

# Glossary

**Body Paragraph (n)**

*A paragraph with one central idea that is usually located in the middle of an essay. A body paragraph typically has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.*

**Brainstorm (v)**

*To think of ideas.*

**Cohesion (n)**

*The quality of flowing logically from one idea to another.*

**Compare/contrast essay (n)**

*An essay that is written to show the similarities/differences between two subjects.*

**Concluding sentence (n)**

*The last sentence of a body paragraph. A conclusion sentence should bring a paragraph to a logical close.*

**Conclusion paragraph (n)**

*The final paragraph of an essay. A conclusion paragraph should bring an essay to a logical close.*

**Development (n)**

*Adequate details, reasons, examples, and explanation that clearly illustrate an idea.*

**Draft (v)**

*To write.*

**Edit (v)**

*To make changes to the grammar, spelling, and vocabulary of a piece of writing.*

**Essay (n)**

*A multi-paragraph composition on a subject. Often called a "paper."*

**Free write (v)**

*To write without worrying about structure. This is frequently a strategy for brainstorming.*

**Hook (n)**

*The first sentence of an introduction paragraph that is written to catch a reader's attention.*

**Idea Map (n)**

*A visual picture that shows connected ideas with a central topic and subtopics that branch out from the center. Making an idea map is frequently a strategy for brainstorming.*

**Introduction paragraph (n)**

*The first paragraph of an essay. An introduction paragraph provides background information that the reader needs and clearly states the main idea of the essay.*

**Outline (n)**

*A plan for an essay that shows the basic organization or structure that a piece of writing will follow.*

**Paragraph (n)**

*A group of sentences that develop one idea.*

**Plagiarism (n)**

*Using another person's words or ideas without properly giving credit to the author.*

**Prewriting (n)**

*Activities completed before drafting an essay.*

**Problem/solution essay (n)**

*An essay that is written to describe the solution(s) to a problem.*

**Process Essay (n)**

*An essay that is written to show how something is done.*

**Revise (v)**

*To make changes to improve the clarity or effectiveness of an essay.*

**Summary (n)**

*A brief expression of the main ideas or major details from a source text (spoken or written)*

**Supporting sentence (n)**

*A sentence that provides details, examples, explanations, reasons, etc. to support a topic sentence.*

**Thesis (n)**

*The main idea of an essay.*

**Topic sentence (n)**

*The main idea of a paragraph.*

**Unity (n)**

*The quality of having all of the supporting sentences in a piece of writing support the topic sentence.*



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