

INDS 330 WRITING GUIDELINES

09-11-07

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An exemplary essay contains the following qualities:

- Clearly stated topic sentence or sentences (thesis)
- Well constructed sentences and paragraphs
- Specific examples and references to Repko and other authors
- Original ideas with evidence to support your claims
- Acknowledgement of counterarguments to your claims (antithesis)
- Discussion of various disciplinary perspectives on a topic
- A clear conclusion and synthesis of perspectives
- No spelling or grammatical errors

In terms of writing process:

- Show your first draft to the Writing Center (or writer friend) for feedback and clarification
- Review, Revise, and Refine your ideas
- Proofread!

Building an argument for an idea can take the form of a paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting data and quotes, possible counterarguments and other perspectives, and a concluding sentence. For example:

“My idea is to _____. Here are some reasons why this idea or solution is important; I might include an analogy or metaphor to help you (the reader) visualize my idea. The supporting evidence is _____. There might be counterarguments to my claims; for example, an economist might say _____ while a psychologist might say _____. Here is what Repko wrote about _____, which supports my idea (Repko page ____). My conclusion is _____.”

In conclusion, let your writing be purpose-driven. What point do you want to make, and how will you teach me to understand your bold new concept? In a metaphorical sense, draw a map for me of your world: How are the issues laid out? How will we walk through your ideas together? What is our destination?