

PVHS English Department Essay Format

1. **Heading:**

- a. Includes name, date, and block
- b. Located in upper left hand corner
- c. Double Spaced

2. **Title:**

- a. Centered
- b. Capitalize only first letter of main words
- c. Not underlined, not in italics, unless referring to a published work
- d. When typing font size should be 12
- e. Use a “regular” font – Times New Roman, Arial, Footlight, etc.

3. **Essay:**

- a. When typing font size should be 12
- b. Use a “regular” font – Times New Roman, Arial, Footlight, etc.
- c. Indent 1st line of paragraphs five spaces or tab once
- d. Entire essay should be double spaced (except for practice essays for AP exam or CAHSEE exam)
- e. Do not add extra lines between paragraphs
- f. When referencing other works, use parenthetical documentation
- g. Write on one side of paper only. Do not write back to back.

4. **Works Cited Page:**

- a. When typing font should be size 12
- b. Use a “regular” font – Times New Roman, Arial, Footlight, etc.
- c. Title should be centered
- d. Title for the page is not underlined, in quotation marks, or in italics
- e. Citations should be alphabetized
- f. Must use proper MLA format

5. **Pagination:**

- a. Numbers should appear at the top right hand corner following the students last name on pages 2 and on. (i.e. Smith 2)
- b. Use number only – not “page” or “pg” or “-“

6. **Format:**

- a. 1 inch margins all the way around the essay
- b. On lined paper students should be writing within the boundaries of the paper (i.e. within the red or pink line on the right and left side of the paper)