

Using Guided Drafts at Home: Tips for Students

NoRedInk **Guided Drafts** help you draft a full-length essay with lessons, interactive tutorials, tips, and examples to support you as you write.

Watch [this video](#) to get an overview of the Guided Draft process, from the start of the assignment to when you submit your essay!



Before getting started:

1. Find a quiet, comfortable place to write in.
2. Read your essay prompt carefully. If you're confused about your assignment, reach out to your teacher with any questions.
3. Do any planning your teacher has assigned. This might include some online research, brainstorming of evidence, or outlining.



While you draft:



Want help with your introduction?

Key Parts of the Introduction
In your first paragraph, draw your readers in and present your argument.

> Hook

> Bridge

> Thesis Statement

View tutorial

View examples

Tips and Tricks

A hook can be a fact, quotation, claim, or vivid description that draws readers in and connects to the thesis statement of your essay.

View example

What's an argumentative essay?

- Review the **rubric** and click “View example” so you know what your teacher expects you to include in your essay.
- Use the **support on the left side of your screen!** The sample essays, tutorials, and tips & tricks show what strong writing looks like and suggest strategies when you feel stuck.
- Remember, **you don't have to write your essay in order!** If you get stuck on one paragraph, you can move on to the next one and come back later.
- Break up your writing process into **smaller chunks**; writing a full essay in one sitting can be very difficult! For example, try writing a paragraph or two at a time.



After you draft:

1. Take a break, then come back and read your whole essay from start to finish. Is anything confusing? Can you explain any of your ideas more clearly or in more detail?
2. Before you submit your writing, check your spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Once you click “Submit,” you can't make any changes, which is why it's a good idea to carefully check your work first!
3. Your teacher may give you feedback and send your essay back for revisions. If so, the assignment will reappear on your home page. Click into it to see your teacher's suggestions and revise!



If you have any technical problems, reach out to your teacher or email us at support@noredink.com!

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