

1301 Modes of Writing: Classification & Division

“Classification is the systematic arrangement of something into classes-groups usually founded upon some common ground. Those classified groups may then be divided into their separate parts. Strictly speaking, it is virtually impossible to classify without dividing, but for rhetorical purposes it might be helpful to think of division as tending to be more distinct, or particular.”

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Example: If you choose to write about health or general well-being:

Classify your subject into two distinct categories: mental and physical health

Divide your classes- there are a number of specific physical and mental health issues you could describe.

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You should be familiar with **Lars Eighner’s essay “On Dumpster Diving”**. This is an example of a classification and division essay. Search the internet for more sample essays if you want to see more.

If you have ever used iTunes, shopped in a department store or grocery store, studied wildlife, browsed Netflix, or if you have ever been in the library- you have interacted with this mode of college writing.

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1. Choose a topic. You have the freedom to choose your topic, within reason.
2. Respect and use the writing process: Pre-writing, outlines, charts, diagrams; written draft; feedback, peer editing and revisions; type a working rough draft for more feedback; revise and publish a final draft. Have something to work with when we workshop papers in class. Have specific questions for me.
3. Manage your time! Time management seems to be the major issue, not your ability to write.
4. Use the Essay Issue checklist on my site- avoid repeating sloppy proofreading errors. I cannot help you if you do not make the adjustments and put in the effort to improve final drafts. It will absolutely affect your grade.
5. No first person pronouns; use 12-pt double-spaced font, creative titles, MLA Works Cited, word count.
6. *You are required to use at least THREE (3) sources for this assignment.*
7. Try to have fun and get creative with the topic of your essay: classify and divide something you love, use it as a chance to classify and divide types of family members, types of friends, types of teachers, etc.

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750 words minimum

First draft for workshop is due: _____

Final draft is due: _____

Sample essay topics from the past include:

Ways of taking care of animals

Endangered species

Kinds of birds, rodents, bears, big cats, poisonous snakes

Different kinds of teasing

Kinds of madness

Types of social media platforms

Types of makeup

Kinds of terror

Kinds of stress relievers

Ways to offer comfort

Ways to get revenge

Personality types

Types of high school drama

Various kinds of belief, religions, spiritual experiences

Kinds of television talk or reality shows

Kinds of social status

Kinds of city (urban) issues

Causes of: homelessness, dropout rates, teen pregnancy, poverty

Types of cultures, nations

Native American ways of worshipping

Kinds of Buddhism

Kinds of sacrifices

Kinds of problems young people face in the 21st century

Types of friends, family members, or teachers...you get the idea...

Kinds of literacy, love, laws, punishments, teas, insects, clouds, actions heroes, crime novels, popular music, writers who have been imprisoned, techniques in art, styles of literature, country music, hip-hop music, video games, technology- **be specific, be creative, and get started!**

