

# Ten steps to writing an essay for Highlights of English Literature

*It is my ambition to say in ten sentences what others say in a whole book.*

Friedrich Nietzsche

1. Read the essay question carefully.
2. Read the essay question once more.
3. Jot down in your own words what it means, preferably in one sentence.
4. Come up with two or three possible answers/opinions/arguments
5. Rewrite 3 and 4 as thesis and topic sentences.
6. Remember structure: thesis, topic - and transition sentences
7. Find quotes or facts to substantiate your point of view.
8. Take some time to come up with an interesting opening and a title
9. Fill in the rest of the paragraphs.
10. Proof read to check for grammar, language and spelling mistakes.

Repeat number one again

Read your thesis

Read your topic sentences

Does it make sense?