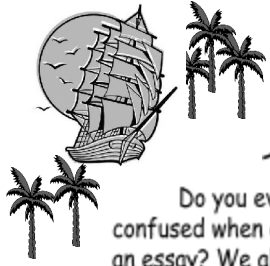


Navigating Your Essay



Do you ever feel lost or confused when outlining or writing an essay? We all have!

Here are some tips on how to navigate your essay by using Introductions, Body Paragraphs, Topic Sentences, and Conclusions.



Essay **introductions** can be tricky. Essentially, it introduces the reader to the topic and includes relevant background information, as well as the thesis statement. The **thesis statement** tells the reader what the main points of discussion will be throughout the essay.

Use the introduction to draw the reader's interest in learning about your essay topic.



Topic Sentences are a great way to navigate your essay because they act as a guide, or map, for the progression of your thoughts.



Body paragraphs detail any evidence, specifically academic research, that supports your claim.

Each paragraph should have a **topic sentence**. For example, if you use a 3-point thesis statement and write three corresponding body paragraphs, you will have at least three different topic sentences. These sentences detail the purpose of each point of your thesis within the body paragraphs.



X Marks the Spots!

The **conclusion** summarizes and concludes the research outlined in the essay and reiterates the thesis statement.