

# WRITING THE ESSAY: Proofreading

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The  
Five  
Paragraph  
Juneteenth  
Essay



# ★ REMEMBER ★

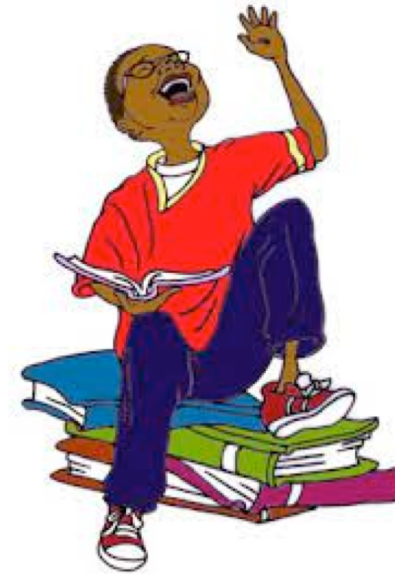
Your essay must have at least five paragraphs, but it can have more as long as you keep to your word limit. (See word limit details for your level on your Essay Contest Application.)

Find links to these resources in the Essay Writing Resource Guide on the Juneteenth website to increase your understanding and improve your writing:

- Writing a Five-Paragraph Essay (from Berkshire Middle School)
- Writing Ninjas: How to Write a Five-Paragraph Essay
- How to Write an Informative Essay. (Terrebonne Parish Library librarian gives short complete instruction = 15 minutes, discussion of evaluating sources) with blog
- A complete and comprehensive process and content description for writing effective essays can be found at the Monroe College library website



# PROOFREADING



Proofreading is one of the keys to successful writing.





# PROOFREADING

it's  
or  
its



grammar mistakes

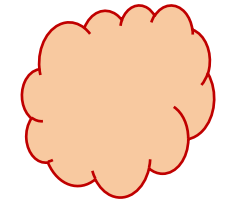
misspellings

wrong word use

omissions

awkward phrases

their or  
there



# PROOFREADING Rule of Thumb



If you have to read a sentence more than twice to figure out what it means, there's something you need to fix.

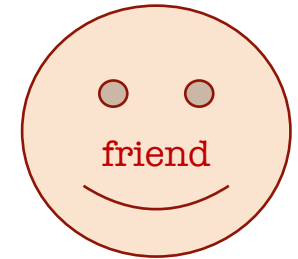
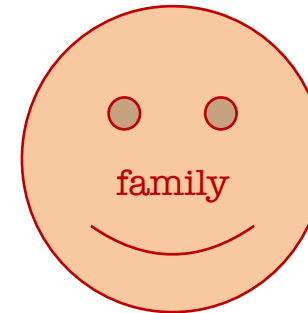
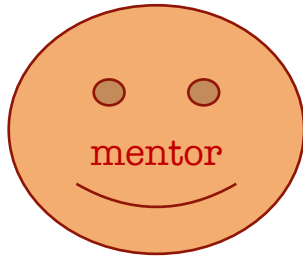
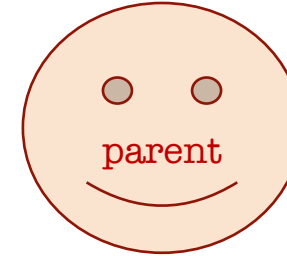
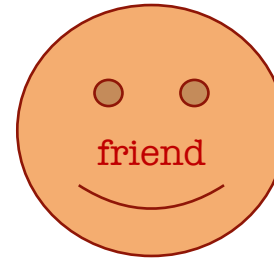
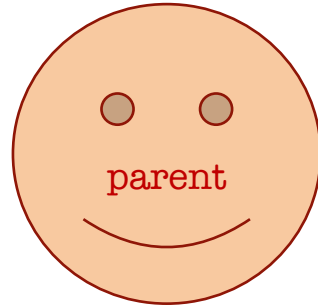
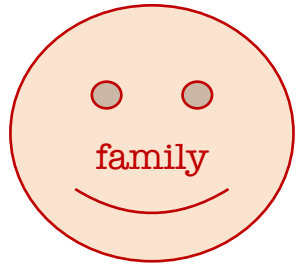


# HOW TO PROOFREAD A WINNING ESSAY



1. Find a quiet place.
2. Read your writing out loud SLOWLY.
3. See the Essay Contest Writing Resource for seven more suggestions.





# Proofreading Help





# ★ REMEMBER ★

- Proofreading can save you many points.
- Not proofreading means you will probably lose points in more than one area of the rubric because of simple errors you didn't catch.
- Proofreading is how you find the rough spots that confuse your reader and make your writing hard to understand.
- Ask at least two people you feel comfortable with – parent, mentor, friend, other family member – to read your essay. Different readers may have different feedback.



Thank you for using this resource!

We wish you success with your  
Juneteenth Essay writing!



For more information, see the website  
<http://www.lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org/>,  
or contact PEERS (Progressive Empowerment Resource Services)  
at [education@LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org](mailto:education@LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org) and a member  
of the committee will get back to you.