A Guide On How To: Write A Rough Draft

- Why do I need one?
- How do I write one?
- Can I see an example?
Writing A Rough Draft

A rough draft should be just that – rough.

Why do I need a rough draft?

The sole purpose of a rough draft is to give you a place to start to formally put together your ideas with evidence. Additionally, writing a rough draft lets you gauge if you need to do more research, change your purpose, or switch topics completely.

What do I need to write a rough draft?

If you’ve been following the writing process, your rough draft should be relatively easy. Plan your time and space accordingly, and bring with you:

• Your pre-writing notes
• Your research
• References, like a dictionary or thesaurus
• The assignment description, usually found on your syllabus, a handout, or notes you took from the verbal instructions given

How can I use my pre-writing to write my rough draft?

With any pre-writing strategy, you came up with the basic outline of what your paragraphs will be about. Now, to create your rough draft, you should only have to turn those phrases into complete sentences.

It’s helpful to put your sentences into an outline before you put them into a paragraph format. This way, you can adjust the order of the sentences as you see fit, and make sure that your ideas are focused. Use your paragraph pattern to help you decide this. Once you have this decided, go back and create topic and closing sentences for your paragraphs.
Can I see an example?

Let's use an example on nuclear energy. Our rough draft will turn the main ideas into sentences, and put those sentences together into a paragraph.

### Rough Draft - Sentence Outline

**II. Advantages of nuclear energy**

Nuclear energy is advantageous to the environment and the humans who use it; nuclear energy is advantageous to the environment and the humans who use it.

**C. Disposal**

Most importantly, the waste that nuclear energy produces is small compared to that of fossil fuels. Nuclear energy's clear advantage over fossil is often overshadowed by the fears that stem from the disadvantages of it.

**B. Renewable**

Additionally, nuclear energy is renewable source of energy, whereas other source made from fossil fuels are finite. Unlike coal or petroleum, nuclear energy produces relatively little pollution during manufacture and use. Additionally, nuclear energy is renewable source of energy, whereas other source made from fossil fuels are finite. Nuclear energy's clear advantage over fossil is often overshadowed by the fears that stem from the disadvantages of it.

**A. Clean**

Unlike coal or petroleum, nuclear energy produces relatively little pollution during manufacture and use. Nuclear energy is advantageous over fossil fuels in terms of sustainability and environmental impact. Unlike coal or petroleum, nuclear energy produces relatively little pollution during manufacture and use. Nuclear energy is advantageous over fossil fuels in terms of sustainability and environmental impact.

### Complete Paragraph

Nuclear energy is advantageous to the environment and the humans who use it; nuclear energy is advantageous to the environment and the humans who use it.

- **Disposal**: Most importantly, the waste that nuclear energy produces is small compared to that of fossil fuels. Nuclear energy's clear advantage over fossil is often overshadowed by the fears that stem from the disadvantages of it.

- **Renewable**: Additionally, nuclear energy is renewable source of energy, whereas other source made from fossil fuels are finite. Unlike coal or petroleum, nuclear energy produces relatively little pollution during manufacture and use. Additionally, nuclear energy is renewable source of energy, whereas other source made from fossil fuels are finite. Nuclear energy's clear advantage over fossil is often overshadowed by the fears that stem from the disadvantages of it.

- **Clean**: Unlike coal or petroleum, nuclear energy produces relatively little pollution during manufacture and use. Nuclear energy is advantageous over fossil fuels in terms of sustainability and environmental impact.
References


Contact Us

Teresa Milligan
studentsuccess@dunwoody.edu
612-381-3398
dunwoody.edu/studentsuccess