Expository Paragraphs

An expository paragraph EXPLAINS something to the reader.

\*\*There are 5 paragraphs in an expository essay.

Paragraph 1 – Introduction

Paragraph 2 – Reason 1

Paragraph 3 – Reason 2

Paragraph 4 – Reason 3

Paragraph 5 – Conclusion

Let’s take a look at these paragraphs in detail.

**Paragraph 1 – The Introduction**

Must include:

1. Answer the prompt in a creative way (grabber).
2. Give a topic sentence.
3. One sentence to introduce each reason. (Total 3 sentences)
4. Invitation to read the rest of the essay.

Example Paragraph

*Note: Reason used in Reason Paragraph is underlined. Pay attention to how they work together.*

Roar! That is my favorite sound. Why? Well, Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal. I love the way they move. They have an interesting look to them. Best of all, I love watching the mom and cubs play. So, read on and see why Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal on the planet!

**Paragraphs 2, 3, & 4 – The Reasons**

You have chosen 3 reasons for your answer. Each reason has its own paragraph where you further explain your reason.

*Example: If the prompt asks about your favorite animal, you come up with 3 reasons why you like this animal. Each reason has 3 supporting details that tell what you mean by. In your reason paragraphs you will explain each of your reasons in detail.*

Each reason paragraph should include:

* + 1. A grabber for your reason.
    2. Topic sentence that tells what the paragraph will be about.
    3. Your supporting details. Each detail should have 1 sentence that explains it further.
    4. Give an example or experience that illustrates your reason.

Example Reason Paragraph (reason underlined is underlined also in introduction)

Bengal Tigers have been used in live shows for years. Why? They are graceful people love to watch them move. Tigers can be found lazily sleeping in trees. Even while asleep, they can balance their large bodies on a branch without falling. But, don’t think they are lazy! When their tail is up, their large strides let them run fast. Their bodies are machines. Tigers are hunters. They run fast through herds to catch the best prey. They love having a good time too. When they play, they can sit and stand up on their hind legs for a long time. I fell in love with tigers the day I went to be a caretaker for the day. I got to see the tigers from the back of the cage. There I was able to see them run, play, and even spend time napping. In my opinion, they are the most graceful animal in the world!

**Paragraphs 5 – The Conclusion**

Must include:

1. Give a topic sentence, restate from introduction paragraph
2. One sentence to remind the reader of each reason. (Total 3 sentences)
3. Zinger.

Example Paragraph

Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal. I love the way they move. They have an interesting look to them. Best of all, I love watching the mom and cubs play. Roar! Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal on the planet!

Putting It All Together

*Below you will find an example expository essay with prompt and organizer.*

**Every student has a favorite animal.  
Think about your animal.  
Now write to explain why this is your favorite animal.**

Roar! That is my favorite sound. Why? Well, Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal. I love the way they move. They have an interesting look to them. Best of all, I love watching the mom and cubs play. So, read on and see why Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal on the planet!

Bengal Tigers have been used in live shows for years. Why? They are graceful people love to watch them move. Tigers can be found lazily sleeping in trees. Even while asleep, they can balance their large bodies on a branch without falling. But, don’t think they are lazy! When their tail is up, their large strides let them run fast. Their bodies are machines. Tigers are hunters. They run fast through herds to catch the best prey. They love having a good time too. When they play, they can sit and stand up on their hind legs for a long time. I fell in love with tigers the day I went to be a caretaker for the day. I got to see the tigers from the back of the cage. There I was able to see them run, play, and even spend time napping. In my opinion, they are the most graceful animal in the world!

Did you know that no two tigers look exactly the same? Tigers have an interesting look to them. First, tigers come in two colors. The most common color is gold. The second color, which I find the most beautiful, is white. You can tell tigers apart by their markings. Even though they all have stripes, the location and number of stripes is different. One tiger can have long, thin stripes. Another can have long thin stripes. Still another can have thick, short stripes. One thing is sure. All tigers have large, muscular bodies. On their hind legs can be at least 6 feet tall. They can weigh up to 400 pounds. Next time you see a picture of a tiger, take the time to look and count all of their stripes. If you haven’t already seen a white tiger, you should visit the Miami Metro Zoo sometime soon.

Watch out! Don’t ever get close to a mom tiger and her cubs. Tigers make great parents. When the babies are born she stays with them all the time. Mom only leaves to get food. Even then, if there is danger nearby, she will not leave her cubs alone. Mom does everything from keeping them warm, to bathing them and feeding them. When her cubs are old enough, she will take them outside and play with them. Can you imagine that she will even let them hang onto her tail! My favorite is when she teaches them to hunt. Mom tiger will teach them how to crouch down in the grass and stay quiet. She will then teach them how to run really fast and jump. When you think about it, mom tigers are a lot like humans. They both will do anything to protect their babies, teach them how to do things, and play with them.

Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal. I love the way they move. They have an interesting look to them. Best of all, I love watching the mom and cubs play. Roar! Bengal Tigers are my favorite animal on the planet!