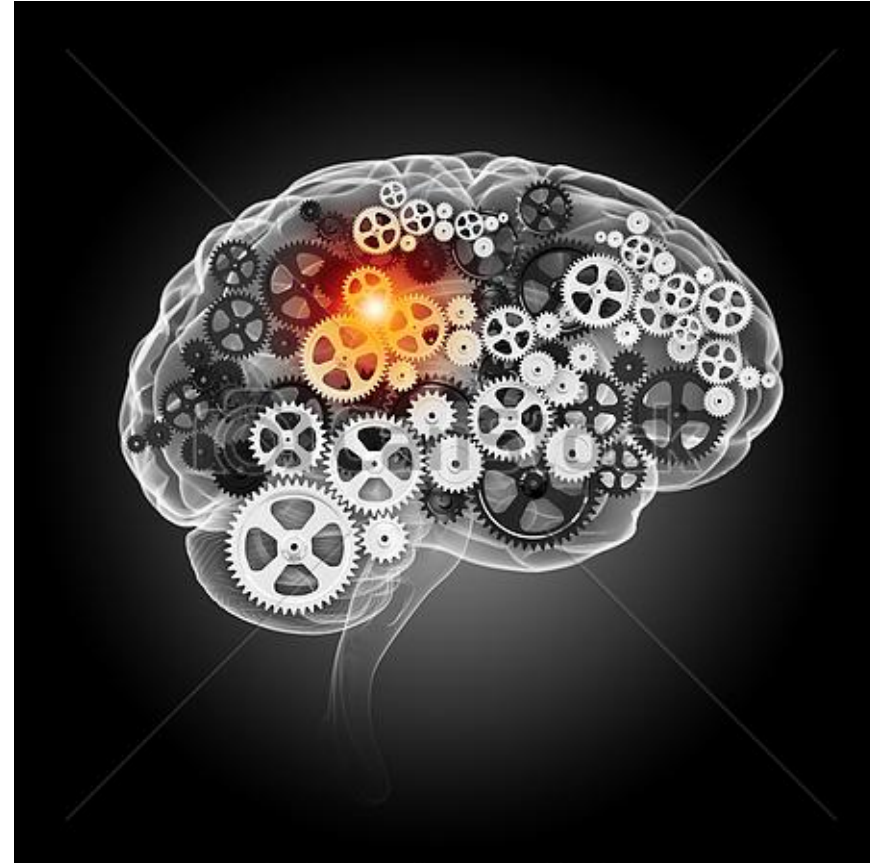


SPEED WRITING

The 50-Minute Essay

STEP 1
(5 MINUTES)

Brainstorm for ideas



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STEP 2

(5 MINUTES)

- A. Write the thesis sentence.
- B. Start a new paragraph and write the topic sentence for your first body paragraph.
- C. Start a new paragraph and write the topic sentence for your second body paragraph.
- D. Start a new paragraph and write the topic sentence for your third body paragraph.

Topic	Limited Topic	+	Controlling Idea	=	Thesis Statement
Internet	Using the Internet to plagiarize in school	+	has become easier	=	Using the Internet in education today has increased the tendency to plagiarize for three major reasons.

Using the Internet in education today has increased the tendency to plagiarize for three major reasons.

First – and most importantly – because the Internet is increasingly used as a tool for research and writing today, it is very easy to simply copy and paste.

In addition to the temptation to copy and paste, it can be argued that the concept of right and wrong in today's accelerated world has eroded.

A final cause for plagiarism is a consequence of not insisting students improve their writing skills and self-confidence by writing their own papers.

STEP 3

(5 MINUTES)

- A. Return to the first body paragraph and add two major supporting sentences.
- B. Return to the second body paragraph and add two major supporting sentences.
- C. Return to the third body paragraph and add two major supporting sentences.

Sample third body paragraph

A final cause for plagiarism is a consequence of not insisting students improve their writing skills and self-confidence by writing their own papers. Instead, some professors do not strictly enforce the rules governing plagiarism. When their instructors do not penalize the plagiarizers, other students – who would have taken the time and effort to write their own papers – begin to plagiarize as well.

STEP 4

(5 MINUTES)

- A. Start a fifth paragraph with a topic sentence that paraphrases your thesis sentence.
- B. Add 2-3 sentences that summarize your main points.
- C. Add a concluding sentence.

In summary, plagiarism has always existed, but integrating Internet usage with education today has served as a catalyst for plagiarism. This is because technology in education today makes it extremely easy to “copy and paste” from Internet sources. Moreover, because of the wide availability of all sorts of information available online, the media and social networks to name a few, today's students fail to see plagiarism as wrong. They also lack the confidence in their own skills, which makes them more likely to take the easy way out, or plagiarize. As it stands, plagiarism, despite being an age old problem, has a huge impact on education today.

STEP 5

(5 MINUTES)

Go back to each of the body paragraphs and add two minor supporting sentences.

Sample third body paragraph

A final cause for plagiarism is a consequence of not insisting students improve their writing skills and self-confidence by writing their own papers. Instead, some professors do not strictly enforce the rules governing plagiarism. Academics are partly to blame for their laxness in emphasizing the importance of original work. In other words, many teachers do not stress the value of original, independently-thought work to students while also fostering confidence in them to do their own work. In fact, a study conducted by a GUST instructor found that many students “cut and paste” from the Internet because they do not have strong writing abilities. These students do not feel that their writing is good enough despite the fact that they have been taught what plagiarism means. Consequently, they often plagiarize. When their instructors do not penalize the plagiarizers, other students – who would have taken the time and effort to write their own papers – begin to plagiarize as well.

STEP 6

(5 MINUTES)

Go back to the introduction and begin it with a hook. Add some background information.

Today's newspaper carried a story about Blair Hornstine, who became a sensation. After accepting her admission, Harvard University withdrew her acceptance because it was discovered that she had plagiarized. Blair Hornstine attended Moorestown High School in New Jersey and wrote for the Courier Post, a local paper. It came to light that she had taken most of the material for five stories from the Internet. Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's words or work and presenting it as your own work. This topic is especially important today because the Internet is widely used and provides countless sources of information to all interested parties, including students. Some may argue that plagiarism is not just a modern-day dilemma, but that it is an age-old problem that goes back to the age of Shakespeare. Even so, using the Internet in education today has increased the tendency to plagiarize for three major reasons.



STEP 7

(20 MINUTES)

Revise and edit your essay.