

**Session 1 – Introduction to Essays and How the Brain Reads**

What is an essay, and what makes one good  
How the brain reads and how to help it  
The importance of vocabulary  
Writing for your reader

**Session 2 – Memory, Paraphrasing, and the Thesis**

Paraphrasing  
Different levels of focus for your reading and writing  
The importance of thesis statements

**Session 3 – Essay Structure & Basic Outline**

Find the right sequence of ideas  
Give your readers all the information they need The perfect form for explaining ideas  
Building the ideal essay outline

**Session 4 – Thorough Arguments & Effective Evidence**

Helping brains connect ideas  
Being specific  
Using evidence  
Making logical connections

**Session 5 – Working Through the Full Writing Process**

Step 1 - Analyze the situation and do the research  
Step 2 - Take a stance and create your thesis  
Step 3 - Find evidence to support your arguments  
Step 4 - Craft your outline

**Session 6 – Editing, Refining, & Perfecting Writing**

Leaving out the extras  
Stronger sentences  
Stronger words  
Supporting your quotes  
Finishing your draft

**Extra Session 1 – Parts of Speech**

The need for grammar  
Nouns & pronouns  
Verbs  
Adjectives & adverbs  
Prepositions

**Extra Session 2 – Elements of Sentences**

Subjects  
Prepositional phrases  
Objects  
Diagramming sentences

**Extra Session 3 – Draft Editing & Writing Guidance**

Review student-written draft of essay  
Consider an essay prompt and thoroughly work through the process of researching sources, developing a thesis, outlining, and beginning a draft