

The Writing Process

Constructing an Extended Response Essay

Tab # 1 ~ The Writing Process:

Notes → What is it?

- Measures **ELA** skills: reading, writing, & listening for information.
- To interpret, draw conclusions, make connections, and synthesize the text while thoughtfully responding to a task.
- To apply and explain specific **text-based details** to a task.
- Writing is thinking on paper ~ “leave tracks of your thinking...”

Notes → The Writing Process Steps:

- **Prewriting** – to gather ideas and organize thoughts
- **Rough Draft** – to get ideas to paper
- **Revising** – to improve it! Determine what works and what doesn't work.
- **Editing** – to check the conventions of the English language by using self editing, peer editing, and teacher editing.
- **Publishing** – to share work with an audience

Tab # 2 ~ Interpreting the Task:

- Read the task **twice**.
- Circle, highlight or underline the requirements of the task. Include key words or phrases.
- Can you “echo back” words from the required task?
- **Make connections** between the **text** and the **task**.
- Decide what information will be placed on the **Graphic Organizer** → Tab 6

Tab # 3 ~ The Introduction

The **first paragraph** of an extended response

- **Hook** – grabs the reader's attention and helps the reader focus on the task.
 - It may be a question, a statement, a definition, a quotation, or a description.
- **Link** – connects the hook and the thesis to the topic of the extended response. It includes the author, title, and genre of the passage if appropriate.
- **Thesis** – It is the **main idea** or **main point** of the extended response. It's the **hypothesis** → what is going to be proven.



Tab # 4 ~ Body Paragraphs

- There may be 2 – 3 **body paragraphs** → look at the task! What is it asking?
- **First sentence** → **Topic Sentence** – tells the main idea of the paragraph. Explain it!
- **Text-Based Details** → Use 3 – 5 text-based details, details, details to support the thesis → main idea. Explain them!
- **Closing Sentence** ~ It sums up the **main idea** of the paragraph. It leads to the next paragraph.
- Use **transitions** effectively!

Tab # 5 ~ Conclusion Paragraph

- **Restate the Thesis** – Brings the reader back to the focus of the extended response essay. It restates the thesis (main idea) in a different form than the introduction.
- **Final Thought** – What conclusion was drawn? It leaves the reader thinking → it's the point to ponder...
 - It should not be a question!
- Use a concluding transition effectively!

Tab # 6 ~ The Graphic Organizer Model

Introduction Paragraph

Hook → _____

Link → _____

Thesis → _____

Topic sentence:

Text-based details:

Closing Sentence:

Topic sentence:

Text-based details:

Closing Sentence:

Topic sentence:

Text-based details:

Closing Sentence:

Concluding Paragraph

Restate thesis → _____

Final thought → _____

Tab #7 ~ Transition Words:

- the bridges between thoughts, ideas, sentences, and paragraphs.
- help the writing flow from one point to another.
- Enable the reader to understand the direction of the writer's thoughts

• **General Transitions:**

next	although	at this point	first...	specifically
also	for example	above all	even though	in addition
in other words	however	then	to emphasize	eventually
between	similarly	too	previously	meanwhile
currently				

• **Concluding Transitions:**

as a result	in conclusion	otherwise	
for these reasons	to summarize		
therefore	finally		
ultimately	lastly		
thus	to sum it up		
for this reason	another		

Tab # 8 ~ Things to Remember & ER Checklist

• Do not use I, My, Me...	• Check punctuation	•
• Use transitions effectively	• Use text-based details, details, details & explain!	•
• No slang or text message talk	• Don't start with "because"	•
• Name the person	• Indent each paragraph	•
• Check spelling	• Don't "talk" to the reader	•
• Check grammar	• Don't skip lines	•

Extended Response Checklist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Interpret the task → Look for key words in the task? O, highlight, or ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> Body Paragraphs → for each Body Paragraph (2 – 3 paragraphs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Write a topic or main idea sentence <input type="checkbox"/> Use text based details, details, details and explain them <input type="checkbox"/> Compose a closing sentence <input type="checkbox"/> Use transitions effectively.
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan → Construct a Graphic Organizer ?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction Paragraph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hook <input type="checkbox"/> Link <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis <input type="checkbox"/> "Echo back" some words from the task. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Closing Paragraph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Restate the thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Final thought <input type="checkbox"/> Use transitions effectively <input type="checkbox"/> Check spelling, punctuation, grammar

