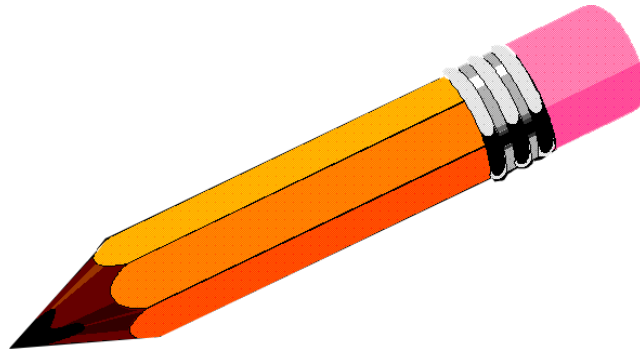


The Expository Essay



What is an expository essay?

- An expository essay explains, or acquaints the reader with knowledge about the topic. Expository essays use facts and statistical information, cause and effect relationships, or examples.

What is an expository essay?

- Since expository essays are factual, they are written without emotion and usually written in the third person. That means that the use of the pronoun "I" is not usually found within the essay.

Expository essays also have a distinct format.

- The main idea (thesis statement) must be narrow enough to be supported within the essay.
- Each supporting paragraph must have a main supporting idea and all other sentences must relate directly to it.
- Transition words or phrases are important as they help the flow and reinforce the logic.

Expository essays also have a distinct format.

- Finally, the conclusion paragraph should originally restate the main idea (thesis) and the main supporting ideas. Finish with the a statement that reinforces your position in a meaningful and memorable way.
- Never introduce new material in the conclusion.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Topic Sentence)

Supporting details <

Supporting reason or idea 2: (Complete Topic Sentence)

Supporting details <

Transition Word:

Topic sentence or thesis statement (will become basis for introductory paragraph)

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 3: (Complete Topic Sentence)

Supporting details <

Conclusion:(Complete Topic Sentence)

Supporting details <

Transition Word:

2006 TN Expository Prompt

- *Writing Situation:* Everyone enjoys receiving a gift.
- What is the best gift you ever received? Why was it so special?
- *Directions for Writing:* Now explain in an essay what your favorite gift was and why it was so special. Support your reasons with examples and details

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

~~Topic sentence or thesis statement:~~

The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

- ✓

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete
Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became
a welcomed companion.

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete
Sentence)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- _____

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy
named Max, given to me by my
grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete
Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition
Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete
Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became
a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete
Sentence)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy
named Max, given to me by my
grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete
Sentence)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition
Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

✓ Comforts me when I am sad

✓ Play together

✓ _____

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

✓ _____

✓ _____

✓ _____

Transition Word:

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

✓ _____

✓ _____

✓ _____

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

✓ _____

✓ _____

✓ _____

Transition Word:

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

✓ Guards the house when we are away

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ _____
- _____

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ _____

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

✓ companion

✓ _____

✓ _____

✓ _____

✓ _____

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Transition Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ companion
- ✓ watchdog
- ✓ _____
- _____

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Transition
Word:

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ companion
- ✓ watchdog
- ✓ lesson in responsibility

Transition Word:
For instance

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Transition Word:

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ companion
- ✓ watchdog
- ✓ lesson in responsibility

Transition Word:

Transition
Word:
For
instance

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Transition
Word:
Eventually

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition
Word:

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ companion
- ✓ watchdog
- ✓ lesson in responsibility

Transition
Word:

Transition
Word:
For
instance

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Transition
Word:
Eventual
ly

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition
Word:
Truly,

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ companion
- ✓ watchdog
- ✓ lesson in responsibility

Transition
Word:

Transition
Word:
For
instance

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Being an only child, Max became a welcomed companion.

- ✓ Comforts me when I am sad
- ✓ Play together
- ✓ Sleeps in my room

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

As Max grew up, he became a fierce watchdog.

- ✓ Guards the house when we are away
- ✓ Protects me from other dogs
- ✓ Warns me of approaching strangers.

Transition
Word:
Eventual
ly

Topic sentence or thesis statement:
The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Transition
Word:
Truly

Supporting reason or idea 1: (Complete Sentence)

Max has taught me about responsibility.

- ✓ Feed and bathe Max
- ✓ Took Max for walks
- ✓ Made sure Max had his shots

Conclusion: (Complete sentence)

Max is the most valuable gift I have ever received.

- ✓ companion
- ✓ watchdog
- ✓ lesson in responsibility

Transition
Word:
All in all,

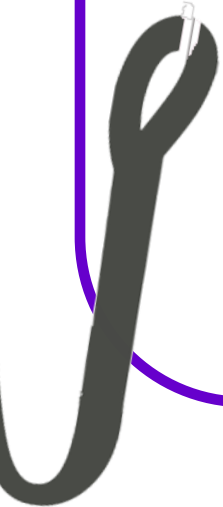
Developing the introductory paragraph.

Topic sentence or thesis statement:

The best gift I ever received was a puppy named Max, given to me by my grandmother for my 8th birthday.

Use a **HOOK** to engage the reader:

- [**The Hook \(PowerPoint Download\)**](#)



Developing the introductory paragraph.

- **There's an old saying, "Dog is man's best friend."** On my eighth birthday my grandmother gave me the gift of a best friend, my first puppy, Max. It was the most ~~wonderful~~ outstanding gift I have ever received.

Check out [thesaurus.com](https://www.thesaurus.com) !

The concluding paragraph

The concluding paragraph:

- Restates the main idea or thesis
- Summarizes the supporting ideas
- ***Ends with a punch!***

The concluding paragraph

- All in all, I would have to say that Max is the best gift I have ever received. He has become a trusted friend, he is a ferocious watchdog, and through Max, I have learned the meaning of responsibility. **As the saying goes, Max is the “gift that keeps on giving.”**

Expository Essay Graphic Organizer

- Utilize the four square graphic organizer template to develop an expository essay.

**Print
the Expository
Graphic
Organizer**

Expository Essay Resources

- [The Expository Essay](#)
- [Expository Writing Prompts](#)
- [Expository Essay](#)
- [TN Writing Prompts](#)
- [Transition Words](#)

