

This I Believe essay

Mrs. Kirby

What is an expository essay?

An expository essay communicates the significance of a central idea or insight that has deep personal meaning to the writer

Three Types of Essays

Informational Essay

1. Conveys information

2. Objective tone

3. Requires documentation

4. Formal language and topic selection

Persuasive Essay

1. Persuades an audience

2. Objective tone

3. Requires documentation

4. Formal language and topic selection

Expository Essay

1. Explains a belief or idea

2. Subjective tone

3. No documentation needed

4. Informal language and subject matter

How do I begin?

- Listen to samples from *This I Believe* on www.npr.org.
- Identify one of your personal beliefs.
- Experiment with different types of leads.
 - * Question - **When was the last time you were kind to a stranger?**
 - * Quotation - **“Be happy,” were my mother’s final words to me.**
 - * Strong Statement - **If you eat enough candy, you will be happy.**
 - * Metaphor - **My life is a puzzle with some pieces missing from the box.**
 - * Description - **The pink curtains, the pink carpet, the pink bedspread: it was as if someone had vomited Pepto-Bismol over the entire room.**
- Be certain your main idea (BELIEF) is clear to your audience.
- Write your essay using **active verbs, not passive.**