing, and 5-10 minutes for revising.
- Start Strong: Craft a clear thesis statement in your introduction.
- Use Evidence Effectively: Embed quotations smoothly, followed by analysis.
- Stay Focused: Stick to analyzing the author's techniques rather than summarizing the passage.
- Revise and Edit: Correct grammatical errors and clarify awkward sentences in the final minutes.

Post-Writing Tips

- Read Your Essay Aloud: Hearing it can help catch errors and awkward phrasing.

- Ensure Clarity and Precision: Avoid vague language; be specific in your analysis.
- Check for Consistency: Make sure your essay supports your thesis throughout.

Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them

Even talented writers can stumble on test day. Here are typical mistakes and how to sidestep them:

- Summarizing Instead of Analyzing

Mistake: Rehashing the passage rather than analyzing techniques.

Solution: Focus your paragraphs on how the author uses specific devices and why they matter.

- Lack of Clear Thesis

Mistake: Vague or absent thesis statements.

Solution: Draft a precise thesis early and refer back to it to maintain focus.

- Insufficient Evidence

Mistake: Using only general statements or no quotations.

Solution: Incorporate direct evidence and explain its significance.

- Poor Organization

Mistake: Jumping between ideas without transitions.

Solution: Use topic sentences and transition words to guide the reader.

- Time Mismanagement

Mistake: Spending too long on introduction or one paragraph.

Solution: Stick to the planned outline and pace yourself.

Practice Makes Perfect: Building Your Killer Essay

Achieving a killer SAT essay isn't about innate talent; it's about preparation and practice. Here are some ways to hone your skills:

- Analyze Sample Essays: Review high-scoring essays to understand what makes them effective.
- Practice with Real Passages: Write essays within the 50-minute limit using authentic prompts.
- Seek Feedback: Have teachers or peers review your essays for constructive criticism.
- Focus on Technique: Instead of just writing, analyze how authors craft their messages.

Final Thoughts: The Key to a Killer SAT Essay

A killer SAT essay combines analytical insight, clear organization, and compelling writing. Remember that your goal is not just to summarize but to demonstrate your ability to dissect an author's techniques, understand their purpose, and articulate your insights effectively.

Success on the SAT essay requires strategic preparation, disciplined practice, and a confident approach during the exam. By mastering the core elements—thesis statement, evidence, analysis, and organization—you can transform your essay into a powerful piece that leaves a lasting impression on admissions committees.

In the pursuit of college admissions excellence, a well-crafted SAT essay can be your secret weapon. Approach it with seriousness, practice diligently, and aim to produce an essay that truly stands out as killer.

Question What are some effective strategies to craft a compelling SAT essay that can 'kill' the test? To craft a compelling SAT essay, focus on analyzing a provided text critically, develop a clear thesis, use specific evidence and examples, organize your ideas logically, and write with clarity and precision. Practice outlining your essay quickly to ensure a cohesive structure under timed conditions. How important is understanding the prompt when aiming to 'kill' the SAT essay? Understanding the prompt thoroughly is crucial because it guides your analysis and ensures your essay stays focused on addressing the specific task. Misinterpreting the prompt can lead to off-topic essays, which can significantly lower your score. What common mistakes should be avoided to 'kill' the SAT essay? Common mistakes include neglecting to analyze the author's argument, relying on vague or generic language, failing to organize ideas clearly, running out of time, and not providing enough concrete evidence. Avoid these to maximize your essay score. How can practicing with sample prompts help improve your SAT essay score? Practicing with sample prompts helps you become familiar with the test format, improves your ability to quickly plan and organize your essay, develops your analytical skills, and builds confidence—all essential for writing a high-scoring essay on test day. Is it better to focus on content or language skills when aiming to 'kill' the SAT essay?

Both content and language skills are important. Strong content with a clear, insightful analysis paired with correct grammar, varied sentence structure, and precise vocabulary will make your essay stand out. Balancing both aspects is key to achieving a top score.

Related keywords: SAT essay tips, SAT writing strategies, SAT essay scoring, SAT essay examples, SAT essay prompts, improving SAT essay, SAT essay structure, SAT essay tips, scoring high on SAT essay, SAT essay practice

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