

# HOW TO MAKE YOUR ESSAY LONGER

*(Without Cheating!)*



## CHECKLIST



### BEEF UP YOUR INTRODUCTION

Add a short description of the general topic and why it's important.

### STRATEGICALLY INCLUDE SUBHEADINGS

Include subheadings throughout your essay for better flow and readability.

### BREAK UP YOUR PARAGRAPHS

Break up long blocks of text with new paragraphs where it feels natural, at the end of one thought and the beginning of another.

### USE TRANSITIONS

Use transition words and phrases like "therefore," "whereas," and "for instance" to guide the reader.

### INCLUDE MORE DIRECT QUOTES

These are pieces of text that you quote exactly word for word and put in quotation marks. Don't forget to cite them properly!

### INCLUDE MORE EVIDENCE/SUPPORT

Look at your argument from all angles and see what you can add to beef it up.

### DON'T FORGET A RECAP FOR EACH SECTION

At the end of any critical part of your argument, make sure it ties back to your original thesis.

### STRENGTHEN YOUR CONCLUSION

Your conclusion shouldn't be identical to your introduction. Address any holes in your argument, or counterarguments, in your conclusion.

### ENLIST A CRITIC

Ask a friend to read your essay and point out parts that are unclear or that are missing something, then address those specific areas.

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