

Informative Research Paper

The informative research paper is the second major writing assignment of the class. This assignment must:

- Basically answer the question “What is (blank)?”
- Focus on a single area of research and explain that area. This can be:
 - Something from your major (for example, if your major is microbiology, your paper could explain, “What is microbiology?” or could take some part of microbiology and explain that).
 - Something from your hobby (for example, if your hobby is soccer, your paper could explain, “What is the world cup?”)
 - Something that you are interested in.
- Be organized in a logical way, including using a thesis and topic sentences.
- Use at least 3 sources from books, magazines, the Internet or elsewhere. These sources must:
 - Be quoted, paraphrased, or summarized correctly.
 - Be cited.
 - Be from respectable, scholarly publications.
- Should follow English written format, including paragraph structure.
- Must be at least 3 pages. These must be typed on a computer and double spaced (In MS Word, change 줄 간격 from 1 줄 to 2 줄. In Hangul, change 줄 간격 from 160% to 300%). The font can be no larger than 12 pt. (If you do this correctly, your paper should look like the sample paragraph on the Fiction Assignment).

Like the fiction assignment, this assignment will be turned in twice, once for peer review and once for grading. Both drafts must be 100% complete when they are submitted. In addition to the usual grading, your papers will also be graded on effort and improvement. Because of this, when you submit your paper for grading, you must also submit your first draft with the instructor comments written on it.

- Bring four copies on the day of peer review (three for other students and one for the professor). The peer review drafts are due on:
 - Monday, November 5th for the Monday/Wednesday class.
 - Tuesday, November 6th for the Tuesday/Thursday class.
- The final draft of the assignment is due on (please update the class schedule):
 - Monday, November 19th for the Monday/Wednesday class.
 - Tuesday, November 20th for the Tuesday/Thursday class.

Informative Research Organization

When writing an essay in English, your paper has three major parts:

- Introduction
- Body
- Conclusion

Introduction

Since this paper is fairly short, your introduction will only be one paragraph. In this paragraph, you must include:

- An explanation: What did you research? What is your topic? For example, if you chose “microbiology” as your topic, you need to explain what microbiology is: What does that word mean? Who uses this kind of thing?
- Background: What do we need to know? For example, if your topic is “The World Cup” we might need to know about the history of this tournament: When did it start? Where did it start? How did it grow?
- A Thesis: This is the most important sentence in your paper. A Thesis is usually the last sentence of your first paragraph in this kind of paper. It needs to do two major things:
 - State clearly what your topic is.
 - Mention the main points that you will make in your paper.

Body

Your body will be at least 3 paragraphs in this kind of paper. Each paragraph needs to do a few things:

- Include a topic sentence: This should be the very first sentence of each body paragraph. A topic sentence will explain what that paragraph talks about. You must be very careful when writing topic sentences:
 - They must mention everything that is discussed in that paragraph.
 - They cannot mention anything that is not discussed in that paragraph.
- Explain the topic sentence: Each of the sentences that follow the topic sentence are times called “Explanatory Sentence” because they do exactly that: explain. You must take the idea from your topic sentence and add more information and details to make the idea clearer. In a paper this size, you will have between 3 and 10 explanatory sentences per body paragraph.

Conclusion

In a paper this size, the conclusion will be very short. It will be only one paragraph and that paragraph will probably only be 3 or 4 sentences long. Simply put, you must do only two things in an Informative conclusion:

- Restate your thesis: This simply means that you say the same thing you said in your thesis but use different words to explain it. Since you've explained more details about your thesis in your paper, your restatement of your thesis will probably be longer than your original thesis.
- Restate your topic sentences: Again, you simply will say your topic sentences in a different way.

This might seem like it's very repetitive, and it is. When writing formally in English, you repeat yourself many times (using different words of course) so that people can remember your important points.

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