

**GERALDTON COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
ESSAY STRUCTURE FORMAT**

The Essay:

Essay Introductions Include:

1. Topic Sentence
2. Listing of main ideas.
3. State the thesis.
4. Concluding Sentence/ Transition Sentence.

Essay Bodies Include:

1. Topic Sentence
2. State the main point.
3. Support for the main point. (Quotes, Statistics, Anecdotes, Testimonials, Examples, other)
4. Explanation of the support and how it contributes to your main point.
5. Second support for main point.
6. Explanation of the support and how it contributes to your main point.
7. Repeat (as needed)
8. Concluding Sentence/ Transition Sentence.

Essay Conclusions Include:

1. Topic Sentence.
2. Referencing to the thesis.
3. Summarize your final conclusion about the thesis.
4. Question, extend your thought, analyze, challenge your reader or look to the future.

Style:

- Spelling
- Run-On Sentence

- Comma Splices
- Word Usage
- Sentence Fragment
- Capitalization
- Other

Formatting (MLA):

- Italics for titles.
- MLA header consisting of student's name, teacher's name, Class code and date. Header needs to be doubled spaced.
- Last name and page number should not be on the first page.
- Times New Roman Font 12 point.
- White paper only.
- Only one space between paragraphs.
- Do not allow one sentence on the next page (paragraph format)
- Punctuation after a quote – period after reference bracket.
- Reference bracket (last name, number) no p. before the number.
- Consistent indentation after paragraphs.
- One space after each period.