

Guidelines for Writing Your Essay:

1. Support a main idea. Start each body paragraph with a topic sentence (a point); then add supporting examples. Pay attention to sentence structure, punctuation, grammar, and vocabulary. *Do your best!*
2. The minimum word count is 300 words. However, for a sufficient writing sample, a word count of **450-600** or more is highly recommended. Use 6-8 sentences per paragraph.
3. The essay should have multiple paragraphs. Leave an extra typed line (space) between paragraphs. One paragraph is approximately 6 typed lines.

FOR EXAMPLE:

CAMOSUN WRITEPLACER

Passage

We should start without any fixed idea where we are going to spend the night, or when we propose to come back; the journey is everything. Most necessary of all, but rarest good fortune, we should try to find before we start some man of our own sort who will go with us and to whom we can say the first thing that comes into our heads. For pleasure has no relish unless we share it.

--Virginia Woolf, "Montaigne"

Assignment

Is it better to plan a journey with a set destination, or to just let it occur, without advance preparation?

Plan and write a multi-paragraph essay (450-600 words) in which you develop your point of view on the above question. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.

SAMPLE OF WRITING WINDOW IN WRITEPLACER:

planning takes time, focus and effort, but is well worth the energy if one wants to enjoy every moment of one's journey.

Travelling without any preparation can be extremely risky, particularly if one's finances are tight. A number of unexpected costs may occur, or one could be stranded, without any idea of where to turn for help. For instance, my friend, who had carefully planned her vacation, did not realize that travelling would be so expensive. Although she was frugal, she had little money left when she arrived in London. She roamed the city streets, but was unable to visit any museums or galleries. Such experiences could be seen either as depressing dead-end, or thrilling adventures; nevertheless, being financially prepared when travelling is wise—otherwise, one can lose rare opportunities.

In contrast, knowing exactly where one is going to be, and with what resources, is extremely helpful. One can decide, ahead of time, where one wants to spend the most time and money, and why. Hopefully, travelling with adequate

NOTE THE SAMPLE PARAGRAPH IN THE BRACKET IS 6 LINES LONG, APPROXIMATELY 110 words.

4. When you are finished writing, read over your work, correct obvious errors, then hit the

Submit

button at the bottom of your screen.