

HOW TO WRITE AN EXPANDED DEFINITION

An expanded definition is a definition longer than a sentence. An expanded definition helps the reader understand the term being defined by comparing or contrasting the term with others that are similar or different, by describing how the term is used, or by providing examples. An expanded definition provides more detailed information and explanation.

An expanded definition begins with a sentence definition. A sentence definition names the term being defined. It indicates the category or group the term belongs to. It differentiates the term from other members of the group by specifying its unique characteristics. For example, “A laptop is a small personal computer that can operate on battery for mobile use.” “Laptop” is the new or unfamiliar term to be defined. “Computer” is the group that laptop belongs to. The laptop’s unique characteristic (function) is that it “can operate on battery for mobile use.”

Your expanded definition should be 250 words, four paragraphs. Please follow the steps below:

Introduction

1. Read the text (It provides the information you will need for your definition).
2. Begin with a formal/sentence definition following the three-part formula:
 - Name the term.
 - Identify the class of concepts or objects it belongs to.
 - Differentiate it from members of the class in a noun phrase.

Body paragraphs

1. Develop your sentence definition into an expanded definition in the two body paragraphs.
2. Choose an appropriate method of development to organize the information gathered from the reading, such as comparison, description or explanation.
 - **Note:** you may add supporting details of your own to the information the reading provides, but they have to be relevant and appropriate.

Conclusion

1. Conclude your expanded definition.
2. Summarize the meaning of the term.

Please use your own words when writing an expanded definition.