

You Should Know Descriptive Essay

Guiding Questions

- What have I learned about members of the subgroup I researched?
- How do I use writing to show in detail what members of the subgroup are like (characteristics, actions, language, tools, interactions...)?
- How do I integrate secondary research to support or contradict my primary research?

Steps

Step 1: Identify patterns—things that many members of the group do, say, wear, use....

Step 2: Use those patterns to write a descriptive essay – use senses and details. Write as if you’re describing one person, but the subject is really a conglomeration of many members of your subculture. In a way, you’re making up a “representative,” someone who can exemplify the important aspects of the subgroup. (See the sample of a “portrait” for a location, posted on the website)

Step 3: After you’ve done secondary research...Make sure to include secondary research: statistics, anecdotes, comparison of your observations of the group to what you found in your secondary research

Ex: Like skateboarders in a California study, Bob the skateboarder skates 4 or 5 days a week after school (citation for the CA study).

Step 4: Include MLA in-text citations (AKA parenthetical citations; ex: (author’s last name page number))

Format

- 🐾 Heading
- 🐾 Title: “You Should Know”
- 🐾 1 inch margins
- 🐾 300-500 words
- 🐾 1.5 spaced
- 🐾 If you want feedback, your teacher must see your work during class (or make an appointment for study hall or outside of class hours)