Article Side

Preparation is crucial for producing a good term paper by Deeperana Iec

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In American universities they are also required to produce term papers, which are generally based around answering a question on a particular topic.

The skills needed to write a good essay or term paper are similar, but the term paper will be loner and will require more extensive thought and research as well as the ability to organise a lot of data and present it in a logical way. The subject should be specific rather than a general wide-ranging topic.

Adopting a methodical approach starts with reading and noting various sources then some time spent thinking around the topic to organise the writerâ€™s thought and the main thrust of their argument.

Organising the information gained into notes is essential as a reference point once the process of writing begins and also for the basis of an outline plan will help keep the process under control.

Notes should be accurate and honest, and if necessary include page numbers to include in the bibliography or references included at the end of the paper. The original authorâ€™s meaning should not be distorted and the notes should include facts not only supporting the argument to be made in the term paper but the arguments from opposing views.

To start with it can be useful to look at some free model term papers and free essays written by professional writers and academics and there are many of these available via online website sources.

However, students should be clear that these are available as examples to help with study and construction of their own papers and they should not copy or plagiarise the contents of a model paper.

The basic construction of a term paper outline should start with a statement of the term paperâ€™s purpose. This will lead into the main body of the paper where the themes are developed in a logical order as the argument with the supporting data is developed.

The final section will summarise the main points and end with a conclusion answering the question.

The paper should also include footnotes citing the sources of any reference used and attention should be paid to the way the term paper is laid out, for example ensuring that the font style and size of sub headings are consistent throughout to enable the reader to navigate their way through.

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