

A spiral-bound notebook with a light green textured cover and a silver metal spiral binding on the left side. The text is centered on the page.

Classification and Analysis

Also known as... Classify and Divide

What do you mean...classify and analyze?

- People naturally put things into categories: books, movies, jobs, foods, etc
- High school students classify each other to the extreme with their cliques: jocks, punks, nerds, preps, etc
- Scientists classify species: mammals, birds, insects, amphibians, reptiles and so on
- So we already know how to classify people, places and things- now we just have to analyze why it might be important or useful

How is classification and analysis useful?

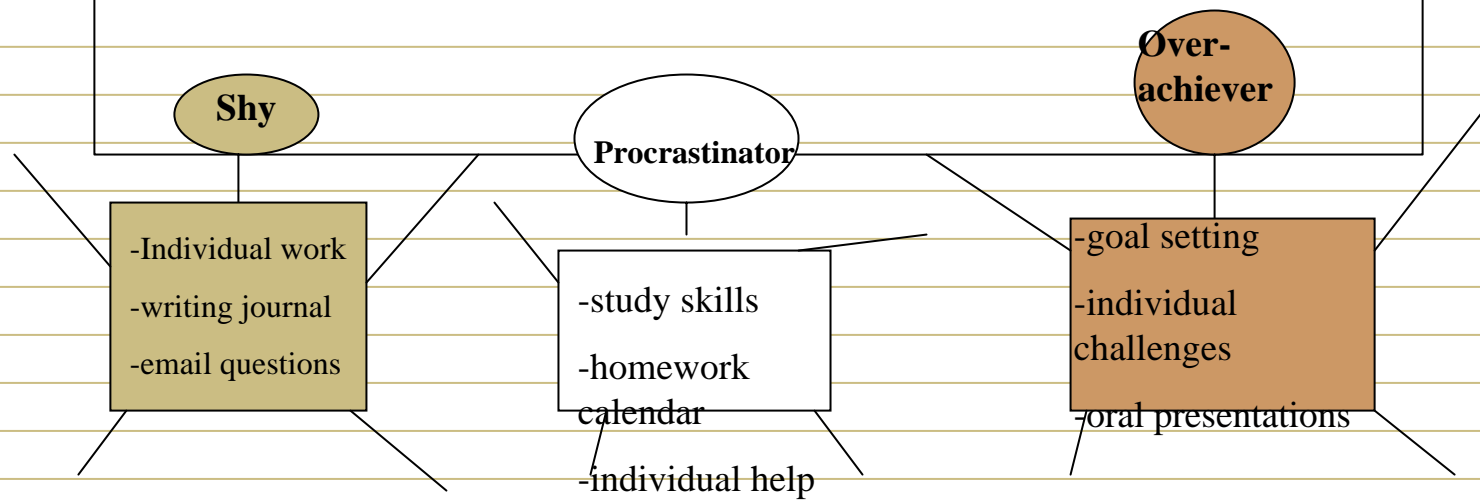
- In science, it's useful to understand the different types of species in order to understand how they coexist within an ecosystem
- In math, if you understand different types of formulas, then you can project or predict specific outcomes for economic systems
- In history, you can gain an understanding for the patterns in society by classifying and analyzing different periods and events throughout history
- When studying a foreign language, you can learn how to use other languages effectively if you can analyze the uses for their parts of speech

Any pre-write ideas?

- There are several different forms of pre-writes in the pre-write section of this website but if you want to get really creative then this is the type of assignment that breeds creativity
- Art pre-writes can be used for any topic
- Art pre-writes incorporate your topic with basic paragraph organization

Example Art Pre-write

Thesis: It is important to analyze the different types of students that I teach in order to create instructional strategies that will benefit their personal needs.



Art Pre-writes Unveiled

- In the art pre-write example, the topic was types of students, so the scene was of a classroom. The thesis was written on the chalkboard and each stick figure student represented a different paragraph that analyzed a different type of student. Ideas for the paragraph were written inside the stick figures bodies
- Other ideas include: notes for different types of music, animals for different types of species, bubble numbers for different types of math equations- basically just get creative and you can visually understand how to organize your assignment

What if my topic is too difficult to draw?

- Even if you lack artistic skills or if your topic lacks a simple way to draw it, you can always draw a garden of flowers
- The thesis can be written in the grass because it is after all, the “root” of the essay and then each flower can represent a different paragraph
- Basically, as long as you have separated paragraphs and a thesis in a drawing- you have an art pre-write

What does a classification and analysis paper look like?

- Attached is a sample English essay by a Union Mine student.
- General rubrics for how these are graded are also in the “Rubric” section of this website

Any last minute advise?

- Be careful not to make generalizations or stereotypes for your categories

For example- don't state that all blondes are dumb

- Be sure to include specific details that back up a useful and meaningful purpose to your classification
- To put it simply- be fair, be valid and make sure the information you provide is necessary